

# New species of Galatheidae (Crustacea: Anomura: Galatheoidea) from volcanic seamounts off northern New Zealand

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Two new species of *Munida* (*M. gordonii* and *M. grievae*) and one new species of *Agononida* (*A. nielbrucei*) are described from volcanic seamounts off northern New Zealand (RV 'Tangaroa', National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research [NIWA], New Zealand). Description of new species and preliminary examination of NIWA collections reveal unusually high endemism of volcanic seamount populations of Galatheidae.

## INTRODUCTION

Extensive research on the fauna of volcanic seamounts, both with and without hydrothermal activity, has been undertaken in recent years. General aspects of faunistic composition, community structure, fisheries, and conservation were considered in Keating et al. (1987), Rogers (1994), Vereshchaka (1995), and many other studies. In the Southern Pacific including the waters off New Zealand this research has mainly focused on faunistic composition and fisheries implications (Clark et al., 1999; Rowden et al., 2002). This focus is a part of general efforts of the marine biological community to investigate the marine biodiversity and biology of hydrothermal vents. During recent years, NIWA, New Zealand, has initiated extensive research of the surrounding waters using the RV 'Tangaroa'. These expeditions contribute to several important general trends in modern marine biology:

1. Analysis of the fauna of the chemosynthesis-based ecosystems including volcanic seamounts and estimation of the degree of endemism of this fauna.
2. Studies of the general biodiversity of the World Ocean, with many efforts combined under the programme 'Census of Marine Life'. This, in turn, will favour an important regional task.
3. Creation of the faunal list for the waters around New Zealand. Being geographically distant from most of well-explored areas, New Zealand is a region with a poorly known fauna and a high degree of endemism and presenting a challenge to any biologist.

One of the most visible and important groups of animals associated with seamounts are decapod crustaceans, particularly, the squatlobsters of the family Galatheidae. This family comprises mostly benthic (when adult) comparatively large (total length usually 1 cm and more) lobster-like animals. This family presently contains 28 genera, among which the genus *Munida* Leach, 1820 is one of the most diverse with 156 species in the Indo-Pacific region alone. The genus *Agononida* Baba & de Saint Laurent, 1996 with 22 species from the Indo-Pacific

is morphologically very similar to *Munida* but can be separated from the former *Munida sensu lato* mainly by the absence of the male gonopods on the first abdominal somite.

### *Abbreviations, measurements and terminology*

*Abbreviations*: Cp, carapace; R, rostrum; Ab, abdomen; A I–II, antennule and antenna, respectively; Mxp, maxillipeds; P I–IV, pereopods I–IV; NIWA, National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, New Zealand.

*Measurements*: follows Vereshchaka (2000, measurements illustrated in detail—Figure 1). Carapace postorbital length measured along dorsal midline from the base of the R to posterior midpoint of Cp; width was measured in dorsal view across the widest part, posterior cardiac region.

*Terminology*: follows Baba (1988) and Macpherson (2000) with two exceptions: according to the modern terminology, fixed protrusions of Cp, Ab and appendages are called 'teeth' instead of 'spines' to distinguish them from articulated structures; the term 'precervical lateral' will be used instead of 'lateral epigastric' for the teeth of the lateral margin of Cp anterior to the cervical groove; 'precervical lateral' relates better to widely used term, 'postcervical lateral', used for the teeth of the lateral margin of Cp posterior to the cervical groove.

## SYSTEMATICS

GALATHEIDAE Samouelle, 1819

*Agononida* Baba & de Saint Laurent, 1996

*Agononida nielbrucei* sp. nov.

