Checklist of the marine and estuarine Brachyura (Crustacea: Decapoda) of northern and northeastern Brazil

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Table of contents

Abstract ........................................................................................................... 3
Introduction ...................................................................................................... 3
Taxonomy ......................................................................................................... 6
Infraorder Brachyura Linnaeus, 1758 ............................................................... 6
Section Podotremata Guinot, 1977 ................................................................. 6
Superfamily Cyclopidodoidea Ortmann, 1892 .................................................. 6
Family Cyclopidippidae Ortmann, 1892 ......................................................... 6
Family Cynonomidae Bouvier, 1897 ............................................................... 6
Superfamily Dromioidea De Haan, 1833 ......................................................... 6
Family Dromiidae De Haan, 1833 ................................................................. 6
Superfamily Homodromioidea Alcock, 1899 ................................................... 7
Family Homodromiidae Alcock, 1899 ............................................................ 7
Superfamily Homoloidea De Haan, 1839 ....................................................... 8
Family Homolidae De Haan, 1839 ................................................................. 8
Superfamily Raninoidea De Haan, 1839 ......................................................... 8
Family Raninidae De Haan, 1839 ................................................................. 8
Section Eubrachyura Saint Laurent, 1980 ....................................................... 9
Subsection Heterotremata Guinot, 1977 ......................................................... 9
Superfamily Aethroidea Dana, 1851 ............................................................. 9
Family Aethridae Dana, 1851 ..................................................................... 9
Superfamily Calappoidea De Haan, 1833 ...................................................... 9
Family Calappidae De Haan, 1833 ............................................................ 9
Superfamily Cancroidea Latreille, 1802 ......................................................... 10
Family Atelecyclidae Ortmann, 1893 .............................................................. 10
Superfamily Carpioidea Ortmann, 1893 ......................................................... 11
Family Carpillidae Ortmann, 1893 ............................................................. 11
Superfamily Eriphoidea MacLeay, 1838 ......................................................... 11
Family Eriphiidae MacLeay, 1838 ............................................................... 11
Family Eriphoidea MacLeay, 1838 ............................................................... 11
Family Menipipidae Ortmann, 1893 .............................................................. 11
Superfamily Goneplacoidea MacLeay, 1838 .................................................. 11
Family Acidopsis Stevčić, 2005 ................................................................. 11
Family Chasmocarcinidae Serène, 1964 ....................................................... 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Euryplacidae Stimpson, 1871</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Goneplacoidea MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goneplacidae MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathildellidae Karasawa &amp; Kato, 2003</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Leucosioidea Samouelle, 1819</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leucosiidae Samouelle, 1819</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Majoida Samouelle, 1819</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epiialtidae MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hymenosomatidae MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inachidae MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inachoida Dana, 1851</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majidae Samouelle, 1819</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Palicoidea Bouvier, 1898</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palicidae Bouvier, 1898</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Parthenopoidea MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parthenopidae MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Pilumnoidea Samouelle, 1819</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilumnidae Samouelle, 1819</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Portunoidea Rafinesque, 1815</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geryonidae Colosi, 1923</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portunidae Rafinesque, 1815</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Pseudozioida Alcock, 1898</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilumnoidae Guinot &amp; Macpherson, 1987</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pseudoziidae Alcock, 1898</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Trapezioida Miers, 1886</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domeciidae Ortmann, 1893</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Xanthoida MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panopeidae Ortmann, 1893</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pseudorhombilidae Alcock, 1900</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xanthidae MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsection Thoracotremata Guinot, 1977</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Cryptochiroidea Paulson, 1875</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptochiridae Paulson, 1875</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grapsoids MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gecarcinidae MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grapsidae MacLeay, 1838</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plagusiidae Dana, 1851</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sesarmidae Dana, 1851</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varunidae H. Milne Edwards, 1853</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Ocyopoidea Rafinesque, 1815</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocyopoda Rafinesque, 1815</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ucididae Števčić, 2005</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfamily Pinnotheroidea De Haan, 1833</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinnotheridae De Haan, 1833</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remarks</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doubtful records</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biogeography</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Atlantic species</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circumtropical species</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphip-Arctic species</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphip-Atlantic species</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-indigenous species</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abstract

A total of 272 species of brachyuran crabs are reported from marine and estuarine environments in northern and northeastern Brazil. The checklist is derived from the literature published from 1847 to 2008, and includes all species that have been reported at least once from the study area. It is also partially supported by material deposited in the crustacean collection of the Departamento de Oceanografia, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, city of Recife, Brazil (DOUFPE). The families containing the highest number of species in northern and northeastern Brazil are Majidae (31), Portunidae (22), Epialtidae (20), Panopeidae (20), and Xanthidae (18). The remaining species are distributed in 39 families. The analysis of the distribution of the species in the region, allows for identification of four patterns of longitudinal distribution (western Atlantic, Amphi-Atlantic, Amphi-American, and circumtropical species) and, in the western Atlantic, six patterns of latitudinal distribution (Virginian, Carolinian, Antillean, Central-South American, Boreal, and Endemic). Two non-indigenous species have also been reported. Most of the species represented in northern and northeastern Brazil have Antillean (94 species; 34.5%) and Carolinian (75 species; 27.6%) pattern of distribution.

Key words: Brachyura, biogeography, marine biodiversity, estuarine fauna, Brazil

Introduction

The Brachyura, or true crabs, is among the best known and most intensely studied groups of crustaceans. With 6793 valid species, distributed in 93 families and 38 superfamilies, they constitute the most diverse group of decapods. Brachyurans have colonized almost every marine (down to 6.000 m in the abyssal zone) and terrestrial habitat (in mountains up to 2.000 m) (Ng et al. 2008).

The number of species of brachyuran crabs reported from northern and northeastern Brazil has increased significantly since the publication of the Catalogue of Crustacea of Brazil (Young 1998), mainly based on collections carried out in the 1990’s by the Recursos Vivos da Zona Econômica Exclusiva (REVIZEE) Program along most of the Brazilian coast (Cabral et al. 2000; Ramos-Porto et al. 2000a, 2000b, 2000c, 2002, 2003; Silva et al. 2002a, 2002b; Torres et al. 2002, 2006; Viana et al. 2002, 2003a; Cardoso & Serejo 2003; Rodrigues & Young 2003; Tavares 2003; Komai 2004; Tavares & Young 2004; Cardoso & Young 2005; Coelho Filho 2006; Serejo et al. 2006). The current knowledge on crustacean diversity, however, is still far from being satisfactory. In spite of its large extension and ecological heterogeneity, northern and northeastern Brazil contains some important areas of edaphic transition that remain poorly studied. Among these regions is the sector under influence of the Amazon River discharge, the coast of Maranhão state, and part of southern Bahia, which includes the largest and the richest coral reef area along the Brazilian coast and constitutes the southernmost coral reefs of the Atlantic Ocean (Leão & Dominguez 2000; Leão 2002).

The checklist includes species found from Cape Orange, northern Amapá State (04°17’N; 51°32’W) to the Abrolhos Archipelago, southern Bahia State (18°19’S; 39°40’W) (Fig. 1). Oceanic areas include the archipelagos of Fernando de Noronha (03°51’S; 35°25’W), located 345 km east off the coast of Rio Grande do Norte state, and São Pedro and São Paulo (0°55’N; 29°20’W), located about 500 km northeast of Fernando de Noronha (Fausto Filho 1974; Holthuis et al. 1980; Leão & Dominguez 2000). It also includes the Rocas Atoll (3°45’–3°56’S; 33°37’–33°56’W), 260 km east of Natal, Rio Grande do Norte (Kikuchi 2000), the only atoll in the southwestern Atlantic, as well as the seamounts of the North chain (= seamounts off Ceará) (01°00’–04°00’S; 37°00’–39°00’W) and off Fernando de Noronha (= seamounts off Rio Grande do Norte) (03°00’–4°30’S; 32°00’–37°00’W), where the homonym archipelago and the Rocas Atoll are located (Coelho Filho 2006).

The northern and northeastern coasts of Brazil are under direct influence of two main currents. The South Equatorial Current splits into two branches near 10°S, and continues towards the northwest as the North Brazilian Current. Another branch turns southwards as the beginning of the Brazil Current (Stramma et al. 1990). Climate between Cape Orange and Maranhense Gulf (2°00’S) is equatorial. The sector comprised between
Maranhense Gulf and the city of Salvador is predominantly semi-arid, whereas, southern 12°S, the climate is classified as tropical humid. However, Antarctic polar fronts reach 10°S during the winter months, as a northward movement across South America, affecting the coast (Dominguez et al. 1992; Leão & Dominguez 2000).

**FIGURE 1.** The study area. Abbreviations: States of North Region: Amapá (AP) and Pará (PA); States of Northeast Region: Maranhão (MA), Piauí (PI), Ceará (CE), Rio Grande do Norte (RN), Paraíba (PB), Pernambuco (PE), Alagoas (AL), Sergipe (SE), Bahia (BA); Oceanic Islands and Seamounts: (SNC) seamounts of north chain, (SFN) seamounts off Fernando de Noronha, (FN) Fernando de Noronha Archipelago, (PP) São Pedro and São Paulo Archipelago, (RA) Rocas Atoll.

The continental shelf along northern and northeastern Brazil varies considerably in shape and width. The shelf reaches its largest extent (350 km long) in the Amazonian region. Bottoms in the area under the discharge of the Amazon River are largely dominated by mud. The influence of this river complex extends north-westward and covers the greatest part of the shelf area. The large surface covered by terrigenous material allows the development of a typical fauna. The northeastern coast has a sediment starved coastal zone, a result of the combination of low relief, small drainage basins and a semi-arid climate. This conditions leads to stable conditions of salinity, temperature and water transparency, favorable to the growth of calcareous algae and hermatypic corals to depths of almost 100 m. Southern to 12°S the shelf receives significant volumes of sediment as a result of the presence of large rivers draining high-relief humid areas (Kempf 1970; Mabesoone et al. 1972; Leão & Dominguez 2000; Dominguez 2006).

Bottoms eastward of Maranhense Gulf, free of Amazon’s influence, became dominated by carbonate sediments. Shelf narrows to approximately 80 km in that region. In the southern section, the shelf narrows to 10
km wide off Salvador, and 5 km off Itacarê (14°16'S), the narrowest stretch of the Brazilian continental shelf, and widens, particularly in Abrolhos Bank to 190–200 km long (Kempf 1970; Lana et al. 1996; Freire & Dominguez 2006).

The coast of South America has been divided into several zoogeographical provinces (e.g. Dana 1853; Ekman 1953; Balech 1954; Coelho 1969; Coelho & Ramos 1972; Briggs 1974; Coelho et al. 1978; Coelho & Santos 1980; Palacio 1982; Boschi 2000a, 2000b; Spalding et al. 2007). However, the names of these areas and the limits proposed have historically varied according to the author and taxonomic group studied. We have adopted here the classification proposed by Coelho & Ramos (1972), which divided the northern and northeastern Brazil in two provinces: Guyanas and Brazilian. The Guyanas province ranges from the Orinoco River delta, Venezuela, to Maranhão state, Brazil, and is mainly characterized by muddy and sandy bottoms being strongly influenced by equatorial rivers such as the Orinoco, Amazon, and Tocantins. The Brazilian province extends from Maranhão to Rio de Janeiro state and is characterized by the predominance of calcareous algae bottoms in the middle and outer shelf (Coelho 1969; Coelho & Ramos 1972). River discharges do not present an important influence for coastal habitats, although the large hydrographic basin south of the São Francisco River has at least seasonal high fresh water and sediment inputs (Dominguez 2006; Dominguez et al. 2006). The study area has been divided by Spalding et al. (2007) in North Brazil shelf and Tropical southwestern Atlantic provinces, whose boundaries resemble those of Coelho & Ramos’s (1972) Guyanas and Brazilian provinces.

The brachyuran species list is based on the exhaustive analysis of the literature from White’s (1847) pioneer contribution to 2008. The brachyuran fauna of this region has been studied since the second half of 19th century, when expeditions (e.g., Thayer, Hassler, H.M.S. Challenger, U.S.F.C.S. Albatross, and Branner-Agassiz) established sampling stations along the coast. References with restricted access such as theses (Masters and PhD) and congress communications, as well as biological and fishery papers were not used in the checklist.

