

SUPERFAMILY GRAPSOIDEA

The crabs belonging to the Grapsoidea include a lot of ubiquitous species collected in the mangrove and/or along the coastline. As a result, most of the species listed here under the 'Coastal Rock-rubble' biotope of table 2b could be reasonably listed also with marine species. This is particularly true for the Grapsidae: *Grapsus*, *Pachygrapsus*, *Pseudograpsus*, and *Thalassograpsus*.

FAMILY GECARCINIDAE

***Cardisoma carnifex* (Herbst, 1796)**. Figure 12. – *Cardisoma carnifex* - Guinot, 1967: 289 (Checklist of WIO species, with mention of Grande Comore and Mayotte). - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 8, Mayotte, Malamani mangrove, 16 April 2008, St. 1, 12°55.337 S, 44°09.263 E, upper mangrove in shaded area, burrow, about 1.5 m depth, 1 male 61×74 mm (MNHN B32409). - K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 6, Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway, upper littoral, 1 female 53×64 mm (MNHN B32410), 1 male 65×75.5 mm (MNHN B32411); St. 29, Ngouja hotel, Mboianatsa beach, in situ photographs only.

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP. Red Sea, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Europa, Madagascar, Comoros, Seychelles, Réunion, Mauritius, India, Taiwan, Japan, Australia, New Caledonia, Fiji, Wallis & Futuna, French Polynesia.

Comment. – Gecarcinid land crabs are of large size and eaten in some places (West Indies, Wallis & Futuna, and French Polynesia). In Mayotte, however, they are not much prized for food and are not eaten.

