A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *Munida* Leach, 1819 (Decapoda, Galatheidae) FROM MAURITIUS

BY

BELLA S. GALIL

National Institute of Oceanography, Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research Ltd., P.O. Box 8030, Haifa 31080, Israel

ABSTRACT


INTRODUCTION

Specimens of a galatheid crab recently obtained from Mauritius were identified as a new species belonging to the genus *Munida* Leach, 1819. The present note serves to describe and illustrate this new species, *M. barbeti*, and to discuss its affinities.

The specimens are deposited in the South African Museum (SAM), Cape Town.

DESCRIPTION

*Munida barbeti* sp. nov. (fig. 1)

Material examined. — Mauritius, Flic en Flac, 55 m depth, 11 May 1997, coll. Daniel Pelicier: 1 female 8.9 mm (SAM A43262), holotype; 1 female 7.6 mm (SAM A43263), paratype.
Fig. 1. *Munida barbeti* sp. nov., female 8.9 mm, holotype (SAM A43262). a, carapace, dorsal view; b, sternal plastron; c, antennular peduncle; d, antennal peduncle; e, third maxilliped; f, cheliped. Scales: 1 mm.

Description. — Carapace longer than wide. Transverse ridges minutely granulate, densely set with short setae. Pair of long setae posteriorly to median pair of epigastric spines; 3 pairs of long setae laterally on posterior margin of cervical groove; one pair medially on anterior cardiac region. Four pairs of epigastric spines, largest pair just behind supraocular spines. Parahepatic spine followed by epibranchial spine. Spine on posterior margin of cervical groove in line with anterolateral, parahepatic spines.

Frontal margin strongly oblique, minutely granulate. Lateral margins slightly convex. First anterolateral spine short, second spine somewhat stouter, situated