This list is partially based on material deposited in the crustacean collection of Departamento de Oceanografia, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, city of Recife, Brazil (DOUFPE). This collection was started in the late 1950’s and presently is the third largest carcinological collection in Brazil, with more than 14,000 lots deposited. DOUFPE collection contains brachyuran material obtained is coastal collections and several oceanographic expeditions (see Coelho et al. 2004, for a complete list of the expeditions carried out along the northern and northeastern Brazilian coast since the 1960’s). For each species included the geographic range and first report in all coastal states and off-shore regions. Synonyms (if present) of species are also cited. Classification of the species in families and higher taxa was based on Ng et al. (2008). The families within each superfamily and the species within each family are in alphabetical order.

The following abbreviations are used in the list: north region states: Amapá (AP) and Pará (PA); northeast region states: Maranhão (MA), Piauí (PI), Ceará (CE), Rio Grande do Norte (RN), Paraíba (PB), Pernambuco (PE), Alagoas (AL), Sergipe (SE), Bahia (BA); oceanic islands and seamounts: (SNC) seamounts of north chain, (SFN) seamounts off Fernando de Noronha, (FN) Fernando de Noronha Archipelago, (PP) São Pedro and São Paulo Archipelago, (RA) Rocos Atoll.
Taxonomy

Infraorder Brachyura Linnaeus, 1758

Section Podotremata Guinot, 1977

Superfamily Cyclodorippoidea Ortmann, 1892

Family Cyclodorippidae Ortmann, 1892

Subfamily Cyclodorippinae Ortmann, 1892

*Clythrocerus carinatus* Coelho, 1973
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará to São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

*Clythrocerus granulatus* (Rathbun, 1898)
Western Atlantic: Florida, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *Clythrocerus* sp. C.

*Deilocerus analogus* (Coelho, 1973)
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Maranhão to São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

*Deilocerus perpusillus* (Rathbun, 1901)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

*Neocorycodus stimpsoni* (Rathbun, 1937)
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Family Cymonomidae Bouvier, 1897

*Cymonomus quadratus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Superfamily Dromioidea De Haan, 1833

Family Dromiidae De Haan, 1833

Subfamily Dromiinae De Haan, 1833
Dromia erythropus (George Edwards, 1771)
  Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Viana et al. (2003b); AP: Silva et al. (1998); MA: Melo & Campos Jr. (1999); CE: Fausto Filho (1968); PE: Rathbun (1900); BA: Rathbun (1937).

Dromia gouveai Melo & Campos Jr., 1999
  Western Atlantic: Brazil (Bahia and São Paulo) (Melo & Campos Jr. 1999).

Moreiradromia antillensis (Stimpson, 1858)
  Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, PI: Barreto et al. (1993a), as D. antillensis; MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1989), as D. antillensis; CE: Coelho (1969), as D. antillensis; RN, PB, PE, AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as D. antillensis; BA: Smith (1869), as D. Antillensis [sic].

Subfamily Hypoconchinae Guinot & Tavares, 2003

Hypoconcha arcuata Stimpson, 1858
  Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Surinam to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo & Campos Jr. 1999).
  Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, PB, SE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1989); MA: Rathbun (1937); CE: Bezerra et al. (2005a); RN: Coelho Filho (2006); BA: Joly et al. (1969).

Hypoconcha parasitica (Linnaeus, 1763)
  Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo & Campos Jr. 1999).

Superfamily Homolodromioidea Alcock, 1899

Family Homolodromiidae Alcock, 1899

Homolodromia monstrosa Martin, Christiansen & Trautwein, 2001
  Western Atlantic: Surinam, Guyana, and Brazil (Bahia) (Martin et al. 2001; Tavares & Young 2004).
Superfamily Homoloidea De Haan, 1839

Family Homolidae De Haan, 1839

*Homola minima* Guinot & Richer de Forges, 1995

Western Atlantic: Virginia to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul). Eastern Atlantic: Mediterranean, Portugal, and Africa [Melo 1996, as *H. barbata* (Fabricius, 1763)].

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SFN: Coelho Filho (2006), as *H. barbata*; CE, RN, PB, AL: Santos et al. (2003), as *H. barbata*; PE: Coelho et al. (2002), as *H. barbata*.

Superfamily Raninoidea De Haan, 1839

Family Raninidae De Haan, 1839

Subfamily Notopodinae Serène & Umali, 1972

*Ranilia constricta* (A. Milne-Edwards, 1880)


*Ranilia muricata* H. Milne Edwards, 1837

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Colombia to Brazil (Pernambuco) (Melo 1996).


Subfamily Raninoidinae Lörenthey & Beurlen, 1929

*Raninoides loevis* (Latreille, 1825)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, PI, CE, RN, PB, PE, BA: Barreto et al. (1993a); MA: Coelho & Ramos (1972); AL: Coelho (1969); SE: Coelho et al. (2004).

Subfamily Symethinae Goeke, 1981

*Symethis variolosa* (Fabricius, 1793)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN, PA, MA, CE: Coelho (1969); AP: Fausto Filho & Sampaio Neto (1976); RN, PE, AL: Gomes Corrêa (1970); PB, SE: Coelho & Ramos (1972); BA: Henderson (1888), as *Zanclifer caribensis* (Fréminville, 1832).
Section Eubrachyura Saint Laurent, 1980

Subsection Heterotremata Guinot, 1977

Superfamily Aethroidea Dana, 1851

Family Aethridae Dana, 1851

*Hepatus gronovii* Holthuis, 1959

Western Atlantic: Colombia, Venezuela, Guyanas to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).


*Hepatus pudibundus* (Herbst, 1785)

Western Atlantic: Georgia, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela, Guyanas to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).


*Hepatus scaber* Holthuis, 1959

Western Atlantic: Venezuela to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).


*Osachila antillensis* Rathbun, 1916

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).


*Osachila tuberosa* Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, RN: Coelho (1996a).

Superfamily Calappoidea De Haan, 1833

Family Calappidae De Haan, 1833

*Acanthocarpus alexandri* Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: Massachusetts, North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Uruguay (Melo 1996; Ramos-Porto *et al.* 2002; Rodrigues & Young 2003).


*Acanthocarpus bispinosus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880

Western Atlantic: Florida (Gulf of Mexico), West Indies to Brazil (Bahia) (Powers 1977; Ramos-Porto *et al.* 2002; Rodrigues & Young 2003).

Calappa galloides Stimpson, 1859


Calappa nitida Holthuis, 1958

Western Atlantic: West Indies, Venezuela, Surinam, Guayanas to Brazil (Piauí) (Melo 1996; Góes & Fernandes-Góes 2007).


Calappa ocellata Holthuis, 1958


Calappa sulcata Rathbun, 1898

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia, Venezuela, Guayanas to Brazil (Paraná) (Melo 1996). Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Coelho (1969); PA, CE: Fausto Filho (1967); PE, AL: Coelho (1966a); SE: Coelho & Ramos (1972).

Calappa tortugae Rathbun, 1933


Cryptosoma balguerii (Desbonne, 1867)


Superfamily Cancroidea Latreille, 1802

Family Atelecyclidae Ortmann, 1893

Trichopeltarion pezzutoi Tavares & Melo, 2005

Superfamily Carpilioidea Ortmann, 1893

Family Carpiliidae Ortmann, 1893

*Carpilius corallinus* (Herbst, 1783)
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia, Venezuela to Brazil (Alagoas) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Pocock (1890); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN: Fausto Filho (1980a); PB: Coelho & Coelho Filho (1993); PE: Moreira (1901).

Superfamily Dorippoidea MacLeay, 1838

Family Ethusidae Guinot, 1977

*Ethusa americana* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA, PI, CE, SE: Coelho (1969), as *E. mascarone americana*; PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); AL: Coelho et al. (1990); BA: Rodrigues da Costa (1968), as *E. mascarone americana*.

Superfamily Eriphoidea MacLeay, 1838

Family Eriphiidae MacLeay, 1838

*Eriphia gonagra* (Fabricius, 1781)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN: Coelho et al. (1986); PB, AL: Rathbun (1930); PE: Rathbun (1900); SE: Coelho Filho & Coelho (1997); BA: Smith (1869).

Family Menippidae Ortmann, 1893

*Menippe nodifrons* Stimpson, 1859
Western Atlantic: Florida, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina). Eastern Atlantic: Cape Verde to Angola (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros & Pimentel (2001); MA: Ramos-Porto et al. (1978); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PB, AL: Rathbun (1900); PE: White (1847), as *M. rumphii* (Fabricius, 1798); SE: Coelho et al. (2004); BA: Joly et al. (1969).

Superfamily Goneplacoidea MacLeay, 1838

Family Acidopsidae Števčić, 2005

*Acidops cessacii* (A. Milne-Edwards, 1878)
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Ceará and seamounts off Fernando de Noronha). Eastern Atlantic: Cape Verde to Annobon (Africa) (Melo 1996; Coelho Filho 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SFN: Coelho Filho (2006); CE: Barreto et al. (1993b).

**Family Chasmocarcinidae Serène, 1964**

**Subfamily Chasmocarcininae Serène, 1964**

*Chasmocarcinus arcuatus* Coelho Filho & Coelho, 1998

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Amapá to Espírito Santo) (Coelho Filho & Coelho 1998).


*Chasmocarcinus hirsutipes* Coelho Filho & Coelho, 1998

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Amapá to Pará) (Coelho Filho & Coelho 1998).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA: Barreto et al. (1993a), as *Chasmocarcinus* sp. C.

*Chasmocarcinus meloi* Coelho Filho & Coelho, 1998

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Maranhão to Bahia) (Coelho Filho & Coelho 1998).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho Filho & Coelho (1998); CE, AL, SE, BA: Barreto et al. (1993a), as *Chasmocarcinus* sp. A.

*Chasmocarcinus peresi* Rodrigues da Costa, 1968

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Amapá to Bahia) (Melo 1996).


*Chasmocarcinus typicus* Rathbun, 1898

Western Atlantic: West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).


**Family Euryplacidae Stimpson, 1871**

*Euryplax nitida* Stimpson, 1859

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980); PI, CE, RN, PB, PE: Barreto et al. (1993a); AL: Coelho et al. (1990); BA: Gomes Corrêa (1972).

*Frevillea hirsuta* (Borradaile, 1916)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: herein (material deposited at DOUFPE collection).
**Sotoplax robertsi** Guinot, 1984  
Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico and Brazil (Bahia and Espírito Santo) (Guinot 1984; Almeida et al. 2008).  
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: BA: Almeida et al. (2008).

**Superfamily Goneplacoidea MacLeay, 1838**

**Family Goneplacidae MacLeay, 1838**

**Subfamily Bathyplacinae Števčić, 2005**

**Bathyplax typhla** A. Milne-Edwards, 1880  
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Tavares 1996, as *B. typhlus*).  
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Silva et al. (2002b); AL: Miers (1886), as *B. typhlus* var. *oculiferus* Miers, 1886; BA: Serejo et al. (2006).

**Family Mathildellidae Karasawa & Kato, 2003**

**Neopilumnoplax americana** (Rathbun, 1898)  
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Cuba to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996; Serejo et al. 2006).  
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: BA: Serejo et al. (2006).

**Superfamily Leucosioidea Samouelle, 1819**

**Family Leucosiidae Samouelle, 1819**

**Subfamily Ebaliinae Stimpson, 1871**

**Acanthilia intermedia** (Miers, 1886)  
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996, as *Iliacantha intermedia*).  
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho (1969), as *I. intermedia*; CE: Fausto Filho (1975), as *I. intermedia*; PE: Coelho et al. (2002), as *I. intermedia*; BA: Miers (1886), as *I. intermedia*.

**Callidactylus asper** Stimpson, 1871  
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, Colombia to Brazil (Bahia) (Melo 1996; Serejo et al. 2006).  
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); PA: Barreto et al. (1993a); MA, CE, RN: Coelho (1969); PB, AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972); BA: Serejo et al. (2006).

**Ebalia stimpsoni** A. Milne-Edwards, 1880  
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Fausto Filho & Sampaio Neto (1976); PA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986), as *E. stimpsonii* [sic]; MA, PI, CE, AL: Coelho (1969), as *E. stimpson* [sic]; RN, PE: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *E. stimpsonii* [sic]; PB: Barreto *et al.* (1993a); BA: Rodrigues da Costa (1968), as *E. stimpsonii* [sic].

*Iliacantha liodactylus* Rathbun, 1898

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Bahia) (Melo 1996; Almeida *et al.* 2007a).


*Iliacantha sparsa* Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).


*Iliacantha subglobosa* Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Alagoas) (Melo 1996).


*Lithadia brasiliensis* (von Martens, 1872)

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará to São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, PE, SE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); BA: Miers (1886), as *L. cariosa* Stimpson, 1860.

*Lithadia conica* (Coelho, 1973)

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Amapá to Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).