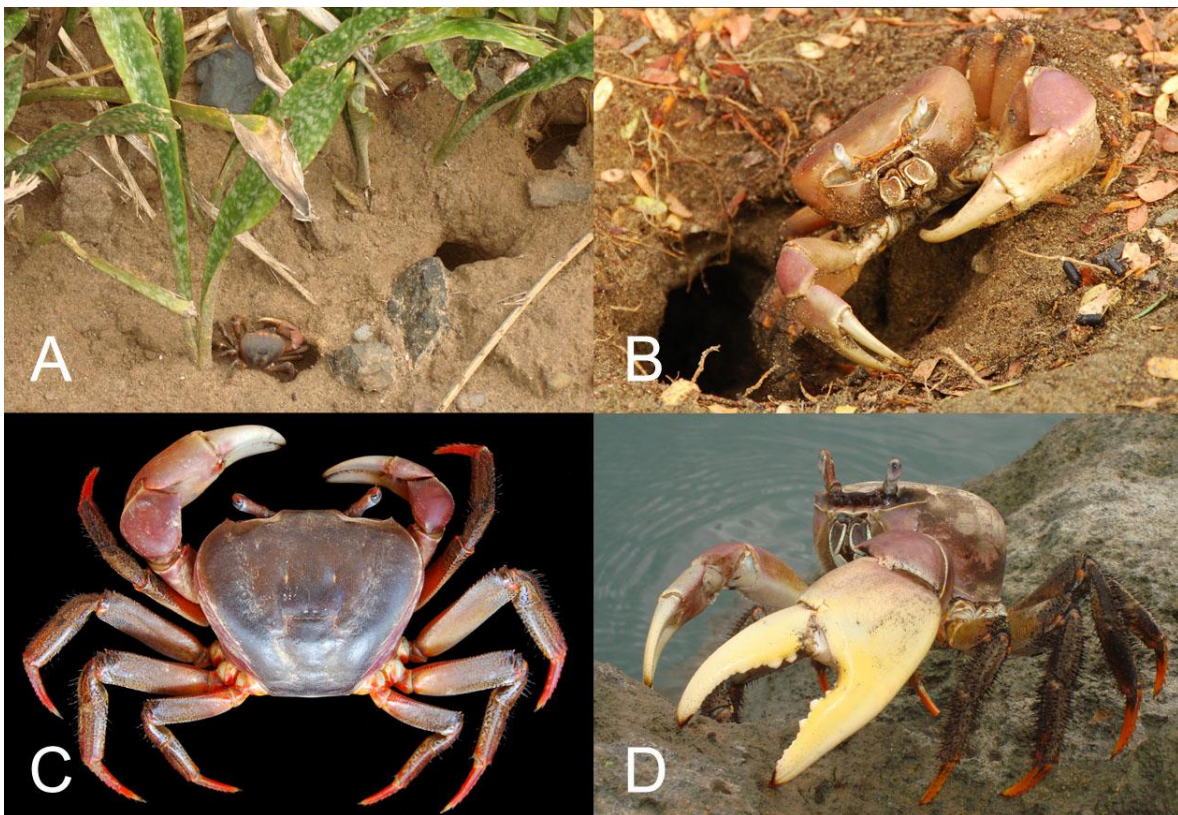


Figure 12. *Cardisoma carnifex*. Mayotte, K UW 2009 fieldwork: A) aspect of station 29, upper littoral Ngouja hotel, Mboianatsa beach; B) same, detail of a crab at the entrance of its burrow; C) St. 6, 1 female 53×64 mm (MNHN B32410); D) probably the same specimen, *in situ* at St. 6.

FAMILY SESARMIDAE

'*Chiromantes*' *ortmanni* (Crosnier, 1965). Figure 13. – Coll. J.-M. Bouchard, 16 April 2008, same as St. 13, Malamani mangrove, 12°55.368 S, 45°09.267 E, burrows between roots of *Rhizophora* trees, mixed with a set of *Neosarmatium meinerti* and a female of *Perisesarma guttatum*, 1 male 11.5×15.0 mm (MNHN B32262).

Distribution. – WIO. Somalia, Tanzania, Madagascar and Mayotte (first record).

Comment. – This species has been described from the western coast of Madagascar (Tuléar, Nosy Be) by Crosnier (1965: 51, under *Sesarma* (*Holometopus*) *ortmanni*. Ng *et al.* (2008: 220, 224) indicate that: '*Sesarma* (*Sesarma*) *eulimene* De Man, 1895, and *Sesarma* (*Holometopus*) *ortmanni* Crosnier, 1965, are currently in *Chiromantes* (sensu Ng & Liu, 1999), but an ongoing revision of this genus by P.K.L. Ng and C.D. Schubart (using morphological and molecular data) shows that they should be transferred to a new genus'. According to P. Ng. (pers. com.), this revision is still in progress. '*Chiromantes*' *ortmanni* is affiliated to '*Chiromantes*' *eulimene* De Man, 1895. Vannini & Valmori (1981: 80) indicate that the aspect of the dactyl of the claw, used to separate '*Chiromantes*' *ortmanni* and '*Chiromantes*' *eulimene*, is obvious in adult males only. The specimen from Mayotte has been compared with other specimens in MNHN. It is identifiable to *C. ortmanni* by the number of tubercles on the upper margin of the dactyl of the claw (25 instead of about 12 in *C. eulimene*) and by a width/length ratio of the carapace of 1.3 (instead of 1.2 in *C. eulimene*).

