ON A NEW SPECIES OF *EPIGRAPPSUS* (DECAPODA, BRACHYURA, GECARCINIDAE) FROM A CAVE IN GUAM

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ABSTRACT

A new species of land crab, *Epigrapsus villosus*, is described from a cave in Guam. The new species can easily be distinguished from its congeners, *E. notatus* and *E. politus* in having its carapace and pereiopods covered with numerous short, stiff black setae, possessing well developed sharp epigastric cristae, pronounced anterolateral teeth, and elongate ambulatory dactyli and propodi.

RÉSUMÉ

Une nouvelle espèce de crabe terrestre, *Epigrapsus villosus*, est décrite d’une grotte de Guam. La nouvelle espèce peut être facilement distinguée de ses congénères, *E. notatus* et *E. politus* par sa carapace et ses péréiopodes couverts de nombreuses soies, courtes, noires et raides, par ses crêtes épigastriques bien développées et aiguës, ses dents antérolatérales proéminentes, ses dactyles et ses propodes ambulatoires allongés.

INTRODUCTION

In August 2001, the author collected a small crab from a cave in Guam which was initially believed to be a small species of sesarmid crab. Subsequent studies showed that this specimen is actually a gecarcinid, and is here recognized as a new species of *Epigrapsus* Heller, 1862. Six genera and 19 species of land crabs of the family Gecarcinidae are currently known (Ng & Guinot, 2001), and the addition of yet another species to this relatively small but generally well studied family is of interest.

The present paper serves to describe this new species and compare it with congeners. Measurements provided, in millimetres, are of the carapace width and

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length, respectively. G1 and G2 are used for the male first and second gonopods, respectively. The type specimen is deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC), Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore.

TAXONOMY

Family GECARCINIDAE MacLeay, 1838

_Epigrapsus_ Heller, 1862

_Epigrapsus villosus_ sp. nov. (figs. 1-3)

Material examined. — Holotype male (9.4 by 8.8 mm) (ZRC), in limestone cave, Faifai Beach, near Gun Beach, Tumon Bay, coll. P. K. L. Ng, 1 August 2001.

Diagnosis. — Carapace with regions well demarcated; covered with numerous evenly spaced short, black setae, as well as with clumps of those same short, black setae. Those in clumps usually clustered around low, rounded granules. Epigastric cristae well developed, sharp; frontal margin deflexed downwards, entire, external, external orbital and anterolateral teeth distinct, first anterolateral tooth larger than other lateral teeth, strongly produced outwards; antero- and posterolateral margins not demarcated; posterolateral margins gently diverging backwards; pterygostomial region with scattered soft pubescence, not completely obscuring surface; suborbital ridge smooth; exopod narrow, reaching to about one-third length of merus, without trace of flagellum; ambulatory legs with slender propodus and relatively elongate dactylus; male abdominal somite 6 longer than telson; G1 slender, almost straight, distal part chitinous, somewhat spatuliform laterally.

Description. — Carapace slightly broader than long; dorsal surface gently punctate, covered with numerous, evenly spaced short black setae, which do not obscure surface; regions well demarcated by prominent grooves; epigastric cristae well developed; relatively sharp, uneven crista sloping inwards, lined with numerous short black setae which obscure margin; epigastric cristae separated by prominent groove; no discernible postorbital cristae. Frontal margin prominently deflexed downwards, entire, almost straight, lined with numerous short black setae which obscure margin. Supraorbital margin concave, finely granulated, without notches or fissures. External orbital tooth triangular, tip not reaching level of frontal margin, outer margin almost straight anteriorly, posterior part curving inwards towards carapace, separated from first anterolateral tooth by deep cleft; first anterolateral tooth larger than other lateral teeth, margin rounded, projecting well beyond margins of other teeth, lined with numerous short black setae which obscure margin; second anterolateral tooth small, triangular, with