*Lithadia obliqua* (Coelho, 1973)

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará to Pernambuco) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, PA, CE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); RN: Coelho *et al.* (1986); PB: Coelho Filho (2006); PE: Coelho (1973a), as *Ebalia obliqua*.

*Lithadia vertiginosa* (Coelho, 1973)

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará to Bahia) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, PA, PB, PE, AL: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980); CE: Coelho (1973b), as *Ebalia vertiginosa*; BA: Rodrigues da Costa (1968), as *E. cariosa*.

*Myropsis quinquespinosa* Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Uruguay (Melo 1996; Torres *et al.* 2002).

Persephona lichtensteinii Leach, 1817
Western Atlantic: Venezuela, Surinam, French Guianas to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, MA: Coelho (1969), as P. finneganae Rathbun, 1931 and as P. lichtensteini [sic]; PE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); AL, SE: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as P. finneganae and as P. lichensteinii; BA: Almeida et al. (2007a).

Persephona mediterranea (Herbst, 1794)
Western Atlantic: New Jersey to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Uruguay (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); CE: Fausto Filho (1968); AL: Silva & Calado (2002a); BA: Miers (1886), as P. punctata (Linnaeus, 1758).

Persephona punctata (Linnaeus, 1758)
Western Atlantic: West Indies, Colombia, Venezuela, Guianas to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA: Coelho (1969); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE, AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972); SE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); BA: Coelho & Torres (1980).

Speloeophorus brasiliensis Melo & Torres, 1998
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Alagoas) (Melo & Torres 1998).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AL: Melo & Torres (1998).

Speloeophorus elevatus Rathbun, 1898
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Bahia) (Melo 1996; Melo & Torres 1998).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA, CE, RN: Coelho (1969); PB: Rathbun (1898); PE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1986); AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972); BA: Coelho & Torres (1980).

Speloeophorus nodosus (Bell, 1855)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996; Melo & Torres 1998).

Superfamily Majoidea Samouelle, 1819

Family Epialtidae MacLeay, 1838

Subfamily Epialtinae MacLeay, 1838

Acanthonyx dissimulatus Coelho, 1993
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Piauí to Bahia) (Coelho & Torres 1993; Melo 1996; Dall’Occo et al. 2004).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PI, RN: Coelho & Torres (1993); CE: Fausto Filho (1966), as A. petiveri [sic] H. Milne Edwards, 1934; PB: Coelho (1971a), as A. petiverii; PE, BA: Rathbun (1894), as A. petiverii; AL: Coelho et al. (1990), as A. scutiformis (Dana, 1851).
Epialtoides rostratus Coelho, 1972
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Maranhão to Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA, PI: Coelho (1969), as Epialtus longirostris Stimpson, 1860; RN, AL: Coelho (1972); PB: Barreto et al. (1993a); PE: Coelho (1971a), as E. longirostris.

Epialtus bituberculatus H. Milne Edwards, 1834
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1966); PB: Coelho (1971a); PE: Rathbun (1894); BA: Joly et al. (1969).

Epialtus brasiliensis Dana, 1852
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia, Venezuela to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Mocosoa crebripunctata Stimpson, 1871
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA, PE: Coelho & Ramos (1972); CE, PB: Barreto et al. (1993a); RN: Coelho (1969).

Subfamily Pisinae Dana, 1851

Apiomithrax violaceus (A. Milne-Edwards, 1868)
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Bezerra et al. (2005a); PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE: Coelho-Santos & Coelho (1997).

Chorinus heros (Herbst, 1790)
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Bahia) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Alves et al. (2008); MA, SE: Barreto et al. (1993a); CE: Coelho (1969); RN, PE, AL: Coelho (1971a); PB: Coelho & Ramos (1972); BA: Rathbun (1894).

Herbstia depressa Stimpson, 1860
Western Atlantic: West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Alagoas) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Barreto et al. (1993a); AL: Miers (1886), as Herbstia (Herbstiella) depressa.

Holoplites armatus (A. Milne-Edwards, 1880)
Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Pará) (Melo 1996, as H. armata).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Silva et al. (2001), as H. armata.
**Libinia bellicosa** Oliveira, 1944
Western Atlantic: Central America, Guyanas to Brazil (Paraná) (Melo 1996).

**Libinia ferreirae** Brito Capello, 1871
Western Atlantic: Venezuela to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

**Microlissa brasiliensis** (Rathbun, 1923)
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Ceará to São Paulo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Coelho (1969), as *Lissa brasiliensis*; PE: Barreto et al. (1993a); BA: Rodrigues da Costa (1968), as *L. brasiliensis*.

**Nibilia antilocapra** (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Silva et al. (2001); MA: Viana et al. (2003a); RN: Coelho & Aby Faraj (1985).

**Notolopas brasiliensis** Miers, 1886
Western Atlantic: Colombia, Venezuela to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, RN, SE: Barreto et al. (1993a); PA, MA, CE: Coelho (1969); PB: Rathbun (1925); PE, AL: Coelho (1971a); BA: Miers (1886).

**Pelia rotunda** A. Milne-Edwards, 1875
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará) to Argentina (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, MA, CE: Coelho (1969); RN: Barreto et al. (1993a); PB: Rathbun (1898); PE, AL: Coelho (1971a); BA: Coelho & Ramos (1972).

**Rochinia confusa** Tavares, 1991
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Amapá to São Paulo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA: Silva et al. (1999); PE: Viana et al. (2002).

**Rochinia crassa** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1879)
Western Atlantic: Massachusetts, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo) (Williams 1984; Viana et al. 2002; Dall’Occo et al. 2004).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Silva et al. (1997); RN: Sankarankutty et al. (1998); PB, PE, AL, SE, BA: Viana et al. (2002).

**Rochinia umbonata** (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Brazil (Pernambuco) (Williams 1984; Viana et al. 2002).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA: Silva et al. (1999); PE: Viana et al. (2002).
Subfamily Tychinae Dana, 1851

*Pitho lherminieri* (Desbonne, in Desbonne & Schramm, 1867)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN, RN, AL: Coelho (1971a); PA, MA, PI, CE, PE: Coelho (1969); PB: Rathbun (1898); BA: Rodrigues da Costa (1968).

*Tyche potiguara* Garth, 1952

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Ceará to Alagoas) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1975); PB: Rathbun (1898), as *T. emarginata* White, 1897; PE, AL: Coelho (1971a).

Family Hymenosomatidae MacLeay, 1838

*Elamena gordonae* Monod, 1956

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Sergipe and Bahia). Eastern Atlantic: Guinea to Sierra Leone. Western Pacific: Australia (Queensland) (Lucas 1980; Almeida *et al*. 2007b).


Family Inachidae MacLeay, 1838

*Anomalothir furcillatus* (Stimpson, 1871)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).


*Coryrhynchus algicola* (Stebbing, 1914)

Western Atlantic: Colombia to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996, as *Podochela algicola*; Coelho 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA, CE: Coelho (1969), as *P. algicola*; RN: Fausto Filho (1967), as *P. riisei* Stimpson, 1860; PB, PE, BA: Coelho (1971a), as *P. riisei*; AL: Miers (1886), as *P. riisei*.

*Coryrhynchus riisei* (Stimpson, 1860)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia, Trinidad, Surinam, French Guyana to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Coelho 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PB: Melo & Veloso (2005), as *Podochela riisei*.

*Ericerodes gracilipes* (Stimpson, 1871)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia, Guyanas, Surinam to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo & Veloso 2005; Coelho 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SFN: Coelho Filho (2006), as *Podochela gracilipes*; AP, PA, PI, CE: Coelho (1969), as *P. gracilipes*; MA: Barreto *et al*. (1993a), as *P. (Ericerodes) gracilipes*; RN, BA: Coelho (1971a), as *P. gracilipes*; PB: Melo & Veloso (2005), as *P. gracilipes*. 
**Ericerodes minusculus** (Coelho, 1972)

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Ceará to Bahia) (Coelho 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC: Coelho Filho (2006), as *Podochela minuscula*; SFN, CE: Coelho (1969), as *Podochela* sp. A; RN, PE: Coelho (1972), as *P. minuscula*; BA: Barreto et al. (1993a), as *P. (Ericerodes) minuscula*.

**Metoporhaphis calcaratus** (Say, 1818)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996, as *M. calcarata*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002), as *M. calcarata*; AL, BA: Miers (1886), as *M. forficulatus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1878; SE: Coelho et al. (2004), as *M. calcarata*.

**Podochela brasiliensis** Coelho, 1972

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Ceará to Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996; Serejo et al. 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Alves et al. (2008); CE: Coelho (1969), as *P. macrodera* Stimpson, 1860; RN: Coelho Filho (2006); PB: Barreto et al. (1993a), as *P. (Podochela) brasiliensis*; PE, SE: Coelho (1971a), as *P. macrodera*; BA: Gomes Corrêa (1972), as *P. riisei*.

**Stenorhynchus seticornis** (Herbst, 1788)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Argentina (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC: Coelho Filho (2006); AP, PI, CE, RN: Coelho (1969); PA: Bullis Jr. & Thompson (1965); MA: Rathbun (1894), as *Leptopodia sagittaria* (Fabricius, 1793); PB: Coelho (1971a); PE: Fausto Filho (1966); AL: Miers (1886), as *L. sagittaria*; SE: Coelho & Ramos (1972); BA: A. Milne-Edwards (1878), as *L. sagittaria*.

**Family Inachoididae** Dana, 1851

**Aepinus septemspinosus** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1878)

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, SFN: Coelho Filho (2006); RA, PA, CE: Coelho (1969); FN: Miers (1886); RN, PB, PE, AL: Coelho (1971a); BA: Coelho & Ramos (1972).

**Anasimus fugax** A. Milne-Edwards, 1880

Western Atlantic: West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Barreto et al. (1993a).

**Anasimus latus** Rathbun, 1894

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Pará) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Coelho (1969); PA: Barreto et al. (1993a).

**Arachnopsis filipes** Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Norte) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, SFN, RN: Coelho (1971a); AP, PA: Barreto et al. (1993a); CE: Coelho & Ramos (1972).
Batrachonotus fragosus Stimpson, 1871
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará to São Paulo) (Melo 1996, as B. brasiliensis Rathbun, 1894). Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, MA, PI, CE, RN: Coelho (1969), as B. brasiliensis; PB, BA: Barreto et al. (1993a), as B. brasiliensis; PE, AL: Coelho (1971a), as B. brasiliensis.

Collodes armatus Rathbun, 1898
Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies (Cuba) to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996). Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barreto et al. (1993a); MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980).

Collodes inermis A. Milne-Edwards, 1878
Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996; Dall’Occo et al. 2004). Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, MA, PI, CE, RN: Coelho (1969); PB: Coelho & Ramos (1972); PE: Coelho (1971a); AL: Barreto et al. (1993a); BA: A. Milne-Edwards (1878).

Collodes rostratus A. Milne-Edwards, 1879
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Bahia) to Argentina (Gomes Corrêa 1972; Melo 1996). Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: BA: Joly et al. (1969).

Collodes trispinosus Stimpson, 1871

Euprognatha acuta A. Milne-Edwards, 1880
Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Guyanas to Uruguay (Melo 1996). Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as E. rastellifera Stimpson, 1871; PA, PE: Barreto et al. (1993a); PB: Melo & Veloso (2005).

Euprognatha gracilipes A. Milne-Edwards, 1878

Inachoides forceps A. Milne-Edwards, 1879
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Brazil, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996). Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Barreto et al. (1993a); PA, MA, CE, RN, PE: Coelho (1969); BA: Coelho (1971a).

Inachoides meloi (Sankarankutty, Ferreira & Cunha, 2001)
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Rio Grande do Norte) (Sankarankutty et al. 2001a, as Podochela meloi). Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RN: Sankarankutty et al. (2001a), as P. meloi.

Paradasygiius tuberculatus (Lemos de Castro, 1949)
Family Majidae Samouelle, 1819

Subfamily Mithracinae MacLeay, 1838

**Leptopisa setirostris** (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: Florida, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA, PI, CE, RN: Coelho (1969); PB: Rathbun (1898); PE, AL: Coelho (1971a); BA: Rathbun (1925).

**Macrocoeloma camptocerum** (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (Ceará) (Melo 1996; Coelho Filho 2006).

**Macrocoeloma concavum** Miers, 1886
Western Atlantic: West Indies to Brazil (Bahia) (Melo 1996; Almeida *et al.* 2007a).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN, BA: Miers (1886), as *M. concava*; PA: Barreto *et al.* (1993a); MA, PI, CE: Coelho (1969); RN, PE, AL: Coelho (1971a); PB: Rathbun (1898).

