

CRYPTOCHIRIDAE, THE CORRECT NAME FOR THE FAMILY CONTAINING THE GALL CRABS (CRUSTACEA: DECAPODA: BRACHYURA)

Roy K. Kropp and Raymond B. Manning

Abstract.—*Cryptochiridae* Paulson, 1875, is shown to be a senior synonym of *Hapalocarcinidae* Calman, 1900.

Until now, most authors have assigned the gall crabs, members of the genera *Cryptochirus* Heller, 1861, *Hapalocarcinus* Stimpson, 1859, *Troglocarcinus* Verrill, 1908, and several others, to the family *Hapalocarcinidae* Calman, 1900. Manning and Holthuis (1981:250), who summarized the names applied to families of marine brachyuran crabs, cited Calman as author of the family name.

However, a different family group name was used by at least three different authors prior to 1900. O. Paulson (1875:78) introduced the subfamily *Cryptochirinae* within the family *Pinnotheridae* for the genus *Lithoscaptus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1862, now a synonym of *Cryptochirus* Heller, 1861. Paulson, who may not have been aware that Heller's account was published before that of Milne-Edwards, actually considered *Cryptochirus coralliodytes* Heller to be a junior synonym of *Lithoscaptus paradoxus*, whereas the reverse is true. Later, F. Richters (1880:159) cited the family *Cryptochiridae*. He recognized that *Lithoscaptus paradoxus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1862, was a synonym of *Cryptochirus coralliodytes* Heller, 1861, and synonymized the former. He erroneously attributed the family name *Lithoscaptidae* to A. Milne-Edwards. As pointed out by Manning and Holthuis (1981:250), Milne-Edwards used a name in the French vernacular for the family.

E. von Martens, in the *Zoological Record* for 1880, cited the "*Cryptochiridae*" on p. 30, and noted that Richters had proposed the family but had not characterized it.

Calman (1900:48) recognized that Paulson had used the family group name *Cryptochirinae*, and, on p. 49, noted "we can only regard these two genera [*Cryptochirus* and *Hapalocarcinus*] as forming a family for the present *incertae sedis*, for which the name *Hapalocarcinidae* will have to replace Milne-Edwards's "*Lithoscaptus*," the latter being based on a synonym of *Cryptochirus*."

The synonymy for the family *Cryptochiridae* Paulson, 1875, is as follows:

Lithoscaptus A. Milne-Edwards, 1862:F10 [vernacular name; type-genus *Lithoscaptus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1862].

Cryptochirinae Paulson, 1875:77 [type-genus *Cryptochirus* Heller, 1861].

Hapalocarcinidae Calman, 1900:49 [type-genus *Hapalocarcinus* Stimpson, 1859].

The superfamily name (see Bowman and Abele 1982, for a summary of crustacean classification to the family level) becomes *Cryptochiroidea* Paulson, 1875.

Acknowledgments

We thank L. B. Holthuis for his comments on a draft of this note. This is contribution number 151 from the Smithsonian Marine Station.

Literature Cited

- Bowman, T. E., and L. G. Abele. 1982. Classification of the Recent Crustacea. *In* L. G. Abele, ed., Systematics, the fossil record, and biogeography.—*Biology of Crustacea* 1:1–27.
- Calman, W. T. 1900. On a collection of Brachyura from Torres Straits.—*The Transactions of the Linnean Society of London, second series (Zoology)* 8(1):1–50.
- Manning, Raymond B., and L. B. Holthuis. 1981. West African Brachyuran crabs.—*Smithsonian Contributions to Zoology* 306: xii + 379 pp.
- Milne-Edwards, A. 1862. Faune carcinologique de l'île de la Réunion.—*In* L. Maillard, Notes sur l'île de la Réunion (Bourbon), pp. F1–F16.
- Paulson, O. 1875. Podophthalmata and Edriophthalmata (Cumacea). *Studies of the Crustacea of the Red Sea with notes regarding other seas, Part I*: xiv + 144 pp. [In Russian.]
- Richters, F. 1880. Decapoda.—*In* K. Möbius, Beiträge zur Meeresfauna der Insel Mauritius und der Seychellen, pp. 139–178.

(RKK) Department of Zoology, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742; (RBM) Department of Invertebrate Zoology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.