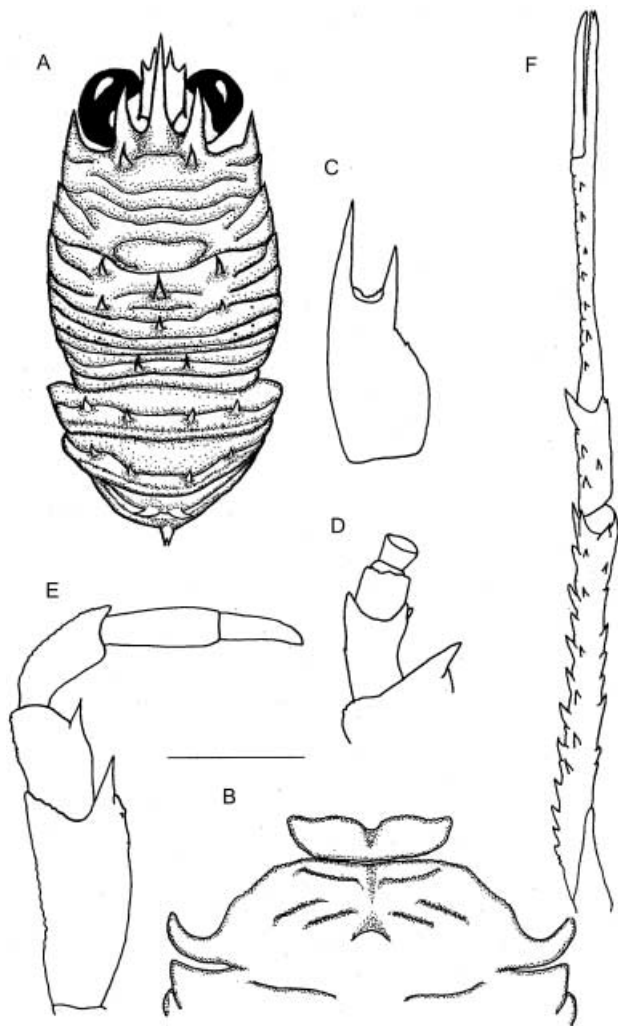
(Figure 1A–F, Table 1)

### *Material*

Holotype: Tangaroa Expedition Station 0107/01 (19 May 2001, 35°44.51'–44.35'S 178°30.20'–29.75'E, 470–260 m, scoria rubble), one ovigerous female Cp length 11.1 mm, held in NIWA, catalogue no. H-879, NIWA 4066.

### *Diagnosis*

Carapace with sharp spiniform R, suborbital teeth 0.7 length of R, front margin nearly transverse, one pair of



**Figure 1.** *Agononida nielbrucei* sp. nov. (A) Carapace and Ab (dorsal view); (B) anterior thoracic sternites (ventral view); (C) basal segment of left A I (ventral view); (D) peduncle of right A II (ventral view); (E) right Mxp III (ventral view); (F) right P I (dorsal view). Setae not shown. Scale bar: A, F, 6 mm; B–E, 2 mm.

teeth in epigastric region; three pairs of very small lateral postcervical teeth, six cardiac teeth in two rows posterior to cervical groove, one pair of teeth on posterior transverse Cp ridge; Ab with four teeth on anterior ridge of 2nd segment, four teeth on anterior ridge of 3rd segment, two teeth on anterior ridge and one medial tooth on posterior ridge of 4th segment; A I basal segment without lateral teeth (two minute barbs only), mesial terminal tooth longer than lateral; A II 1st segment with terminal tooth not reaching end of 2nd segment, 2nd segment with two terminal barbs; Mxp III with single long distal tooth on flexor margin of ischium and single medial tooth on flexor margin of merus; P I slender, both fingers without proximal teeth, fixed finger with two distal teeth.

#### Description

Rostrum with several scattered medium-sized setae; anterior lateral precervical tooth long (Figure 1A), reaching middle of supraorbital tooth, posterior tooth very small; epigastric teeth large. Lateral postcervical teeth on each side of Cp behind cervical groove barb-like and somewhat blunt, one pair of indistinct lateral barbs

posterior to 3rd pair of teeth; three posterior cardiac teeth smaller than anterior teeth and positioned just behind them, cardiac region with several irregular barbs posterior to cardiac teeth; two teeth on posterior transverse Cp ridge sharp and well-developed. Carapace with arcuate, mostly granulate ridges and striae, covered with irregular medium-sized setae. Thoracic sternites as shown in Figure 1B, with slight transverse, granulate carinae; tergites 2–4 of Ab with three granulate, transverse carinae separated by two inconspicuous striae.

Cornea reaching end of supraorbital teeth. Antennule I basal segment with two small lateral barbs, mesial terminal tooth about 1.5 times longer than lateral tooth (Figure 1C). Antennule II 1st segment bearing terminal tooth barely reaching middle of 2nd segment, 2nd segment with very small terminal barbs (Figure 1D).

