

REDESCRIPTION OF *UROPTYCHUS ENSIROSTRIS* PARISI, 1917
(DECAPODA, ANOMURA, CHIROSTYLIDAE)

BY

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RÉSUMÉ

Uroptychus ensirostris Parisi, 1917 est redécrit et figuré d'après l'holotype conservé au Musée d'Histoire naturelle de Milano. Le spécimen, décrit par Parisi comme femelle, présente un orifice sexuel sur la coxa du 3e périopode gauche, mais a les pléopodes du type mâle; il était probablement parasité par un Rhizocephale.

INTRODUCTION

While working with Decapods collections in the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale in Milano to prepare a catalog of the extant types (Froglia & Grippa, in press), I discovered the type of *Uroptychus ensirostris*, a chirostyliid crustacean described by Parisi in 1917 from Sagami Bay, Japan. This species seems to be one of the rarer species, for there are no subsequent records since the original description (Parisi, 1917).

Because Parisi's description is rather brief, the type material is redescribed and illustrated.

***Uroptychus ensirostris* Parisi, 1917**

Holotype: Male, Museo Civico di Storia Naturale Milano, cat. 46; carapace length, including rostrum, 14.2 mm; collected from Sagami Bay, Japan; second right pereopod missing and both chelipeds detached, otherwise in good condition.

Description. — Carapace (fig. 1a) dorsally smooth except for a transverse row of ten minute spines, provided sparsely with long setae; cervical groove ill-defined. Outer margin of orbit delimited by a spine. Lateral margins convex with denticles, slightly cristate along posterior half. Anterolateral spine strongly pronounced, distinctly larger than outer orbital. Posterior margin unarmed.

Rostrum triangular, about half of remaining carapace length, very finely crenulate distolaterally, slightly carinate ventrally. Pterygostomial flap slightly squamose, anterolaterally produced into a spine (double on left side).

Sternal plate (fig. 1b) smooth, anterior margin of third thoracic sternite widely and deeply sinuous, medially with additional sinus; fourth sternite with crenulate anterolateral margin, margins of the other sternites smooth.

Abdominal segments smooth, devoid of spines.

Eyes relatively short, about 1/3 of rostral length, cornea not dilated.