**Macrocoeloma eutheca** (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC: Coelho Filho (2006); MA, PI, CE, RN: Coelho (1969); PB: Barreto *et al.* (1993a); PE, AL: Coelho (1971a); BA: Coelho & Ramos (1972).

**Macrocoeloma laevigatum** (Stimpson, 1860)
Western Atlantic: Florida (Florida Keys), West Indies to Brazil (Bahia) (Powers 1977; Melo 1996; Serejo *et al.* 2006).

**Macrocoeloma nodipes** (Desbonne, in Desbonne & Schramm, 1867)
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, North Carolina, Florida (Florida Keys), Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Fernando de Noronha) (Rathbun 1925, as *M. trispinosum nodipes*).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Rathbun (1925), as *M. trispinosum nodipes*.

**Macrocoeloma septemspinosum** (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996; Serejo *et al.* 2006).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SFN: Coelho Filho (2006); CE: Coelho (1969); RN: Coelho (1971a); PB, AL: Barreto *et al.* (1993a); BA: Miers (1886), as *M. septemspinosum*.

**Macrocoeloma subparallelum** (Stimpson, 1860)
Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Fausto Filho (1974); RN: Coelho & Ramos (1972); PE: Coelho (1971a); AL: Coelho *et al.* (1990); BA: Gouvêa (1986a).
Macrocoeloma trispinosum (Latreille, 1825)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC: Coelho Filho (2006), as M. trispinosum trispinosum; FN: Moreira (1901); PA, MA: Barreto et al. (1993a); PI, CE: Coelho (1969); RN, PE, AL: Coelho (1971a); PB: Rathbun (1898), as M. diacanthum (A. Milne-Edwards, 1875); BA: Miers (1886), as M. trispinosum.

Microphrys antillensis Rathbun, 1901

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE: Coelho (1971a); BA: Gouvêa & Leite (1980).

Microphrys bicornutus (Latreille, 1825)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Fausto Filho (1967); FN: Pocock (1890); MA, RN: Rathbun (1925); CE: Coelho Filho (2006); PB: Rathbun (1900); PE: Aurivillius (1889); AL: Coelho et al. (1990); BA: Smith (1869), as Milnia bicornuta Stimpson, 1860.

Microphrys interruptus Rathbun, 1920

Western Atlantic: West Indies to Brazil (Alagoas) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Alves et al. (2008); MA: Barreto et al. (1993a); PI, CE, RN: Coelho (1969); PB, PE, AL: Coelho (1971a).

Mithraculus coryphe (Herbst, 1801)

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Miers (1886), as Mithrax coronatus White, 1847; CE: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as Mithrax (Mithraculus) coryphe; PE, AL: Rathbun (1900), as Mithrax coryphe; BA: Smith (1869), as M. coronatus.

Mithraculus forceps A. Milne-Edwards, 1875

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996; Rieger & Giraldi 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, RA, PB: Coelho (1971a), as Mithrax (Mithraculus) forceps; SFN: Coelho Filho (2006); FN, BA: Miers (1886), as Mithrax forceps; PP: Holthuis et al. (1980); MA, PI, CE: Coelho (1969), as Mithrax (Mithraculus) forceps; RN, PE, AL: Rathbun (1900), as Mithrax forceps.

Mithraculus sculptus (Lamarck, 1818)

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Bahia) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Miers (1886), as Mithrax (Mithraculus) sculptus; BA: Rathbun (1925), Mithrax (Mithraculus) sculptus.
Mithrax braziliensis Rathbun, 1892
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Paraíba to São Paulo) (Melo 1996; Dall’Occo et al. 2004).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PB, PE, AL: Rathbun (1900); BA: Rathbun (1892).

Mithrax caribbaeus Rathbun, 1920
Western Atlantic: West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).

Mithrax hemphilli Rathbun, 1892
Western Atlantic: Florida, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Coelho (1971a), as M. (Mithrax) hemphilli; MA, CE, PB: Barreto et al. (1993a); PE: Rathbun (1925), as M. (Mithrax) hemphilli; AL: Coelho et al. (1990); BA: Rathbun (1892).

Mithrax hispidus (Herbst, 1790)
Western Atlantic: Delaware to southern Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996; Rieger & Giraldi 2001).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, PE: Coelho (1971a), as M. (Mithrax) hispidus; MA: Coelho (1969), as M. (Mithrax) hispidus; CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as M. (Mithrax) hispidus; PB: Rathbun (1898); AL: Miers (1886), as M. hispidus var. pleuracanthus Stimpson, 1871; BA: Smith (1869).

Mithrax tortugae Rathbun, 1920
Western Atlantic: Florida, West Indies, Colombia, Venezuela to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros & Pimentel (2001); PE: Coelho et al. (2002); AL: Coelho et al. (1990); BA: Almeida et al. (2007a).

Mithrax verrucosus H. Milne Edwards, 1832
Western Atlantic: South Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996; Alves et al. 2006).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Coelho (1971a); FN: Pocock (1890).

Nemausa acuticornis (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996; Alves et al. 2006).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SFN, RA, PB, SE: Coelho (1971a), as Mithrax (Mithrax) acuticornis; AP, PA, MA, PI, CE, RN, PE: Coelho (1969), as M. (Mithrax) acuticornis; AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as M. (Mithrax) acuticornis; BA: Rathbun (1925), as M. (Mithrax) acuticornis.

Nemausa cornuta (Saussure, 1857)
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida (Florida Straits), West Indies to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996, as N. cornutus; Serejo et al. 2006, as N. cornutus).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SFN, RA, FN: Coelho Filho (2006), as N. cornutus; AP: Gomes Corrêa & Silva Brum (1980), as Mithrax (Mithrax) cornutus; PA, RN: Barreto et al. (1993a), as N. cornutus; MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980), as M. (Mithrax) cornutus; BA: Miers (1886), as M. cornutus.
**Picroceroides tubularis** Miers, 1886
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, FN, PI, PB, AL: Coelho (1971a); SFN, RA: Coelho Filho (2006); AP: Fausto Filho & Sampaio Neto (1976); PA: Barreto et al. (1993a); MA, CE, RN: Coelho (1969); PE, BA: Miers (1886).

**Stenocionops furcatus** (Olivier, 1791)
Western Atlantic: Georgia, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996, as *S. furcata*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1967), as *S. furcata*; PB: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *S. furcata*; BA: A. Milne-Edwards (1873), as *Pericera cornuta* H. Milne Edwards, 1834.

**Stenocionops spinimanus** (Rathbun, 1892)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996, as *S. spinimanus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Alves et al. (2008), as *S. spinimanus*; PA: Viana et al. (2003a), as *S. spinimanus*; RN: Sankarankutty et al. (1998), as *S. spinimanus*.

**Stenocionops spinosissimus** (Saussure, 1857)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Uruguay (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Coelho (1971a); AP, PA: Silva et al. (2001); RN: Coelho et al. (1986).

**Teleophrys ornatus** Rathbun, 1901
Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996; Alves et al. 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Miers (1886), as *Mithrax* sp.

**Teleophrys pococki** Rathbun, 1892
Western Atlantic: Curaçao to Brazil (Alagoas) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Pocock (1890), as *Mithrax (Teleophrys) cristulipes* (Stimpson, 1869); PE: Rathbun (1925); AL: Rathbun (1900), as *Teleophrys cristulipes*.

**Thoe aspera** Rathbun, 1901
Western Atlantic: Puerto Rico to Brazil (Pernambuco and Alagoas) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PE: Coelho (1971a); AL: Fausto Filho (1975).

**Subfamily Planoterginae Števčić, 1994**

**Hemus cristulipes** A. Milne-Edwards, 1875
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, FN: Coelho (1971a); SFN: Coelho Filho (2006); MA, CE, PE: Coelho (1969); RN: Barreto et al. (1993a).
Superfamily Palicoidea Bouvier, 1898

Family Palicidae Bouvier, 1898

**Palicus acutifrons** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1880)
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Bahia and Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: BA: A. Milne-Edwards (1880a), as *Cymoplia acutifrons*.

**Palicus alternatus** Rathbun, 1897
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, and Brazil (Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, and Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996; Serejo et al. 2006).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: BA: Serejo et al. (2006).

**Palicus affinis** (A. Milne-Edwards & Bouvier, 1899)
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Guyanas to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC: Coelho (1969); FN, AP, MA, CE, RN, PE: Coelho (1969); PI: Barreto et al. (1993a); PB, AL, BA: Coelho & Ramos (1972).

**Palicus dentatus** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1880)
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Coelho Filho (2006); AP, PA: Barreto et al. (1993a).

**Palicus sicus** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1880)
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996, as *P. sicus*).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Barreto et al. (1993a), as *P. sicus*.

Superfamily Parthenopoidea MacLeay, 1838

Family Parthenopidae MacLeay, 1838

Subfamily Daldorfiinae Ng & Rodriguez, 1986

**Thyrolambrus astroides** Rathbun, 1894
Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, PI, CE, PB, BA: Barreto et al. (1993a); MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980); PE: Coelho et al. (2002); AL: Coelho et al. (1990).

Subfamily Parthenopinae MacLeay, 1838

**Agolambrus agonus** (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Guyanas to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) [Melo 1996, as *Parthenope (Parthenope) agonas*].
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, PB, BA: Barreto et al. (1993a), as *P. (Parthenope) agonas*; RN: Coelho et al. (1986), as *P. (Parthenope) agonas*; AL: Coelho et al. (1990), as *P. (Parthenope) agonas*. 
**Celatopesia concava** (Stimpson, 1871)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996, as Cryptopodia concava).


**Costalambrus tommasii** (Rodrigues da Costa, 1959)

Western Atlantic: Central America, Guyanas to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996, as Heterocrypta tommasii).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1967), as H. tommasii; AL: Coelho et al. (1990), as H. tommasii.

**Heterocrypta granulata** (Gibbes, 1850)

Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Paraná) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, SE: Barreto et al. (1993a), as H. lapidea Rathbun, 1901; MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980), as H. lapidea; CE: Fausto Filho (1970); RN: Coelho et al. (1986), as H. lapidea; PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); AL: Coelho et al. (1990), as H. lapidea and as H. granulata; BA: Miers (1886), as H. granulata.

**Leiolambrus nitidus** Rathbun, 1901

Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Guyanas to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).

**Mesorhoea sexspinosa** Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, SE: Barreto et al. (1993a).

**Piloslambrus guerini** (Brito Capello, 1871)

Western Atlantic: West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) [Melo 1996, as Parthenope (Platylambrus) guerini].

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RN: Coelho et al. (1986), as Parthenope (Platylambrus) guerini; AL: Coelho et al. (1990), as Parthenope (Platylambrus) guerini; SE: Coelho et al. (2004), as Platylambrus guerini; BA: Miers (1886), as Lambrus guérinii [sic].

**Platylambrus serratus** (H. Milne Edwards, 1834)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo) [Melo 1996, as Parthenope (Platylambrus) serrata].

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Viana et al. (2003a), as Parthenope (Platylambrus) serrata; MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980), as Parthenope (Platylambrus) serrata; PI: Barreto et al. (1993a), as Parthenope (Platylambrus) serrata; BA: Miers (1886), as Lambrus serratus.

**Solenolambrus tenellus** Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Bahamas, Barbados to Brazil (Rio Grande do Norte) (Williams 1984; Barreto & Coelho 1994).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barreto et al. (1993a); RN: Coelho et al. (1986), as Solenolambrus sp.
*Spinolambrus fraterculus* (Stimpson, 1871)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Surinam to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) [Melo 1996, as *Parthenope (Platylambrus) fraterculus*].

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Barreto *et al.* (1993a), as *Parthenope (Platylambrus) fraterculus*; PA: Bullis Jr. & Thompson (1965), as *Parthenope (Platylambrus) fraterculus*; MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980), as *Parthenope (Platylambrus) fratercula*.

*Spinolambrus pourtalesii* (Stimpson, 1871)

Western Atlantic: New Jersey to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) [Melo 1996, as *Parthenope (Platylambrus) pourtalesii*].

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, CE: Barreto *et al.* (1993a), as *Parthenope (Platylambrus) pourtalesii*.

**Superfamily Pilumnoidea Samouelle, 1819**

**Family Pilumnidae Samouelle, 1819**

**Subfamily Pilumninae Samouelle, 1819**

*Pilumnus caribaeus* Desbonne, in Desbonne & Schramm, 1867

Western Atlantic: Florida Keys, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Powers 1977; Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, PI, CE: Barreto *et al.* (1993a); MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980); BA: Miers (1886), as *P. brasiliensis* Miers, 1886.