Distal tooth of Mxp III ischium reaching midlength of merus, medial tooth of merus reaching end of merus (Figure 1E). Pereopod I (Figure 1F) 3.8 times as long as Cp, palm (without fingers) twice as long as fingers. Propodi of Pp II–IV each with eight spines on flexor margin, dactyl of Pp II with nine movable spines on flexor margin, dactyli of Pp III–IV each with eight movable spines on flexor margin.

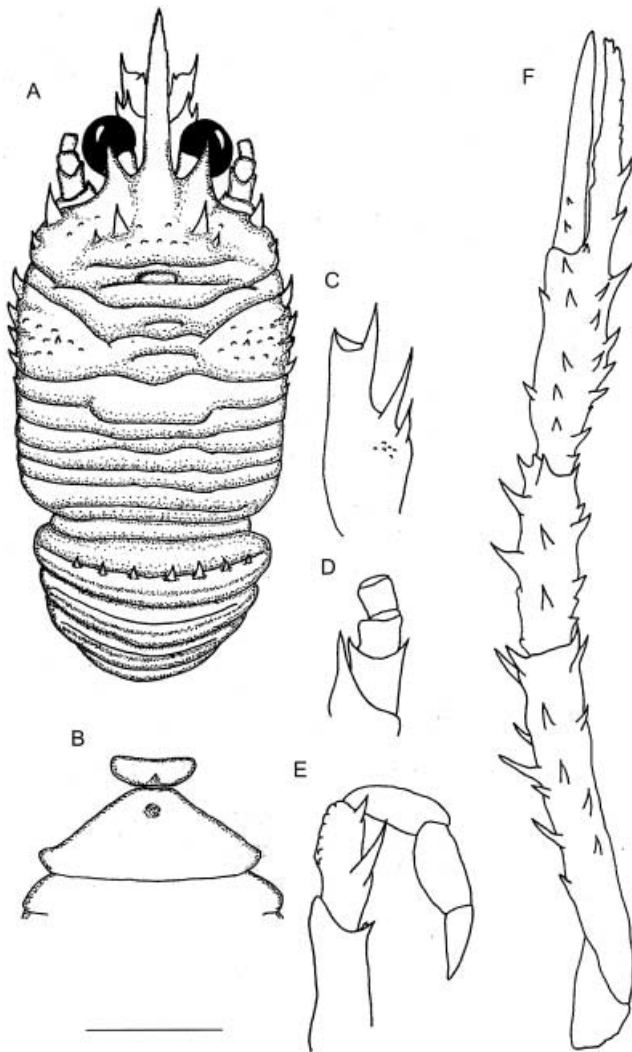
Other measurements presented in Table 1.

#### Remarks

Although the male of *Agononida nielbrucei* sp. nov. remains unknown, the placement of this species in *Agononida* is beyond any doubt. The unique combination of: several teeth reduced to barbs (4th pair of lateral post-cervical teeth on Cp, lateral teeth on A I basal segment) and the dorsal armature of Cp and Ab allow easy separation of a new species from all other species of the genus.

Other characters separate *A. nielbrucei* from other Indo-Pacific species of *Agononida*:

1. The presence of a posterior tooth on the 4th Ab somite distinguishes *A. nielbrucei* sp. nov. from *A. laurentae* (Macpherson, 1994), *A. ocyrhoe* (Macpherson, 1994), *A. pilosimanus* (Baba, 1969), *A. sabatesae* (Macpherson, 1994), *A. tenuipes* (Miyake & Baba, 1967), and *A. sphecta* (Macpherson, 1994).
2. The comparative length of the supraorbital teeth distinguishes *A. nielbrucei* sp. nov. from *A. longispinata* (Baba, 1988) (in the latter species the supraorbital teeth overlap the R).
3. The comparative length of the process of 1st segment of A II distinguishes *A. nielbrucei* sp. nov. from *A. andrewi* (Macpherson, 1994), *A. incerta* (Henderson, 1888), *A. fortiantennata* (Baba, 1988), *A. variabilis* (Baba, 1988), *A. marini* (Macpherson, 1994), *A. emphereia* (Macpherson, 1997), *A. callirrhoe* (Macpherson, 1994), (all these species have the process of 1st segment considerably exceeding end of A II peduncle).
4. The new species differs from *A. soelae* (Baba, 1986 (in Baba et al., 1986)) by the absence of protogastric spines.
5. The new species differs from *A. normani* (Henderson, 1885)—by the absence of transverse row of minute teeth in cardiac region of Cp; and from *A. squamosa* (Henderson, 1885), *A. similis* (Baba, 1988), and *A. analoga* (Macpherson, 1993)—by the presence of posterior row of cardiac teeth on Cp.



