

NOTES AND NEWS

A NEW RECORD OF THE THALASSINID *CALLIANASSA CANDIDA* (OLIVI, 1792) (DECAPODA, CALLIANASSIDAE) FROM THE EASTERN BLACK SEA COAST OF TURKEY

BY

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One female and two male specimens of the burrowing decapod, *Callianassa candida* (Olivi, 1792) were sampled at depths of 0.5-4 m from the eastern Black Sea coast of Turkey. The female specimen was sampled at 1.5 m depth in Camburnu (40°55'N 40°12'E), located 45 km east of Trabzon. One male specimen was collected at 0.5 m depth on the Iyidere coast (41°01'N 40°22'E), 13 km west of Rize. The other male specimen was captured at 4 m depth in Rize (41°01'N 40°31'E). The first *C. candida* specimen was encountered under rocks during an underwater survey on 21.viii.2001. The other specimens were collected in August 2003 with a yabby pump under rocks by diving. The temperature of the sea water was 23°C at both sampling localities. Specimens collected were fixed in 4% formaldehyde, measured, examined, and illustrated with the aid of a stereo-microscope equipped with a drawing tube. The specimens examined were in accordance with the descriptions of *C. candida* by Sakai (1999) and Ngoc-Ho (2003). Measurements and illustrations of appendages of the ♀ specimen are given in fig. 1.

There are only two records of this species available for the Black Sea, i.e., on the Georgia coast (Mikashavidze, 1981), and the other from the western Black Sea on the Romanian coast (Băcescu, 1967; Gutu, 1980). No record from the Turkish coasts has been reported to date (Kocataş & Katağan, 2003). *C. candida* has also been called under the synonyms *Pestarella candida* (Olivi, 1792) or *Callianassa pestae* De Man, 1928, and is also known from the Crimea, the type-locality of the synonym *Callianassa pontica* Czerniavsky, 1884. So far, it has thus been reported from the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea.

Dworschak (1998) reported that the habitat where the species occurs consists of the higher tidal zones and muddy sediments. In addition, *C. candida* is common in coarse sandy or muddy bottoms under rocks in the intertidal and shallow subtidal

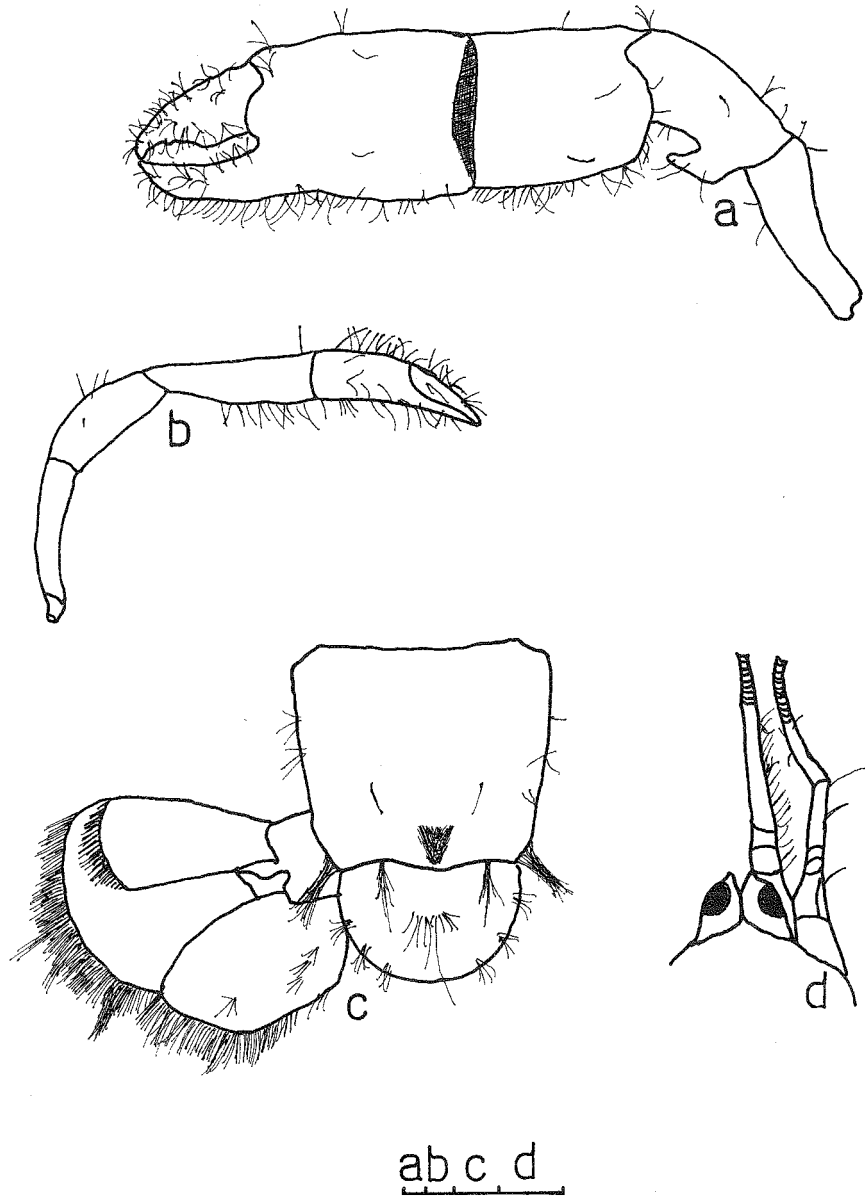


Fig. 1. *Callianassa candida* (Olivi, 1792), ♀ from Rize, Turkey. a, major cheliped; b, minor cheliped; c, telson and left uropod; d, anterior part of carapace, eyestalks, and peduncles of A₁ and A₂. Scale bars: 1 mm.

zones. The species was also reported from deeper waters (6 to 9 m) with sandy silt or muddy bottoms (Thessalou-Legaki & Zenetos, 1985; Dworschak, 1987, 1992).

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