*Pilumnus dasypodus* Kingsley, 1879

Western Atlantic: North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE, PB: Barreto *et al.* (1993a); PE: Rathbun (1900); AL, BA: Rathbun (1930).

*Pilumnus diomedeae* Rathbun, 1894

Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).


*Pilumnus quoii* H. Milne Edwards, 1834

Western Atlantic: Guyanas to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996, as *P. quoyi*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, MA, PI, CE, PB, PE, AL, BA: Barreto *et al.* (1993a), as *P. quoyi*; RN: Coelho *et al.* (1986), as *P. quoyi*.

*Pilumnus reticulatus* Stimpson, 1860

Western Atlantic: Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Argentina (Buenos Aires and northern Patagonia). Eastern Pacific: Gulf of California to Gulf of Panama (Hendrickx 1995; Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, AL: Barreto *et al.* (1993a); MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980); RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE: Rathbun (1900); BA: Rathbun (1930).
Pilumnus spinosissimus Rathbun, 1898
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); BA: Serejo et al. (2006).

Superfamily Portunoidea Rafinesque, 1815

Family Geryonidae Colosi, 1923

Chaceon fenneri (Manning & Holthuis, 1984)
Western Atlantic: Florida to northeastern Brazil (01.5–04.0°S; 34–42°W) (Manning & Holthuis 1984, as Geryon fenneri; Sankarankutty et al. 2001b).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: off northeastern Brazil: Sankarankutty et al. (2001b).

Family Portunidae Rafinesque, 1815

Subfamily Polybiinae Ortmann, 1893

Bathynectes longispina Stimpson, 1871
Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Cuba to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Powers 1977; Tavares 2003; Torres et al. 2006).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RN, PE, AL, BA: Torres et al. (2006).

Subfamily Portuninae Rafinesque, 1815

Arenaeus cribrarius (Lamarck, 1818)
Western Atlantic: Massachusetts, North Carolina, Florida, Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Argentina (Melo 1996; Scelzo 2001).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN, PE, AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972); PB: Rathbun (1930); SE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1992); BA: Gouvêa (1986b).

Callinectes affinis Fausto Filho, 1980
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Ceará and Rio Grande do Norte) (Fausto Filho 1980b; Robles et al. 2007).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1980b); RN: Robles et al. (2007).

Callinectes bocourti A. Milne-Edwards, 1879
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Williams 1984; Melo 1996; Santos et al. 2000).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Coelho (1969); PA, PE: Rathbun (1930); MA, AL: Williams (1974); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN: Sankarankutty et al. (1991); BA: Moreira (1901).

Callinectes danae Smith, 1869
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros et al. (1997); RN: Sankarankutty et al. (1991); PB: Coelho (1971b); PE, BA: Smith (1869), as C. Danae [sic]; AL, SE: Coelho & Ramos (1972).
**Callinectes exasperatus** (Gerstaecker, 1856)
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros & Pimentel (2001); MA: Ramos-Porto *et al.* (1978); RN: Rathbun (1930); PE: Moreira (1901); AL: Coelho *et al.* (1990); BA: Moreira (1901).

**Callinectes marginatus** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1861)
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996, as *C. larvatus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros *et al.* (1997), as *C. larvatus*; CE: Williams (1974), as *C. larvatus*; RN, AL: Rathbun (1930), as *C. larvatus*; PB: Rathbun (1900); PE: Moreira (1901); BA: Smith (1869), as *C. larvatus*.

**Callinectes ornatus** Ordway, 1863
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, CE: Coelho (1969); MA: Rathbun (1930); RN, PB, AL, SE: Coelho & Ramos (1972); PE: Coelho (1965b); BA: Smith (1869).

**Callinectes sapidus** Rathbun, 1896
Western Atlantic: Massachusetts southwards, Central America, West Indies, Venezuela, Brazil to Argentina (Buenos Aires province). Eastern Atlantic: Mediterranean, Adriatic, and Black seas. Western Pacific: Japan (Williams 1984; Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AL: Coelho *et al.* (1990); BA: Rathbun (1896), as *C. sapidus acutidens* Rathbun, 1896.

**Cronius ruber** (Lamarck, 1818)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul). Eastern Atlantic: Senegal to Angola. Eastern Pacific: Baja California, Mexico to Peru, including Galápagos and Clipperton I. (Hendrickx 1995; Melo 1996).


**Cronius tumidulus** (Stimpson, 1871)
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Guyanas to Brazil (São Paulo).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA, MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1992); PI, SE: Barreto *et al.* (1993a); CE: Coelho (1969); RN, PB, PE, AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972); BA: Miers (1886), as *C. bispinosus* Miers, 1886.

**Laleonectes vocans** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1878)

Portunus (Achelous) floridanus Rathbun, 1930

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Honduras and Nicaragua, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Paraíba) (Williams 1984, as *P. floridanus*; Ramos-Porto *et al.* 2000b, as *P. floridanus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PB: Ramos-Porto *et al.* (2000b), as *P. floridanus*.

Portunus (Achelous) ordwayi (Stimpson, 1860)

Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996, as *P. ordwayi*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SFN: Coelho Filho (2006), as *P. ordwayi*; FN, PA, PI, CE, PE: Coelho (1969), as *P. ordwayi*; AP: Viana *et al.* (2003a), as *P. ordwayi*; MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1992), as *P. ordwayi*; RN, PB, AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *P. ordwayi*; BA: Smith (1869), as *Achelous Ordwayi* [sic].

Portunus (Achelous) spinicarpus (Stimpson, 1871)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996, as *P. spinicarpus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA: Coelho (1969), as *P. spinicarpus*; CE: Barreto *et al.* (1993a), as *P. spinicarpus*; AL: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1992), as *P. spinicarpus*; BA: Rodrigues da Costa (1968), as *P. spinicarpus*.

Portunus (Achelous) spinimanus Latreille, 1819

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, New Jersey to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996, as *P. spinimanus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SFN: Coelho Filho (2006), as *P. spinimanus*; AP, PA, MA, CE: Coelho (1969), as *P. spinimanus*; PI: Barreto *et al.* (1993a), as *P. spinimanus*; PE, AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *P. spinimanus*; SE: Coelho *et al.* (2004), as *P. spinimanus*; BA: Smith (1869), as *Achelous spinimanus*.

Portunus (Portunus) anceps (Saussure, 1858)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro). Central Atlantic: Ascension I. (Manning & Chace 1990, as *P. anceps*; Melo 1996, as *P. anceps*).


Portunus (Portunus) gibbesii (Stimpson, 1859)

Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Venezuela, Guyanas to Brazil (Maranhão) (Melo 1996, as *P. gibbesii*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1992), as *P. gibbesii*.

Portunus (Portunus) rufiremus Holthuis, 1959

Western Atlantic: Guyanas to Brazil (Maranhão) (Melo 1996, as *P. rufiremus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA: Coelho (1969), as *P. rufiremus*; MA: Viana *et al.* (2003a), as *P. rufiremus*.
**Portunus (Portunus) sayi** (Stimpson, 1860)
Western Atlantic: Nova Scotia to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Guyanas to Brazil (Paraíba) (Williams 1984, as *P. sayi*; Melo & Veloso 2005, as *P. sayi*).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PB: Melo & Veloso (2005), as *P. sayi*.

**Portunus (Portunus) ventralis** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1879)
Western Atlantic: Georgia, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996, as *P. ventralis*).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Coelho Filho (2006), as *P. ventralis*; RN: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *P. ventralis*; AL: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1992), as *P. ventralis*.

**Subfamily Thalamitinae Paul’son, 1875**

**Charybdis hellerii** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1867)

**Superfamily Pseudozioidae Alcock, 1898**

**Family Pilumnoididae Guinot & Macpherson, 1987**

**Pilumnoides coelhoi** Guinot & Macpherson, 1987
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Paraíba to Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

**Family Pseudoziidae Alcock, 1898**

**Euryozius sanguineus** (Linnaeus, 1767)

**Superfamily Trapezioidea Miers, 1886**

**Family Domeciidae Ortmann, 1893**

**Domecia acanthophora** (Desbonne, in Desbonne & Schramm, 1867)
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South
America to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996, as *D. acanthophora acanthophora*; Alves *et al.* 2006, as *D. acanthophora acanthophora*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, SFN, FN, RA, CE: Coelho Filho (2006); PE, AL: Rathbun (1930), as *D. hispida* Eydoux & Souleyet, 1842; BA: Joly *et al.* (1969), as *D. hispida*.

**Superfamily Xanthoidea MacLeay, 1838**

**Family Panopeidae Ortmann, 1893**

**Subfamily Eucratopsinae Stimpson, 1871**

*Cycloplax pinnotheroides* Guinot, 1969

Western Atlantic: Guyanas to Brazil (Amapá and Pará) (Melo 1996).


*Cyrtoplax spinidentata* (Benedict, 1892)

Western Atlantic: West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Bezerra *et al.* (2005b); PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE: Coelho & Coelho Filho (1994); BA: Gouvêa (1971).

*Eucratopsis crassimana* (Dana, 1852)

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996, as *E. crassimanus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AL: Coelho *et al.* (1990), as *E. crassimanus*.

*Panoplax depressa* Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Pernambuco) (Melo 1996).


**Subfamily Panopeinae Ortmann, 1893**

*Acantholobulus bermudensis* (Benedict & Rathbun, 1891)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996, as *Panopeus bermudensis*; Felder & Martin 2003).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1968), as *P. bermudensis*; RN: Fausto Filho (1970), as *P. bermudensis*; PE: Coelho & Lacerda (1990), as *P. bermudensis*; AL: Rathbun (1900), as *Eupanopeus bermudensis*; BA: Rathbun (1930), as *P. bermudensis*.

*Acantholobulus schmitti* (Rathbun, 1930)

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Ceará) to Uruguay (Melo 1996, as *Hexapanopeus schmitti*; Coelho Filho 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Coelho Filho (2006); RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002), as *H. schmitti*; PE: Coelho & Lacerda (1990), as *H. schmitti*; AL, BA: Rathbun (1930), as *H. schmitti*. 
**Eurypanopeus abbreviatus** (Stimpson, 1860)

Western Atlantic: South Carolina, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE, RN: Fausto Filho (1967); PB, PE, AL: Rathbun (1900), as *Eupanopeus abbreviatus*; SE: Coelho & Coelho Filho (1994); BA: Smith (1869), as *Panopeus politus* (Smith, 1869).

**Eurypanopeus dissimilis** (Benedict & Rathbun, 1891)

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Rathbun (1930); PE: Coelho *et al.* (2002).

**Eurytium limosum** (Say, 1818)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).


**Hexapanopeus angustifrons** (Benedict & Rathbun, 1891)

Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).


**Hexapanopeus caribbeaus** (Stimpson 1871)

Western Atlantic: West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996; Rieger *et al.* 1996).


**Hexapanopeus manningi** Sankarankutty & Ferreira, 2000

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Rio Grande do Norte) (Sankarankutty & Ferreira 2000).


**Hexapanopeus paulensis** Rathbun, 1930

Western Atlantic: South Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).


**Panopeus americanus** Saussure, 1857

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Panopeus harttii Smith, 1869


Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Fausto Filho (1974); MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980); PI, CE, PB: Coelho Filho & Coelho (1996); PE: Rathbun (1930); AL: Rathbun (1900), as Eupanopeus harttii; BA: Smith (1869), as P. Harttii [sic].

Panopeus lacustris Desbonne, in Desbonne & Schramm, 1867

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, West Indies, Colombia to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros et al. (1997); MA: Ramos-Porto et al. (1978), as P. herbstii; CE: Fausto Filho (1966), as P. Herbstii [sic]; RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PB: Rathbun (1900), as Eupanopeus herbstii; PE: Coelho (1964), as P. herbsti [sic]; AL: Coelho et al. (1990); SE: Coelho Filho & Coelho (1996); BA: A. Milne-Edwards (1880b), as P. Herbstii [sic] var. granulosus.

Panopeus occidentalis Saussure, 1857

Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul), (Powers 1977; Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Ramos-Porto et al. (1978); CE: Coelho Filho & Coelho (1996); PB, PE: Rathbun (1900), as Eupanopeus occidentalis; AL: Sousa et al. (2000); BA: Gouvêa (1986b).

Panopeus rugosus A. Milne-Edwards, 1880

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AL: Sousa et al. (2000); SE: Coelho Filho & Coelho (1996); BA: A. Milne-Edwards (1881).

Rhithropanopeus harrisii (Gould, 1841)

Western Atlantic: Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada, to Veracruz, Mexico. Introduced in western coast of USA, Brazil (Alagoas, São Paulo, and Rio Grande do Sul), and Mediterranean (Williams 1984; Coelho et al. 1990; D’Incao & Martins 1998; Dall’Occo et al. 2004).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AL: Coelho et al. (1990).