**Figure 2.** *Munida gordonii* sp. nov. (A) Carapace and Ab (dorsal view); (B) anterior thoracic sternites (ventral view); (C) basal segment of left A I (ventral view); (D) peduncle of right A II (ventral view); (E) right Mxp III (ventral view); (F) right P I (dorsolateral view). Setae not shown. Scale bar: A, F, 4 mm; B–E, 2 mm.

This new species is the first of the genus found in the waters off New Zealand.

#### Etymology

Named after Dr Niel Bruce, well-known carcinologist (NIWA), who arranged my visit to New Zealand.

*Munida* Leach, 1820

*Munida gordonii* sp. nov.

(Figure 2A–F; Tables 1 & 2)

#### Material

Holotype: Tangaroa Expedition Station 0107/326 (off Wairarapa coast, 24 May 2001, 41°35.45′–34.88′S 175°46.39′–47.23′E, 1400–1000 m, mud), one ovigerous female Cp length 11.0 mm, held in NIWA, catalogue no. H-880, NIWA 4065.

#### Diagnosis

Carapace with sharp spiniform R, suborbital teeth 0.4 length of R, front margin oblique, two pairs of teeth on

epigastric region, five pairs of lateral postcervical teeth; single very small postcervical tooth on each branchial region in addition to granules, cardiac region and posterior transverse Cp ridge without teeth; Ab with seven teeth on anterior ridge of 2nd segment, 3rd and 4th segments unarmed; A I basal segment with two lateral teeth (distal longer), mesial terminal tooth shorter than lateral, a few barbs on ventral surface proximal and mesial to lateral teeth; A II with 1st segment bearing terminal tooth exceeding 2nd segment, 2nd segment with two subequal terminal teeth, 3rd segment without minute terminal tooth; Mxp III with two small unequal distal teeth on flexor margin of ischium, with longer mesial and shorter distal tooth on flexor margin of merus; fixed fingers of P I bearing 2–3 teeth in proximal part, dactyl of P I bearing two teeth in proximal part; flexor margin of dactyli of P III–IV with movable spines on entire length except proximal 1/10.

#### Description

Rostrum with irregular lateral barbs and several scattered dorsal medium-sized setae; lateral precervical teeth both well defined and sharp, anterior three times as large as posterior; mesial epigastric teeth twice as large as lateral (Figure 2A), epigastric region covered with granules in addition to teeth. Lateral postcervical teeth well-defined, decreasing in size posteriorly; postcervical tooth barb-like, hardly distinguishable from about ten granules on branchial region. Carapace with arcuate, very slightly granulate ridges and striae, covered with irregular medium-sized setae. Thoracic sternites as shown in Figure 2B, no prominent transverse granulate carinae. Teeth on 2nd segment of Ab subequal, each of 2nd–4th segments of Ab with two transverse ridges separated by single striae.

Cornea reaching end of suborbital teeth. Distal lateral tooth of A I basal segment twice as long as proximal, lateral terminal tooth three times as long as mesial (Figure 2C). Antennule II 1st segment bearing terminal tooth reaching middle of 3rd segment; 2nd segment with sharp terminal teeth reaching end of tooth of 1st segment (Figure 2D).

Maxilliped III with larger distal tooth of ischium two times longer than shorter tooth, medial tooth of merus reaching end of same segment and 2.5 times as long as terminal tooth (Figure 2E). Pereopod I (Figure 2F) three times as long as Cp, palm (without fingers) as long as fingers, dactyl with two proximal teeth on both chelae, fixed finger barbate medially and distally, with two proximal teeth in right chela and three proximal teeth in left chela. Pereopod II missing. Propodi of P III–IV each with five spines on flexor margin, dactyli of P III–IV with 16 movable spines on flexor margin.