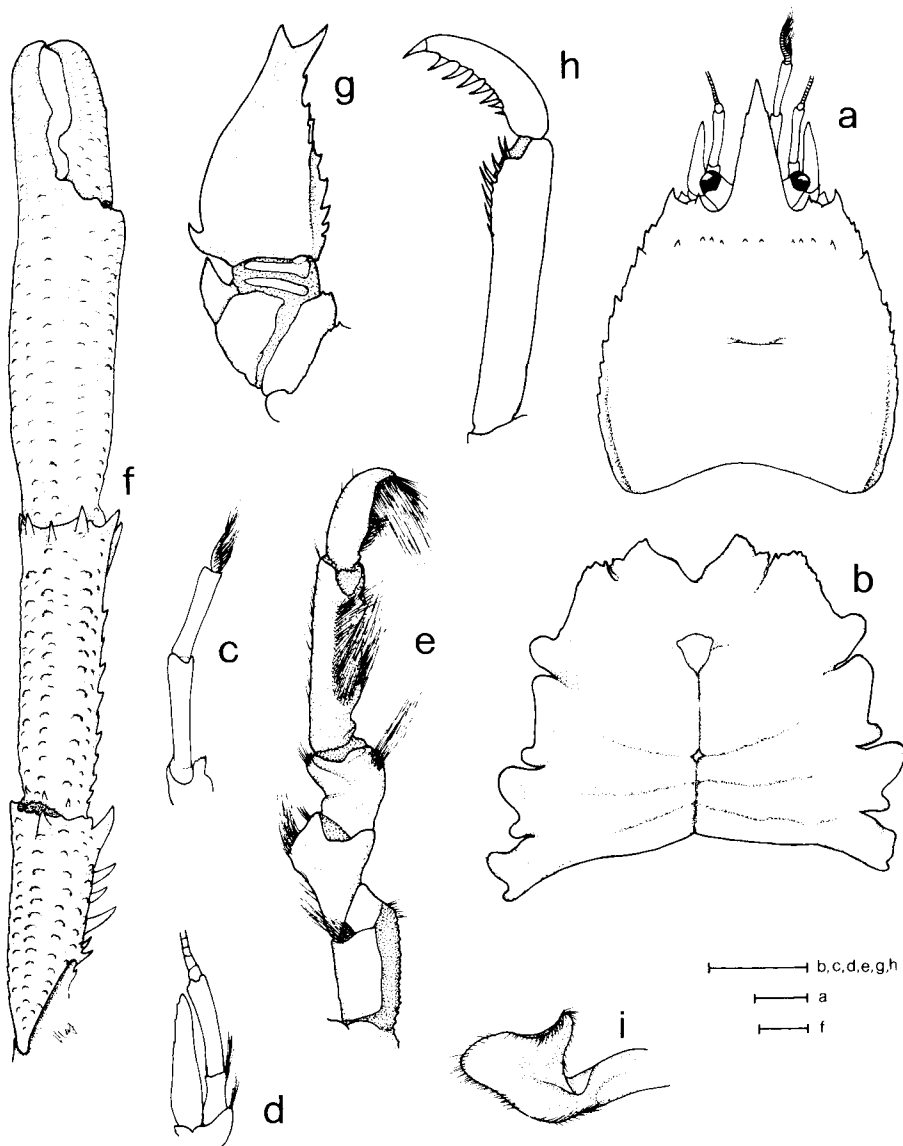


Fig. 1. *Uroptychus ensirostris* Parisi, holotype. a, carapace (dorsal view); b, sternal plastron; c, left antennula (ventral view); d, right antenna (ventral view); e, right 3rd maxilliped; f, left cheliped (setae omitted); g, right cheliped, basal segments (ventral view); h, right 3rd pereiopod; i, left second pleopod.

Antennular peduncle (fig. 1c) overreaching tip of rostrum by 1/3 of its distal segment; distolateral projection of basal segment minutely denticulate on anterior margin, distally spiniform; second and third segments subequal in length.

Antennal peduncle (fig. 1d) falling short of rostral tip and slightly extending beyond penultimate segment of antennular peduncle; acicle slightly wider than, and barely reaching end of, antennal peduncle.

Merus of third maxilliped (fig. 1e) with several minute denticles on outer margin. No spinulation on other segments.

Chelipeds (fig. 1f) symmetrical, moderately massive, about 3 times as long as carapace, provided with small scale-like, elevated ridges especially distinct on carpus and merus, and with long setae. Dactylus fully half as long as palm, opposable margin slightly crenulate with a strong tooth at 1/3 from proximal end; opposing margin of fixed finger with one median tooth; palm moderately depressed, 3 times as long as wide. Carpus provided with 8 distal spines and a row of low, strongly reduced spines on inner margin. Distal margin of merus with 4 spines, innermost strongest; inner margin also with 4 distinct spines, their size variable in left and right chelipeds.

Basis (fig. 1g) with one dorsoproximal spine and a row of ventral spines, distalmost of latter very strong. Coxa with a stout dorsal spine.

Second through fourth pereopods similar, all provided with few long setae; lower margin of propodus (fig. 1h) with a row of 8 spinelets in distal third; dactylus with 8 strong horny spines on lower margin, their size decreasing toward base of segment. Second pleopod (fig. 1i) as illustrated.

Remarks. — Parisi (1917) stated that the holotype is a female, probably on the presence of a sexual opening on the coxa of the left third pereopod. Closer examination, however, revealed that such a sexual opening is not discernible on the right side and that first and second pleopods (fig. 1i) are masculine on both sides; in addition on first abdominal segment there are cicatrices possibly caused by rhizocephalans, suggesting that the specimen underwent parasitic castration.

U. ensirostris is closely related to *U. xipholepis* Van Dam, 1933. The thoracic appendages in both species are much alike, but it seems to be characteristic of *U. ensirostris* to have a transverse row of tiny spines on the gastric region.

Although both species are described from a single specimen, I believe that the above-mentioned difference is constant.

According to Keiji Baba of Kumamoto University, who examined the type of *U. xipholepis*, now deposited in the Zoological Museum, Amsterdam, the third thoracic sternum in *U. xipholepis* is deeply concave on the anterior margin, without a distinct median sinus and distal two segments of the antennal peduncle bear a terminal spine of moderate size (personal communication).

U. xipholepis is known from the Banda Sea, Indonesia, depth 1595 m. No data are available on habitat or sampling depth of *U. ensirostris*.

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