Tetraxanthus rathbunae Chace, 1939

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AL: Coelho et al. (1990).

Family Pseudorhombilidae Alcock, 1900

Nanoplax xanthiformis (A. Milne-Edwards, 1880)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP, PA: Barreto et al. (1993a); PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); AL: Calado & Sousa (2003).
**Pseudorhombila quadridentata** (Latreille, 1828)
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Alagoas) (Melo 1996).

**Family Xanthidae MacLeay, 1838**

**Subfamily Actaeinae Alcock, 1898**

**Actaea acantha** (H. Milne Edwards, 1834)
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Paraíba) (Melo 1996).

**Paractaea nodosa** (Stimpson, 1860)
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Uruguay (Melo 1996, as *P. rufopunctata nodosa*).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: SNC, SFN, FN: Coelho Filho (2006), as *P. rufopunctata nodosa*; AP: Fausto Filho & Sampaio Neto (1976), as *Actaea rufopunctata nodosa*; PA: Bullis Jr. & Thompson (1965), as *A. rufopunctata nodosa*; MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980), as *P. rufopunctata nodosa*; PI, PE, SE: Barreto *et al.* (1993a), as *P. rufopunctata nodosa*; CE: Guinot (1969), as *P. rufopunctata nodosa*; RN: Coelho *et al.* (1986), as *P. rufopunctata nodosa*; PB: Melo & Veloso (2005), as *P. rufopunctata nodosa*; AL: Coelho *et al.* (1990), as *P. rufopunctata nodosa*; BA: Miers (1886), as *A. rufopunctata var. nodosa*.

**Subfamily Euxanthinae Alcock, 1898**

**Edwardsium spinimanum** (H. Milne Edwards, 1834)
Western Atlantic: West Indies, Guyanas to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul), (Melo 1996, as *E. spinimanus*).

**Glyptoxanthus vermiculatus** (Lamarck, 1818)
Western Atlantic: northern South America and Brazil (Bahia and Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996; Serejo *et al.* 2006).

**Subfamily Speocarcininae Števčić, 2005**

**Speocarcinus carolinensis** Stimpson, 1859
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).
Subfamily Xanthinae MacLeay, 1838

*Cataleptodius floridanus* (Gibbes, 1850)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Central America, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul). Eastern Atlantic: Guinea to Gabon (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Coelho (1965a), as *Xantho (Leptodius) floridanus*; FN: Fausto Filho (1968), as *Leptodius floridanus*; CE: Rathbun (1930), as *L. floridanus*; RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PB, PE: Rathbun (1900), as *L. floridanus*; BA: Smith (1869), as *Chlorodius Floridanus [sic]*.

*Cataleptodius parvulus* (Fabricius, 1793)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Fernando de Noronha Archipelago and Rocas Atoll) (Melo 1996, as *Xanthodius parvulus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Pocock (1890), as *Leptodius americanus* (Saussure, 1858); RA: Coelho (1965a), as *Xantho (Leptodius) americana*.

*Garthiope spinipes* (A. Milne-Edwards, 1880)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Venezuela to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996; Alves et al. 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980), as *Coralliope spinipes*; RN: Coelho et al. (1986), as *Coraliophe [sic] spinipes*; PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE: Coelho et al. (2002); BA: A. Milne-Edwards (1880b), as *Micropanope spinipes*.

*Melybia thalamita* Stimpson, 1871

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).


*Micropanope lobifrons* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880

Western Atlantic: Florida, West Indies, Central America (Panama) to Brazil (Paraíba and Pernambuco) (Coelho-Santos et al. 1994; Melo & Veloso 2005).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE: Coelho-Santos et al. (1994).

*Micropanope nuttingi* (Rathbun, 1898)

Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Surinam to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).


*Micropanope pusilla* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Paraiba) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, PI, CE, RN, PB: Barreto et al. (1993a); MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980).
**Micropanope sculptipes** Stimpson, 1871  
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).  

**Micropanope urinator** (A. Milne-Edwards, 1881)  
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996; Nucci & Melo 1999).  

**Xanthias inornatus** (Rathbun, 1898)  
Western Atlantic: Curaçao to Brazil (Pernambuco) (Rathbun 1930; Coelho Filho & Coelho 1996).  
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980); PB: Rathbun (1898), as *Actaea inornata*.

**Xanthodius denticulatus** (White, 1848)  
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PP: Holthuis *et al.* (1980); CE: Fausto Filho (1968), as *Cycloxanthops denticulatus*; PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE, AL: Rathbun (1900), as *C. denticulatus*; BA: Smith (1869), as *Xantho denticulata*.

**Subfamily Zalasiinae** Serène, 1968

**Banareia palmeri** (Rathbun, 1894)  
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996).  

**Subfamily Zosiminae** Alcock, 1898

**Platypodiella spectabilis** (Herbst, 1794)  
Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996).  
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Pocock (1890), as *Lophactaea lobata* (H. Milne Edwards, 1834); PB: Melo & Veloso (2005); PE: Coelho (1966a), as *Platypodia spectabilis*; AL: Coelho *et al.* (1990); BA: Gouvêa (1986a), as *Platypodia spectabilis*.
Subsection Thoracotremata Guinot, 1977

Superfamily Cryptochiroidea Paul'son, 1875

Family Cryptochiridae Paul'son, 1875

*Opecarcinus hypostegus* (Shaw & Hopkins, 1977)


*Traglocarcinus coralicola* Verrill, 1908


Superfamily Grapsoidea MacLeay, 1838

Family Gecarcinidae MacLeay, 1838

*Cardisoma guanhumi* Latreille, 1825

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PB: Coelho (1971b); PE: Smith (1869), as *C. quadratum* [sic] Saussure, 1858; AL: Coelho *et al.* (1990); BA: Almeida *et al.* (2006).

*Johngarthia lagostoma* (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)

Western Atlantic: Florida, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Rocas Atoll and Fernando de Noronha). Central Atlantic: Ascension I. (Melo 1996, as *Gecarcinus lagostoma*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Coelho (1965a), as *G. lagostoma*; FN: Moreira (1901), as *G. lagostoma*.

Family Grapsidae MacLeay, 1838

Subfamily Grapsinae MacLeay, 1838

*Geograpsus lividus* (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)


**Goniopsis cruentata** (Latreille, 1803)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Guyanas to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Targino *et al.* (2001); FN: Rathbun (1918); PA: Barros & Pimentel (2001); MA: Ramos-Porto *et al.* (1978); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PB, PE: Rathbun (1900), as *G. cruentatus*; AL: Coelho *et al.* (1990); BA: Smith (1869), as *G. cruentata*.

**Grapsus grapsus** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Colombia, Venezuela to Brazil (Espírito Santo). Eastern Pacific: California to Chile, Galápagos (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Coelho (1965a); FN: Miers (1886); PP: Holthuis *et al.* (1980); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); PE: White (1847).

**Pachygrapsus corrugatus** (von Martens, 1872)

Western Atlantic: West Indies and Brazil (São Pedro and São Paulo Archipelago) (Melo 1996).


**Pachygrapsus gracilis** (Saussure, 1858)

Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico (Texas), Caribbean, French Guyana to Argentina. Eastern Atlantic: Senegal to Angola (Melo 1996; Poupin *et al.* 2005).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros *et al.* (1997); MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980); RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PB: Rathbun (1900); PE: Coelho (1964); AL: Souza *et al.* (2000); BA: Rathbun (1918).

**Pachygrapsus transversus** (Gibbes, 1850)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Massachusetts (Cape Cod) to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Uruguay. Eastern Atlantic: southern Portugal to Namibia, including Madeira I., Canary Islands, and Cape Verde. Mediterranean: Alboran Sea to Levantine basin (Melo 1996; Poupin *et al.* 2005; Schubart *et al.* 2005).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Fausto Filho (1974); MA: Ramos-Porto *et al.* (1978); CE: Coelho (1969); RN: Rathbun (1918); PB, PE, AL: Rathbun (1900); BA: Rathbun (1898).

**Planes major** (MacLeay, 1838)

Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico to Argentina. Central Atlantic: Saint Helena I. Eastern Atlantic: Canary Islands, Morocco, and South Africa. Eastern Pacific: California to the Straits of Magellan, including Galápagos. Widely distributed in the Indo-West Pacific (Melo 1996, as *P. cyaneus* Dana, 1851; Prado & Melo 2002, as *P. cyaneus*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Martinelli & Isaac (2001), as *P. cyaneus*; CE: Fausto Filho (1968), as *P. minutus* (Linnaeus, 1758); PE: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *P. minutus*; BA: Prado & Melo (2002), as *P. cyaneus*.
Family Plagusiidae Dana, 1851

Subfamily Plagusiinae Dana, 1851

Euchirograpsus antillensis Türkay, 1975

Western Atlantic: Bahamas, Cuba, between Cuba and Yucatan, south of Florida Keys to Brazil (Maranhão) (Powers 1977; Coelho & Ramos-Porto 1980, as Euchirograpsus sp.).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980), as Euchirograpsus sp.

Plagusia depressa (Fabricius, 1775)


Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: RA: Coelho (1965a); FN: Pocock (1890); PP: Holthuis et al. (1980); CE, RN: Fausto Filho (1966); PB, PE: Rathbun (1900).

Subfamily Percninae Števčić, 2005

Percnon gibbesi (H. Milne Edwards, 1853)


Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Coelho (1969), as P. planissimum (Herbst, 1804).

Family Sesarmidae Dana, 1851

Aratus pisonii (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo). Eastern Pacific: Nicaragua to Peru (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros et al. (1997); MA: Ramos-Porto et al. (1978); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PB, AL: Rathbun (1900); PE: Moreira (1901); BA: Rathbun (1918).

Armases angustipes (Dana, 1852)

Western Atlantic: Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros et al. (1997); CE: Fausto Filho (1966), as Sesarma (Holometopus) ricordi; PB: Rathbun (1900), as S. (Holometopus) miersii (Rathbun, 1897); PE: Coelho (1966b), as S. angustipes; AL: Calado et al. (1998); SE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1981), as S. (Holometopus) angustipes; BA: Rathbun (1918), as S. (Holometopus) miersii iheringi Rathbun, 1918 and S. (Holometopus) ricordi H. Milne Edwards, 1853.

Armases benedicti (Rathbun, 1897)

Western Atlantic: Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1981), as Sesarma (Holometopus) benedicti; PA: Ortmann (1897), as S. chiragra Ortmann, 1897; PE: Coelho et al. (2002).
Armases rubripes (Rathbun, 1897)

Western Atlantic: Central America, northern South America to Argentina (Melo 1996, as Metasesarma rubripes).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AL: Souza et al. (2000), as M. rubripes; BA: Rathbun (1897), as Sesarma (Holometopus) rubripes.

Sesarma crassipes Cano, 1889

Western Atlantic: Costa Rica to Brazil (Pernambuco) (Cano 1889; Abele 1979, 1992).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PE: Cano (1889).

Sesarma curacaoense De Man, 1892

Western Atlantic: Florida, West Indies, Panama to Brazil (Espírito Santo) (Abele 1992; Prado 1999).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1981), as S. (Sesarma) crassipes; RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PE: Coelho & Ramos (1972); BA: Rathbun (1918).

Sesarma rectum Randall, 1840

Western Atlantic: West Indies (Granada), Venezuela, Guyanas to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996; Schubart et al. 1999).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barros & Pimentel (2001); MA: Ramos-Porto et al. (1978), as Sesarma (Holometopus) rectum; RN: Fausto Filho (1966), as S. (Holometopus) rectum; PE: Rathbun (1900), as S. (Holometopus) rectum; AL: Souza et al. (2000); SE: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1981), as S. (Sesarma) rectum; BA: Rathbun (1918), as S. (Holometopus) rectum.

Family Varunidae H. Milne Edwards, 1853

Subfamily Cyclograpsinae H. Milne Edwards, 1853

Cyclograpsus integer H. Milne Edwards, 1837

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina). Eastern Atlantic: Cape Verde to Senegal. Indo-Pacific (Melo 1996).


Superfamily Ocypodoidea Rafinesque, 1815

Family Ocypodidae Rafinesque, 1815

Subfamily Ocypodinae Fabricius, 1798

Ocypode quadrata (Fabricius, 1787)

Western Atlantic: Bermuda, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: FN: Pocock (1890), as Ocypoda arenaria Say, 1817; PA: Barros & Pimentel (2001); MA: Coelho (1969); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN, SE: Coelho (1995); PB, AL: Rathbun (1900), as Ocypode albicans Bosc, 1802; PE: Moreira (1901), as Ocypoda arenaria; BA: Miers (1886), as Ocypoda arenaria.
Subfamily Ucinae Dana, 1851

_Uca (Leptuca) cumulanta_ Crane, 1943

Western Atlantic: Central America, northern South America, Guyanas to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) (Melo 1996, as _U. cumulanta_).