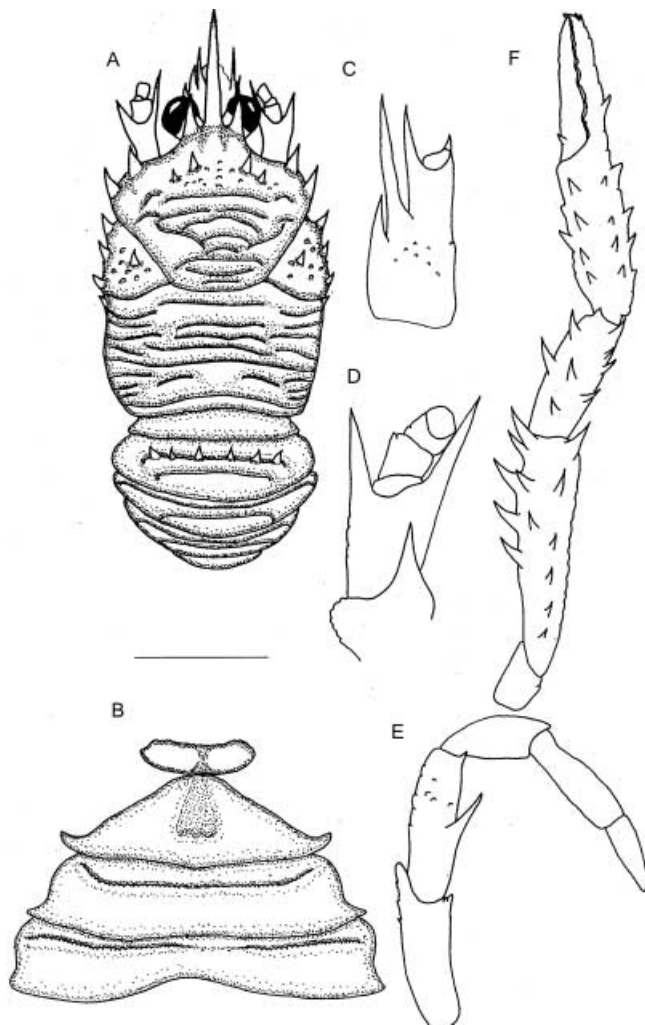
Other measurements presented in Table 1.

#### Remarks

See remarks under *Munida grievae* sp. nov.

#### Etymology

Named after Dr Dennis Gordon (NIWA), broadly educated naturalist, and expert in many groups of marine and terrestrial organisms.



**Figure 3.** *Munida grievae* sp. nov. (A) Carapace and Ab (dorsal view); (B) anterior thoracic sternites (ventral view); (C) basal segment of right A I (ventral view); (D) peduncle of right A II (ventral view); (E) right Mxp III (ventral view); (F) right P I (dorsal view). Setae not shown. Scale bar: A,F, 5 mm; B–E, 2 mm.

*Munida grievae* sp. nov.  
(Figure 3A–F, Tables 1 & 2)

#### Material

Holotype: Tangaroa Expedition Station 0107/228 (24 May 2001, 36°08.36–08.57'S 178°11.77–11.50'E, 977–655 m, mud), one ovigerous female Cp length 11.0 mm, held in NIWA, catalogue no. H-881, NIWA 4064.

#### Diagnosis

Carapace with sharp spiniform R, suborbital teeth reaching 0.3 length of R, front margin oblique, two pairs of teeth on epigastric region, five pairs of lateral postcervical teeth 3rd of which rudimentary; single well defined postcervical tooth on each branchial region in addition to granules, cardiac region and posterior transverse Cp ridge lacking teeth; posterior thoracic sternites each with a well defined granulate carina; Ab with six teeth on anterior ridge of 2nd segment, 3rd and 4th

segments unarmed; A I basal segment with two lateral teeth (distal longer), mesial terminal tooth shorter than lateral, and few barbs on ventral surface proximal and mesial to lateral teeth; A II with 1st segment bearing terminal tooth not exceeding 2nd segment, 2nd segment with two unequal terminal teeth, mesial tooth longer and exceeding peduncle, 3rd segment without minute terminal tooth; Mxp III with two small unequal distal teeth on flexor margin of ischium, with longer mesial and shorter distal tooth on flexor margin of merus; fixed finger and dactyl of P I each bearing single proximal tooth, fixed finger bearing two distal teeth; movable spines on flexor margin of P III–IV dactyli occupy entire length except proximal 10%.