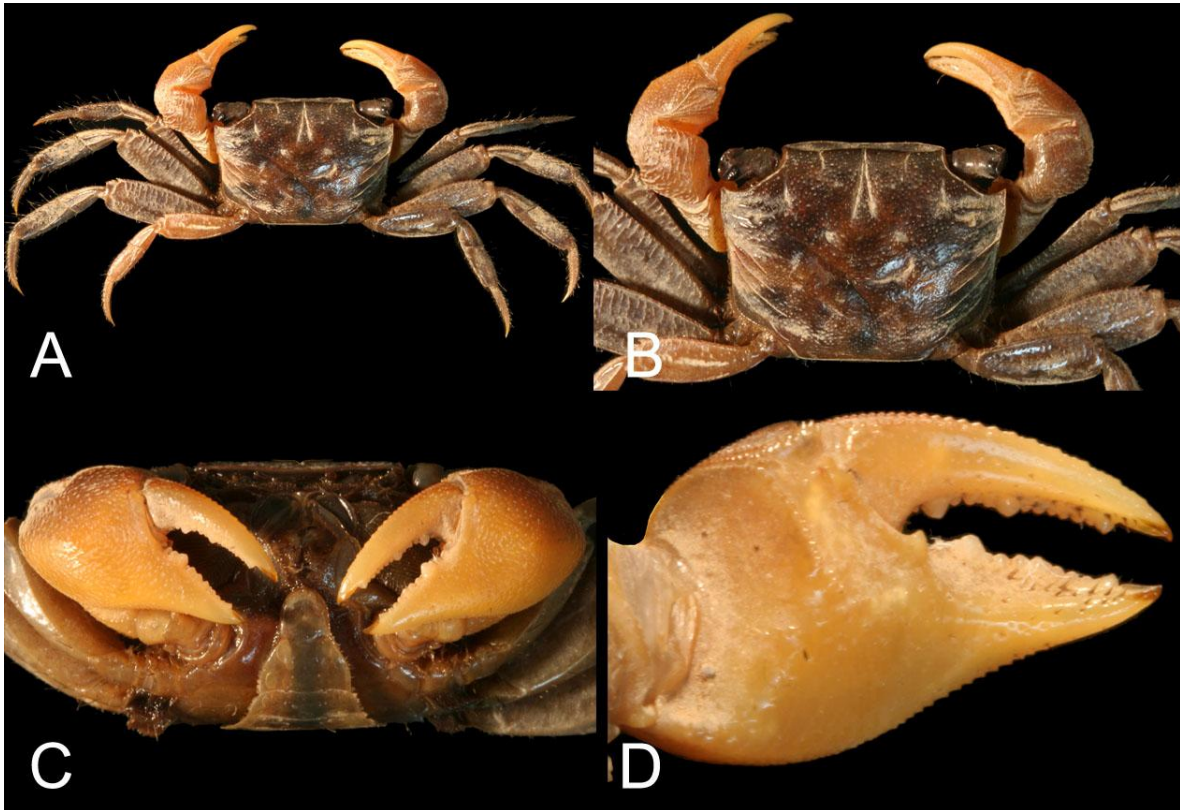


Figure 13. '*Chiromantes*' *ortmanni*. Mayotte, Malamani mangrove coll. J.-M. Bouchard, male 11.5×15.0 mm (MNHN B32262); A-B) dorsal view; C) chelae, frontal view; D) left chela, inner face. Color altered by preservative.

***Metasesarma obesum* (Dana, 1851).** Figure 14. – K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 21a, islet Choizil, Malandzamiayatsini, upper littoral, 2 male 6.5×7.5 and 11.8×13.0 mm, 3 females 7.4×8.5 to 11.5×12.5 mm (MNHN B32082).

Distribution. – IWP. Zanzibar, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Sri Lanka, Laccadive, Indonesia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, French Polynesia. Often recorded under *Metasesarma rousseauxi* H. Milne Edwards, 1853, a junior synonym.

Comment. – A small to medium-sized crab, probably common throughout the IWP but rarely recorded because it is very discrete in the upper littoral zone, hidden under deadwood or leaves with a color camouflage.