_Uca (Leptuca) leptodactyla_ Rathbun, 1898

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996, as _U. leptodactyla_).


_Uca (Minuca) burgesi_ Holthuis, 1967

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996, as _U. burgesi_).


_Uca (Minuca) mordax_ (Smith, 1870)

Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, Central America, northern South America to Brazil (São Paulo) (Melo 1996, as _U. mordax_).


_Uca (Minuca) rapax_ (Smith, 1870)

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996, as _U. rapax_).


_Uca (Minuca) thayeri_ Rathbun, 1900

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Central America, Venezuela to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996, as _U. thayeri_).


_Uca (Minuca) vocator_ (Herbst, 1804)

Western Atlantic: Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996, as _U. vocator_).
Catarina) (Melo 1996, as *U. vocator*).


*Uca (Uca) maracoani* (Latreille, 1802)

Western Atlantic: West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Paraná) (Melo 1996, as *U. maracoani*).


Family Ucididae Števčić, 2005

*Ucides cordatus* (Linnaeus, 1763)

Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, Central America, West Indies, northern South America to Brazil (Pará to Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA, BA: Smith (1869), as *Uca cordata*; MA: Ramos-Porto *et al*. (1978); CE: Fausto Filho (1966); RN, SE: Coelho (1995); PB: Rathbun (1900); PE: White (1847), as *Uca cordata*; AL: Coelho *et al*. (1990).

Superfamily Pinnotheroidea De Haan, 1833

Family Pinnotheridae De Haan, 1833

Subfamily Pinnothereliinae Alcock, 1900

*Alarconia guinotae* Coelho, 1996

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará to Paraná) (Coelho 1996b).


*Austinixa aidae* (Righi, 1967)

Western Atlantic: Tobago to Brazil (São Paulo) (Coelho 1997, as *Pinnixa aidae*; Bezerra *et al*. 2006).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: AP: Coelho (1969), as *P. cristata*; PA, RN, PE: Barreto *et al*. (1993a), as *P. cristata*; PB, AL, SE: Coelho (1997), as *P. aidae*.

*Austinixa bragantina* Coelho, 2005

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará and Ceará) (Bezerra *et al*. 2006).


*Austinixa leptodactyla* (Coelho, 1997)

Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará to Sergipe) (Coelho 1997, as *Pinnixa leptodactyla*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *Pinnixa* sp. A (in part); CE: Bezerra *et al*. (2006); RN, PE, SE: Coelho (1997), as *P. leptodactyla*.
Pinnixa chaetopterana Stimpson, 1860
Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Williams 1984; Coelho 1996a).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Coelho Filho (2006); RN: Ferreira & Sankarankutty (2002); PE: Coelho & Ramos (1972).

Pinnixa floridana Rathbun, 1918
Western Atlantic: North Carolina to Florida, and Brazil (Maranhão and Pernambuco) (Williams 1984; Coelho 1996a).

Pinnixa gracilipes Coelho, 1997
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pará to São Paulo) (Coelho 1997).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barreto et al. (1993a), as Pinnixa sp. D; PE: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as Pinnixa sp. D.

Pinnixa latissima Coelho, 1997
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Pernambuco to Bahia) (Coelho 1997).

Pinnixa sayana Stimpson, 1860
Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil (Rio Grande do Sul) (Melo 1996).

Subfamily Pinnotherinae De Haan, 1833

Dissodactylus crinitichelis Moreira, 1901
Western Atlantic: North Carolina, Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, northern South America to Argentina (Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: PA: Barreto et al. (1993a); PB, PE, BA: Coelho & Ramos (1972); AL: Coelho et al. (1990).

Pinnaxodes tomentosus Ortmann, 1894
Western Atlantic: Brazil (Bahia and Santa Catarina) (Melo & Boehs 2004, as Holothuriophilus tomentosus; Serejo et al. 2006).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: Serejo et al. (2006).

Parapinnixa hendersoni Rathbun, 1918
Western Atlantic: Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, Venezuela to Brazil (Paraná) (Melo et al. 1989; Melo 1996).
Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho & Ramos (1972); AL: Calado et al. (1998); BA: Righi (1967).
**Thumidotheres maculatus** (Say, 1818)

Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Argentina (Melo 1996).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: MA: Coelho & Ramos-Porto (1980), as *Pinnothetes* sp.; PE: Coelho-Santos & Coelho (2001); AL: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *P. maculatus*; BA: Gouvêa (1986b), as *P. maculatus*.

**Zaops ostreus** (Say, 1817)

Western Atlantic: Massachusetts to Florida, Gulf of Mexico, West Indies to Brazil (Santa Catarina) (Melo 1996, as *Z. ostreum*).

Occurrence in northern and northeastern Brazil: CE: Bezerra et al. (2006), as *Z. ostreum*; RN: Sankarankutty & Ferreira (2001), as *Z. ostreum*; PE: Coelho & Ramos (1972), as *Pinnothetes ostreum*; BA: Martins & D'Incao (1996), as *Z. ostreum*.

**Remarks**

Coelho (2006) revised *Podochela* Stimpson, 1860, from Caribbean and Atlantic South America coast, resurrecting the genera *Anisonotus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1879, *Coryrynchus* Kingsley, 1879, and *Ericerodes* Rathbun, 1897. Consequently, *P. algicola* and *P. riisei* were removed to *Coryrynchus*, whereas *P. gracilipes* and *P. minusculus* were placed in the genus *Ericerodes*. The pinnotherid *Austinixa lepdodactyla*, considered within the genus *Pinnixa* White, 1846, on Ng et al. (2008), actually was transferred to *Austinixa* Heard & Manning, 1997 (see Coelho 2005). *Podochela meloi* (=*Inachoides meloi*, see Coelho 2006) and *Hexapanopeus manningi*, reported from northern and northeastern Brazil, are absent on the Ng et al. (2008) list. These recent taxonomic changes and the missing species were mentioned on Update 5, published on line on 8 August 2008 (available in http://rmbr.nus.edu.sg/research/cotw/supplement17.php). Finally, *Thoe aspera*, also absent from the original list, is not included in none of the published updates. According to Dr. Peter K.L. Ng (pers. comm.), this mithracid crab have been probably missed by Ng et al. (2008).

**Doubtful records**

The description of *Stenorhynchus spinifer* Miers, 1886, was based on a damaged male specimen dredged by the Challenger Expedition at São Pedro and São Paulo Archipelago. The species was included by Miers (1886) in the genus *Stenorhynchus* Lamarck, 1818, together with other eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean species now assigned to the inachid genus *Macropodia* Leach, 1814, which has no representatives in the Western Atlantic. The figures (Miers, 1886: plate I, figs. 2, 2A) “are necessarily very imperfect” according the author but, in fact, although broken, the rostrum resembles that of some *Macropodia* species. According to Holthuis et al. (1980), *S. spinifer* was so far unreported since the original description and its identity remains unknown.

*Podochela meloi* was described from Rio Grande do Norte (Sankarankutty et al. 2001a). Although it has superficial similarities within the genus *Ericerodes*, it was removed to *Inachoides* H. Milne Edwards & Lucas, 1843. Morphological characters such as the male pleopods, absence of prehensile pereiopods, and carapace shape are indicative that *P. meloi* is an inachoidid not an inachid species (Coelho 2006). A comparison is need between *Inachoides meloi* and *I. forceps*, the other species known from Brazilian waters, in order to confirm the specific status of *I. meloi*.

Records of *Macrocoeloma trispinosum* from Brazil deserve a review. Rathbun (1925) recognized three varieties of *M. trispinosum*: *M. t. trispinosum*, *M. t. nodipes*, and an unnamed variety, a classification that was
followed by Williams (1984) and Abele & Kim (1986). Rathbun (1925) reported material of *M. t. trispinosum* and *M. t. nodipes* from Brazil (off Cape São Roque and Fernando de Noronha, respectively). Melo (1996, 1998) considered only the occurrence of *M. trispinosum* in Brazil (from Piauí to São Paulo, and Fernando de Noronha), apparently treating the form *M. t. nodipes* as a synonym of *M. t. trispinosum*. Ng et al. (2008) considered *M. trispinosum* and *M. nodipes* as valid species. *Macrocoeloma nodipes* have not been reported from Brazilian waters since Rathbun’s (1925) monograph.

*Callinectes maracaiboensis* Taissoun, 1972, which is morphologically similar to *C. bocourti*, has been reported from Rio Grande do Norte (Sankarankutty et al. 1999) and Pernambuco (Coelho & Santos 2004). Schubart et al. (2001) verified that *C. maracaiboensis* from Venezuela did not differ consistently from *C. bocourti*, a conclusion based on a molecular analysis (gene 16S ribosomal mtDNA sequences) plus a re-examination of the supposed morphological differences between these species. The proposed synonymy between these portunids was corroborated by Robles et al. (2007) using 12S and 16S ribosomal mtDNA sequences. However, Ng et al. (2008) treat both as valid species. We follow herein the suggestion by Schubart et al. (2001) and Robles et al. (2007) and, for this reason, *C. maracaiboensis* was not included in the checklist. Robles et al. (2007) also investigated the status of another uncertain species, supposedly a synonym of *C. bocourti*, *C. affinis*, described from Fortaleza, Ceará (Fausto Filho 1980b). Molecular data obtained from type material and an additional specimen collected in Rio Grande do Norte have been shown that this species is different from *C. bocourti*. On the other hand, the authors pointed out the necessity to analyze a larger sample from a larger geographic area in order to definitively address the status of *C. affinis*.

The record of the panopeid *Acantholobulus mirafloresensis* Abele & Kim, 1989 (as Panopeus mirafloresensis) from Rio Grande do Norte (Ferreira & Sankarankutty 1997) is not valid. This record is attributed to *A. bermudensis* (see Felder & Martin 2003). Another panopeid, *Hexapanopeus manningi*, was described from Rio Grande do Norte, and differs from the closely related *H. caribbaeus* by very subtle differences in spinulation of anterolateral margin of carapace and male gonopod 1 (Sankarankutty & Ferreira 2000). This resemblance recommends caution with the records of *H. caribbaeus* from northeastern Brazil and a further revision that includes a larger sample of both species.

*Rhithropanopeus harrisii*, a panopeid crab originally from the western northern Atlantic, was introduced to the western coast of USA, Europe (Williams 1984), and probably in Brazilian waters, through ship ballast water or fouling (D’Incao & Martins 1998; Tavares & Mendonça Jr. 2004). The first mention from northeastern Brazil was that of Williams (1984), but the author himself recognized that this citation was in fact an error (Williams 1984). Afterwards, based on material deposited at the Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP), Coelho et al. (1990) listed *R. harrisii* among decapods from Alagoas. The species, however, was not included by Melo (1996, 1998) among the brachyuran species of Brazil. D’Incao & Martins (1998) have collected dozens of specimens in Lagoa dos Patos estuary, Rio Grande do Sul, southern Brazil, providing a diagnosis and figures of their material. More recently, the crab was also cited in a list of brachyurans from São Paulo (Dall’Occo et al. 2004). The material from Alagoas deposited at MZUSP should be re-analyzed in order to confirm its occurrence in northeastern Brazil.

The xanthid *Xanthias inornatus* was described as *Actaea inornata* from off Cape São Roque, Rio Grande do Norte, based on material dredged by the *Albatross* (Rathbun 1898), and also reported (without illustrations or description) in a list of species from Maranhão (Coelho & Ramos-Porto 1980) and in a synopsis of Brazilian panopeids (Coelho Filho & Coelho 1996). This species, however, was not included among the Brazilian brachyurans by Melo (1996, 1998).

Kropp & Manning (1987) commented that the records of the gall crab *Troglocarcinus corallicola* in agaricid corals in northeastern Brazil (Coelho 1966a; Coelho & Ramos 1972) are doubtful. According to these authors, the species in question may be *Opecarcinus hypostegus* (Shaw & Hopkins, 1977), another cryptochirid known from northeastern Brazil (Johnsson et al. 2006), commonly found in association with this coral family.
The grapsid *Geograpsus lividus* has, in the western Atlantic, an apparently disjunct distribution: a northern population ranges from the eastern USA coast to northern South America, and a southern population from Rio de Janeiro to Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. However, Fausto Filho (1974) provided the only known record from the presently studied area. The author mentioned the collection of two specimens from Fernando de Noronha, and also commented that the species was abundant among rocks in intertidal and supratidal zones. No illustrations or morphological remarks were provided and the material is not preserved in a crustacean collection, preventing confirmation of this citation. This record was accepted by Prado (1999) while revising the Brazilian grapsoid crabs, but since Fausto Filho’s (1974) publication there are no other reports of collections of *G. lividus* from that area.