#### Description

Rostrum with irregular lateral barbs and several scattered dorsal medium-sized setae; lateral precervical teeth subequal, both well defined and sharp; mesial epigastric teeth twice as large as lateral (Figure 3A), epigastric region covered with granules in addition to teeth. First–2nd and 4th–5th lateral postcervical teeth well-defined, decreasing in size posteriorly; postcervical tooth sharp, much more conspicuous than ten granules on branchial region. Carapace with arcuate, slightly granulate ridges and striae, covered with irregular medium-sized setae. Thoracic sternites as shown in Figure 3B, transverse granulate carinae almost joined in middle of sternites. Teeth on 2nd segment of Ab subequal, each of 2nd–4th segments of Ab with two transverse carinae separated by single striae.

Cornea barely reaching end of suborbital teeth. Distal lateral tooth of A I basal segment three times as long as proximal, lateral terminal tooth three times as long as mesial (Figure 3C). First segment of A II with terminal tooth reaching 2nd segment; 2nd segment with sharp terminal teeth, lateral spine reaching end of 3rd segment, mesial tooth exceeding peduncle (Figure 3D).

Appendages dorsally covered with dense setose setae. Maxilliped III with larger distal tooth of ischium two times longer than shorter tooth, medial tooth of merus not reaching end of same segment and five times as long as terminal tooth (Figure 3E). Pereopod I (Figure 3F) 2.5 times as long as Cp, palm (without fingers) slightly longer than fingers, both fingers barbate along lateral margins. Propodi of P II–IV with eight, 5–6 and five movable spines on flexor margin, respectively; dactyli of P II–IV with 15–16, 13, and 12 movable spines on flexor margin, respectively.

Other measurements presented in Table 1.

#### Remarks

The two new species of *Munida* found off New Zealand and described here, *M. gordonii* and *M. grievae*, are close to *M. chathamensis* Baba, 1974 described from the same geographical area earlier (Baba, 1974). All three species share the following set of characters: (i) armature of Cp: two pairs of precervical and five pairs of postcervical lateral teeth, two pairs of epigastric teeth and one pair of postcervical branchial teeth/barbs, no other Cp teeth; (ii) armature of Ab: six dorsal (rarely +1 additional asymmetrical in *M. chathamensis* and *M. gordonii*) spines on 2nd segment and no teeth on other segments; (iii) armature of basal segment of A I: two lateral spines, distal longer

**Table 1.** Basic measurements, mm, of *Agononida nielbrucei* sp. nov., *Munida gordonii* sp. nov., and *Munida grievae* sp. nov.

Body part	<i>A. nielbrucei</i>		<i>M. gordonii</i>		<i>M. grievae</i>	
	Length	Width	Length	Width	Length	Width
Cp	11.1	10.7	11.0	8.4	11.7	9.0
R	4.3	1.1	5.0	0.9	5.1	0.9
Subraocular spines	2.7	0.8	2.6	0.6	1.5	0.5
Ischium of P I	3.7	1.5	3.2	1.5	3.8	1.8
Merus of P I	17.7	1.5	11.0	1.7	11.9	2.3
Carpus of P I	5.1	1.5	5.8	1.8	5.6	2.4
Palm without fingers of P I	11.4	1.0	6.9	1.9	7.2	2.4
Fixed finger of P I	6.5	0.6	6.7	1.0	6.4	0.9
Dactyl of P I	6.3	0.6	6.7	0.8	6.4	1.0
Ischium of P II	2.7	1.5	—	—	2.2	1.2
Merus of P II	11.1	1.5	—	—	9.4	1.1
Carpus of P II	2.7	1.2	—	—	2.5	1.3
Propodus of P II	6.9	1.0	—	—	5.9	0.9
Dactyl of P II	3.9	0.8	—	—	3.9	0.7
Ischium of P III	1.8	1.5	1.7	1.0	1.9	1.2
Merus of P III	10.3	1.5	7.5	1.2	7.9	1.4
Carpus of P III	2.8	1.1	2.5	1.3	2.8	1.5
Propodus of P III	7.1	1.0	6.1	0.9	5.8	0.8
Dactyl of P III	3.9	0.7	4.6	0.8	4.0	0.7
Ischium of P IV	2.3	1.2	1.5	1.0	3.8	1.0
Merus of P IV	8.6	1.4	6.5	1.2	5.4	1.5
Carpus of P IV	3.0	1.4	2.6	1.3	2.9	1.4
Propodus of P IV	6.7	1.0	6.1	0.9	5.6	1.0
Dactyl of P IV	3.9	0.7	4.1	0.8	3.8	0.8

—, no data.

than proximal, two terminal spines, lateral longer than mesial; (iv) armature of peduncle of A II: long mesial tooth on 1st segment, two distal teeth on 2nd segment; (v) armature of peduncle Mxp III: two small distal teeth of ischium, longer mesial tooth and shorter distal tooth on flexor margin of merus; (vi) general patterns of armature

of chela of P I: 1–3 proximal teeth on each finger, barbate lateral margin of fixed finger; (vii) general patterns of armature of propodi and dactyli of P II–IV: flexor margins of propodi with 5–8 movable spines, flexor margins of dactyli with 12–16 movable spines along entire length except most proximal part.