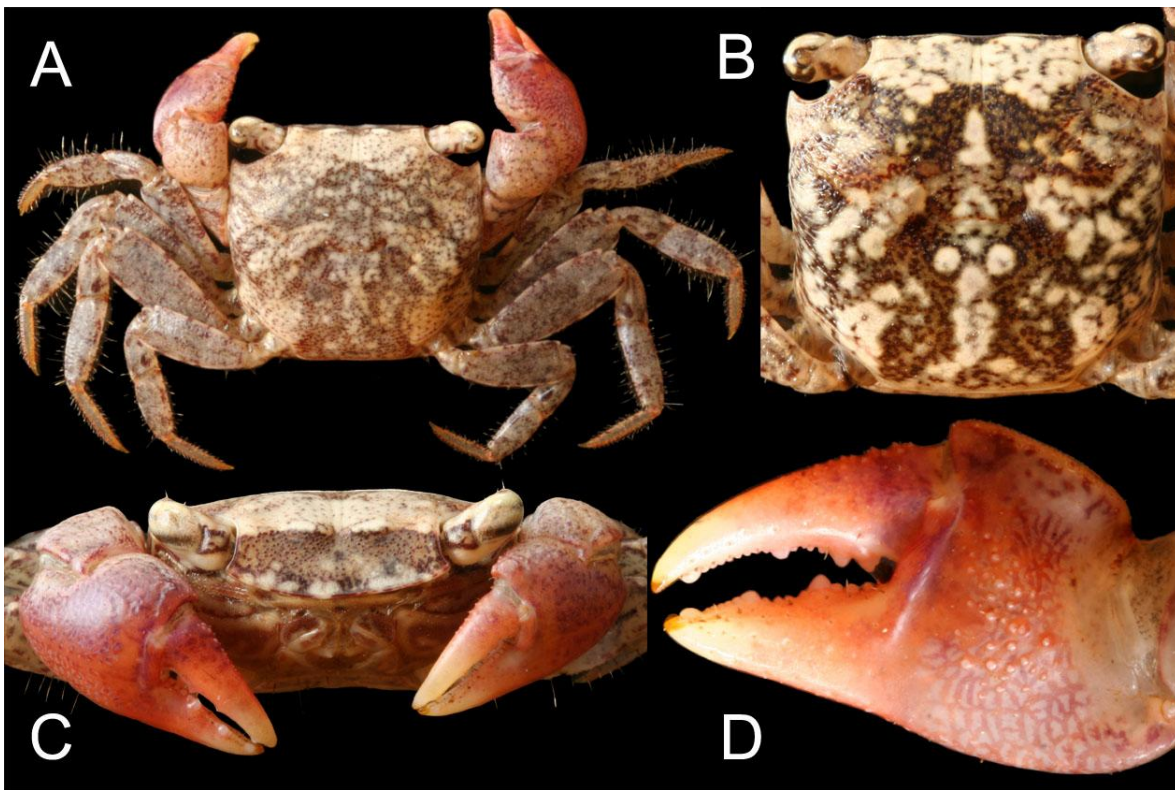


Figure 14. *Metasesarma obesum*. Mayotte, K UW 2009 fieldwork, St. 21, female 11.5×12.5 mm (MNHN B32082), A) dorsal view, C) frontal view, D) right chela, inner face; B) male 11.8×13.0 mm (MNHN B32082), dorsal view of carapace.

***Neosarmatium meinerti* (De Man, 1887).** Figure 15. – *Sesarma (Sesarma) meinerti* - Guinot, 1967: 288 (WIO crabs checklist, including Mayotte). - *Neosarmatium meinerti* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 13, Mayotte, Malamani mangrove, 3 males 30.0×35.8 to 33.0×39.0 mm, 3 females 29.5×35.5 to 30.4×37.0 mm (MNHN B32035), 3 males 32.3-38.0 to 34.0×39.8 mm, 1 female 29.0×35.8 mm (MNHN B32036), 1 male 33.0×39.4 mm, 1 female 29.0×35.0 mm (MNHN B32037). - K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 6, Badamiers spillway, Petite Terre, supralittoral zone, 1 male 22.4×27.3 mm (MNHN B32059); St. 13, Malamani mangrove, mudflats, 3 males 30.0×36.4 to 31.5×38.0 mm (MNHN B32038).

Distribution. – WIO. ?Mayotte (see comment), Seychelles (Aldabra, Mahé), Mauritius, Rodrigues.

Comment. – Very common in Malamani mangrove, in the upper part of the mangrove on mudflats and in vegetation composed of *Avicennia*, *Heritiera*, and *Erythrina* mangrove trees (see Fig. 41). Carapace has a single tooth on anterolateral margin. Chelae are bright red with cream yellow on palms and fingers. At first sight it is very similar to *Neosarmatium fourmanoiri* Serène (1973) described from New Caledonia. The two species can be distinguished by minor morphological details on male chela, as indicated in the key of the genus given by Davie (1994), and by their overall coloration, yellow to red in *N. meinerti* instead of red to dark purple in *N. fourmanoiri*. Photographs transmitted during the redaction of this work by F. Fromard show that this crab can get refuge in the canopy of mangrove trees at high tide (see Fig. 43).

Ragionieri *et al.* (2009) indicate that based on sequences of mitochondrial genes and morphometry *Neosarmatium meinerti* is a species complex composed by ‘four well structured and geographically defined lineages: East African coast (EAC); western Indian Ocean islands; South East Asia; and Australia’. These lineages are treated as separate species in Ragionieri *et al.* (2012). Tentatively Mayotte specimens are attributed in this work to *N. meinerti*, also present in the vicinity (Aldabra Island). However, diagnostic characters between *N. meinerti* and *N. africanum* Ragionieri, Fratini & Schubart, 2012 are very similar and do not allow a positive identification. According to Ragionieri (pers. com.) Mayotte specimens could belong to *N. africanum* (EAC lineage) that seems to be connected to the West of Madagascar, Mayotte Island probably playing the role of a stepping stone island in this connection. This hypothesis should be confirmed by DNA sequencing.