*Sesarma crassipes* Cano, 1889, was reported from Pernambuco and Maranhão (Cano 1889; Coelho & Ramos 1972; Coelho & Ramos-Porto 1981) and included in Melo’s (1996) catalogue of Brazilian brachyurans (see also Melo 1998). According to Abele (1979) it is reasonably certain that Pernambuco is the correct type locality of *S. crassipes*, but the type material is no longer extant. Prado (1999) did not confirm the existence of this species in Brazil. All substantial material identified by this author, from Pará to Espírito Santo, belongs to *S. curacaoense*, previously recorded from Brazil by Rathbun (1918) and Abele’s (1992), and not included in Melo’s (1996) catalogue. Thus, occurrence of *S. crassipes* in Brazil could be confirmed only if new specimens are collected.


**Biogeography**

The currently known distribution of the species reported here, based on Melo (1985), allows the identification of four patterns of longitudinal distribution (western Atlantic, Amphi-Atlantic, Amphi-American, and circum-tropical species) and six patterns in the western Atlantic (Virginian, Carolinian, Antillean, Central-South American, Boreal, and Endemic). Two nonindigenous species have also been reported.

**Western Atlantic species**

This group comprises 247 species endemic to the western Atlantic. Most of the species reported from the northern and northeastern Brazil coast are tropical, having a wide latitudinal distribution and occurring along the entire coast of the Americas, thus spanning more than one zoogeographic province. On the other hand, species with a disjunct pattern of distribution are also common in the study area. Coelho & Ramos (1972), in their study on western Atlantic decapods found between 5°N and 39°S, observed a large set of tropical species with discontinuous distribution, with a gap corresponding to the Guyanas province and the area under influence of the main discharge of the Amazon Rivers. Melo (1985), studying the brachyuran crabs from southeastern Brazil, recognized that some species assigned to Virginian, Carolinian, and Antillean patterns of distribution present a northern and a southern (southeastern Brazil) occurrence areas separated by at least 30°, 45°, and 50° degrees of latitude, respectively. Species classified here as disjunct species follow the definition
of Coelho & Ramos (1972). It is important to point out that gaps in geographic range can be result of natural causes or are due to the absence of collections in such areas.

**Virginian Pattern**

Virginian species represent 6.9% (N=19) of the species reported from northern and northeastern Brazil. Continuous species (N=10; e.g., *MyrOPSIS quinquiespinosa*, *Mithrax hispidus*, *Spinolambrus pourtalesii*, and *Pinnixa sayana*) have as northern limit Massachusetts, New Jersey or Delaware, corresponding to the cold temperate waters of the Virginian province (Cerame-Vivas & Gray 1966; Melo 1985; Boschi 2000a), and as southern limit, localities comprised between southeast Brazil and Argentina. Southeast Brazil (*sensu* Melo 1985) is influenced by the cold waters of the Malvinas (= Falkland) Current, and for this reason is considered a region of peculiar hydrological features and a zoogeographical transition zone between tropical and temperate faunas (Coelho *et al.* 1978; Melo 1990; Melo-Filho 2006).

Nine species are classified as disjunct (e.g., *Acanthocarpus alexandri*, *Arenaeus cribrarius*, *Hexapodopeus angustifrons*, and *Tumidotheres maculatus*). Although introduced in other parts of the world (Williams 1974), *Callinectes sapidus* is included within this group because this portunid shows a disjunct distribution in the western Atlantic, with a northern group occurring from Virginia to Venezuela; and a southern group ranging from Alagoas (Brazil) to Argentina (Williams 1974; Coelho *et al.* 1990; Melo 1996; Santos & D’Incao 2004).

**Carolinian Pattern**

Carolinian species range from the warm temperate waters of the Carolinas to southern Brazil (Cerame-Vivas & Gray 1966; Melo 1985; Boschi 2000a). The second most representative group along the northern and northeastern Brazilian coast is composed of species with a Carolinian pattern (N=75, 27.6%), of which 47 show a continuous and 28 a disjunct distribution.

The southern boundaries vary considerably, with one species (*Anasimus latus*) ranging southwards to Guyanas province, 30 to Brazilian, 40 to Paulista and 4 to Argentinean provinces. A total of 40% of this group reaches the Brazilian province, among them 9 species (12%) reaches the sector comprised between Piauí and Sergipe, including off-shore areas; 21 species (28%) have known southern limits in the stretch between southern Bahia and Rio de Janeiro states, an area recognized as transitional regarding edaphic bottom conditions (Rodrigues da Costa 1968; Otmanm & Otmanm 1969; Kempf 1970, 1971; Coelho *et al.* 1978). A group of 40 species (53.3%) reaches waters of the Paulista province, also a region of hydrological transition. Only four eurythermic species have the cold waters of the Uruguayan and Argentinean coasts as southern Western Atlantic limits (*Stenorhynchus seticornis*, *Stenocionops spinosissimus*, *Paractaea nodosa*, and *Dissodactylus crinitichelis*).

**Antillean Pattern**

The larger group (N= 94, 34.5%) is formed by tropical species showing the Antillean pattern of distribution. From this total, 62 have a continuous distribution and 32 are discontinuous. The northern endpoint of the Antillean species corresponds to Florida, the West Indies or exceptionally Georgia, such as *Hepatus pudibundus*, *Stenocionops furcatus*, *Portunus (Portunus) ventralis*. The southern known boundaries are also quite variable, with species ranging southwards to the Guyanas province (exceptionally; *Holoplites armatus* and *Euchirograpsus antillensis*), Brazilian, and Paulista provinces. A total of 44.7% of the Antillean species reaches the Brazilian province, where 14 species (14.9%) reaches the sector comprised between Piauí and Sergipe; 28 species (29.8%) extend to the transitional region between southern Bahia and Rio de Janeiro, and 50 species (53.2%) reaches the transitional waters of the Paulista province. Colder waters south to Rio de Janeiro can represent an important barrier preventing southwards progression of the Antillean species. In fact, there are no species extending to Uruguay or Argentina. Several mangrove crabs have southern endpoint coincident with the southern boundary (Santa Catarina state, Brazil) of this ecosystem.
Central-South American Pattern

Twenty four tropical species (8.8%) (e.g., Hepatus scaber, Persephona lichtensteiniti, Costalambrus tom-masii, Cyclopax pinnotheroides, Armases rubripes) range continuously along the South America coast, reaching sometimes Central America, but never extending northwards to the West Indies and Florida. This type of distribution corresponds to the Central-South American pattern (Melo 1985). Some tropical eurythermic species extend south to colder waters in Uruguay and Argentina (e.g., Pelia rotunda, Collodes rostratus, and Acantholobulus schmitti). The known distribution of Glytoxanthus vermiculatus seems to be disjunct, with a setentrional group in northern South America, and a southern group in Brazil (states of Bahia and Espírito Santo) (Melo 1996, 1998; Serejo et al. 2006).

Boreal species

Melo (1985) recognized the Newfoundland pattern for species inhabiting cold waters influenced by the Labrador Current from the northeastern coast of USA and Canada, corresponding to the Boschi’s (2000a) Boreal province. The only northern and northeastern Brazil species that fits this pattern is Portunus (Portunus) sayi, reported from Nova Scotia to the Guianas, with only one record in Brazil (Paraíba) (Williams 1984; Melo & Veloso 2005).

Endemic species (Guyanas and Brazilian provinces)

Endemic species (N= 34; 12.5%) are those with a range limited to the Brazilian coast and found in the Guyanas and/or Brazilian provinces. Chasmocarcinus hirsutipes is the only species reported exclusively from the Guyanas province, while Chasmocarcinus meloi, Lithadia conica, L. obliqua, L. vertiginosa, Speloeophorus brasiliensis, Acanthonyx dissimulatus, Epialtoides rostratus, Tyche potiguara, Ericerodes minusculus, Podochela brasiliensis, Inachoides meloi, Palicus acutifrons, Callinectes affinis, Hexapanopeus manningi, and Pinnixa latissima are found only in the Brazilian province.

Five species (Chasmocarcinus arcuat us, C. peresi, Paradasygyius tuberculatus, Austinixa bragantina, and A. leptodactyla) are from the Brazilian province, but have their known northern distribution limit extended to Pará or Amapá (Guyanas province), while Deilocerus analogus, Microlissa brasiliensis, Mithrax braziliensis, Pilumnoideas coelholi have their southern known range in temperate waters of the Paulista province, between São Paulo and Santa Catarina State. Dromiaouveai, Trichopeltarion pezzutoi, and Pinnaxodes tomentosus are recorded from Brazilian and Paulista provinces; however, the few known records prevent a more precise analysis of their geographic distribution. Clythrocerus carinatus, Lithadia brasiliensis, Rochinia confusa, Batrachonotus fragosus, Alarconia guinotae, and Pinnixa gracilipes are species of the Brazilian province extending their northern and southern limits to Guyanas and Paulista provinces, respectively.

Circumtropical species

Species considered here as circumtropical are those which occur, at least on both sides of the Atlantic and in the eastern Pacific: Cronius ruber, Elamena gordonae, Planes major, Percnon gibbesi, and Cyclograpsus integer. The occurrence of a western Atlantic population of E. gordonae suggests a circumtropical distribution, which is very unusual among hymenosomatids because of their brief larval development and low fecundity rates (Lucas 1980; Almeida et al. 2007b).
Amphi-American species

The Amphi-American species, those found in the western Atlantic and in the eastern Pacific, are represented by Pilumnus reticulatus, Grapsus grapsus, and Aratus pisonii. These species were, probably, established before the raise of Isthmus of Panama. Grapsus grapsus was until recently considered to have a wide distribution throughout the tropical Atlantic as well as in the eastern Pacific (Manning & Holthuis 1981; Hendrickx 1995; Melo 1996; Guerao et al. 2001). However, Guerao et al. (2001) compared the first zoeal stage of G. grapsus and one of the forms proposed to the eastern Atlantic populations, G. adsensionis (Osbeck, 1765), confirming the specific status of both species giving evidence for the isolating effect of the Atlantic Basin.

Amphi-Atlantic species

Fifteen species have an Amphi-Atlantic distribution, being found on both the western and eastern Atlantic: Homola minima, Ranilia constricta, Calappa galoides, Menippe nodifrons, Acidops cessaci, Apiomithrax violaceus, Laleonectes vocans, Euryozius sanguineus, Cataleptodius floridanus, Xanthodius denticulatus, Troglocarcinus coralicola, Geograpsus lividus, Pachygrapsus graciilis, P. transversus, and Plagusia depressa. Guerao et al. (2001) observed consistent morphological differences between the first zoeal stage of G. lividus from the Atlantic coast of Mexico and the Pacific coast of Panama. Larval evidences combined with DNA mitochondrial sequence data were considered by the authors enough to support a distinct taxonomic status for each of studied forms. They proposed the available name G. occidentalis Stimpson, 1860, as a valid species name for the eastern Pacific populations, despite the current absence of morphological characters to separate it from the Atlantic population (Guerao et al. 2001). Other grapsid species previously known to occur in both sides of the Atlantic and in the eastern Pacific is P. transversus (Manning & Holthuis 1981; Hendrickx 1995; Melo 1996; Poupin et al. 2005). Recently, Schubart et al. (2005), based on morphological and genetic differences (16S mtDNA sequences), revalidated the species P. socius Stimpson, 1871, for the eastern Pacific representatives of P. transversus (Hendrickx 1995; Poupin et al. 2005), limiting its occurrence to the Atlantic Ocean.

Non-indigenous species

Two exotic species have been reported from the study area. The Indo-West Pacific portunid Charybdis helleri was reported for the first time by Calado (1996) and Carqueija & Gouvêa (1996). Mechanisms of introduction of this species in the western Atlantic were exhaustively discussed (Campos & Türkay 1989; Lemaître 1995; Tavares & Mendonça Jr. 1996, 2004; Tavares & Amouroux 2003). The second species is the panopeid crab Rhithropanopeus harrisi, originally from the western northern Atlantic (Williams 1984; Tavares & Mendonça Jr. 2004). As discussed in the “Doubtful Records” section, the record of this species from Alagoas (Coelho et al. 1990; Coelho Filho & Coelho 1996) requires further confirmation.

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