**Table 2.** Differences between *Munida chathamensis* and the two new New Zealand species.

Characters	<i>M. chathamensis</i>	<i>M. gordonii</i> sp. nov.	<i>M. grievae</i> sp. nov.
Lateral precervical teeth	unequal	unequal	subequal
Lateral pairs of epigastric teeth	barb	well-defined tooth	well-defined tooth
3rd postcervical tooth	well defined	well defined	rudimental
Postcervical spine on branchial region	well defined	rudimental	well defined
Granulate lateral carinae on thoracic posterior sternites	absent	absent	present
Longer lateral spine of 1st segment of A I relative to end of longer terminal spine	barely reaching	not reaching	overreaching
1st segment, A I ventral surface bearing	well-defined tooth	several barbs	several barbs
1st segment, A II with terminal tooth reaching	2/3 of 2nd segment	beyond end of 3rd segment	3/4 of 2nd segment
Mesial spine, 2nd A II segment reaching	middle of 3rd segment	middle of 3rd segment	beyond A II peduncle
Lateral spine, 2nd A II segment reaching	middle of 3rd segment	middle of 3rd segment	end of 3rd segment
Terminal tooth, 3rd segment of A II peduncle	present	absent	absent
Medial tooth of merus reaching end of same segment	yes	no	no
Length of P I / length of Cp	2.5	3.0	2.5
No. of teeth in proximal part of P I dactyl	2	2	1
No. of movable spines on flexor margin of P II propodus	8	—	8
No. of movable spines on flexor margin of P II dactyl	12–13	—	15–16
No. of movable spines on flexor margin of P III propodus	8	5	5–6
No. of movable spines on flexor margin of P III dactyl	12–13	16	13
No. of movable spines on flexor margin of P IV propodus	6–8	5	5
No. of movable spines on flexor margin of P IV dactyl	12–13	16	12

—, no data.

However, the three species demonstrate numerous and significant differences at species level. The most important characters distinguishing *M. gordonii* sp. nov., *M. grievae* sp. nov., and *M. chathamensis* are presented in Table 2.

#### *Etymology*

Named after Dr Janet Bradford-Grieve (NIWA), carcinologist and marine biologist, member of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

### DISCUSSION

Only three species of *Munida* were previously reported from New Zealand. Two of them, *M. gracilis* Henderson, 1885 and *M. gregaria* Fabricius, 1793, are also widely distributed outside New Zealand waters. Both species inhabit various shelf and continental slope biotopes, their larvae constitute a common component of the plankton and are an important food source for numerous fish and birds. The only endemic New Zealand species, *M. chathamensis*, was described from a depth of about 1000 m in the area of the Chatham Rise (Baba, 1974).

Samples taken by the RV 'Tangaroa' from seamounts with and without hydrothermal activity have yielded numerous specimens, some of which are closely related to *M. chathamensis*. These specimens exhibit high morphological diversity in characters used in species diagnoses (Baba, 1988; Macpherson, 1997, 2000). Regrettably, most new morphological forms of the *Tangaroa* collection are represented by only one or two specimens. Therefore, only the two most distinctive species of *Munida* and one species of *Agononida* can be described as new. Other, less distinctive morphs, which could represent further new species, can be described only when more specimens become available.

The main general biological result of this preliminary examination of the present galatheid collection is an unexpectedly high endemism and biodiversity of the seamounts around New Zealand. The NIWA collections demonstrate that many sampled seamounts harbour endemic morphs, some of which may be referred to as new species.

I have had the privilege to start this work through the courtesy of Dr N.L. Bruce who invited me to study the galatheids collected during the NIWA's seamount cruises. I am also grateful to the NIWA for research facilities, to Drs J. Bradford-Grieve and D. Gordon for their advice and the warm and friendly atmosphere around me.

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