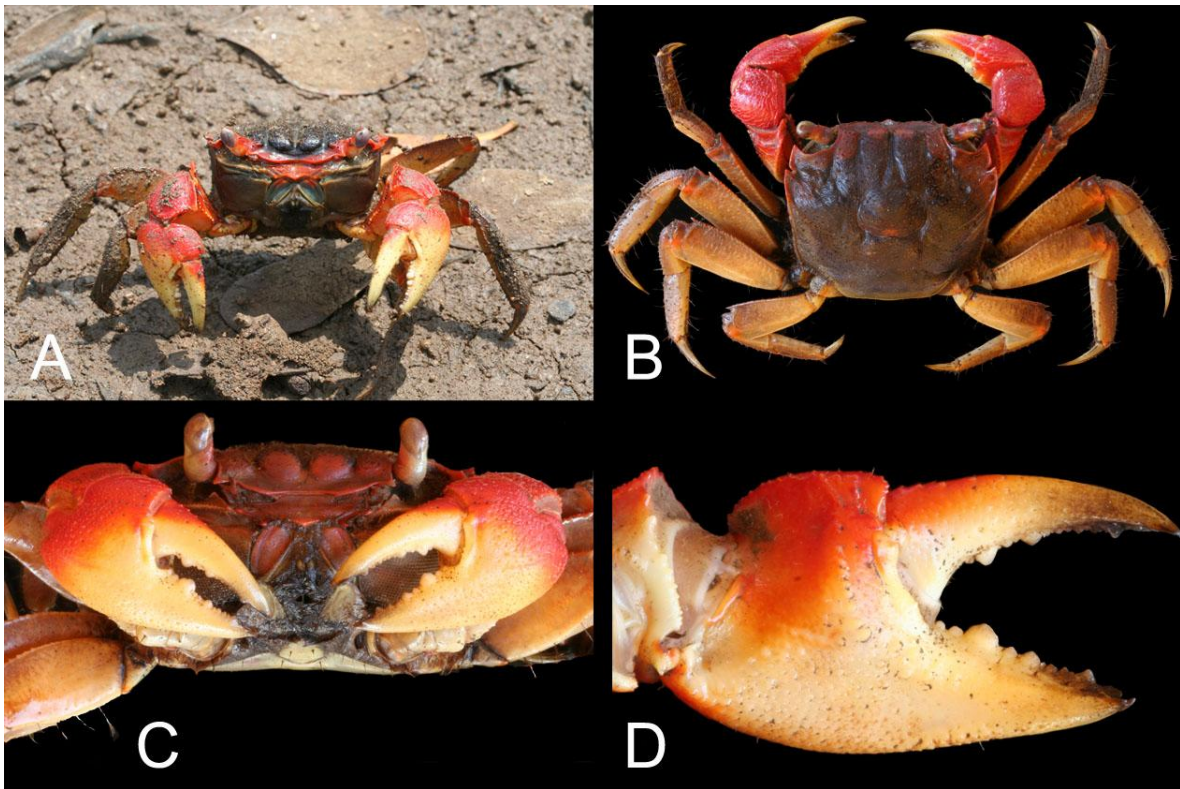


Figure 15. *Neosarmatium meinerti*. Mayotte, KUW 2009 fieldwork, St. 13, Malamani mangrove, A) specimen *in situ*; 1 male 30.0×36.4 mm (MNHN B32038), B) dorsal view, C) frontal view, D) left chela, inner face.

Neosarmatium smithii (H. Milne Edwards, 1853). Figure 16. – *Neosarmatium smithii* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 11, Mayotte, Malamani mangrove, upper mudflats with trees such as *Ceriops tagal* and *Rhizophora mucronata*, 1 male 37.2×39.4 mm, 2 females 15.4×17.5 and 16.8×18.6 mm (MNHN B32039). - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 13, Malamani mangrove, upper mudflats, 1 male 37.0×39.7 mm (MNHN B32040).

Distribution. – Widespread in IWP. Red Sea, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Mauritius, India, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Japan, Philippines, Australia, New Caledonia, Fiji.

Comment. – Collected with *Neosarmatium meinerti*, but less abundant. The two species can be confused at first sight. However, they can be separated with careful examination of the anterolateral margin of the carapace, which has an additional tooth in *N. smithii*, and by the aspect of the chela for upper margin of movable finger and inner face of the palm (compare fig. 15-16, B-D). The color is also different with carapace dark purple and chelae bright red in *N. smithii* (compare fig. 15-16 A).

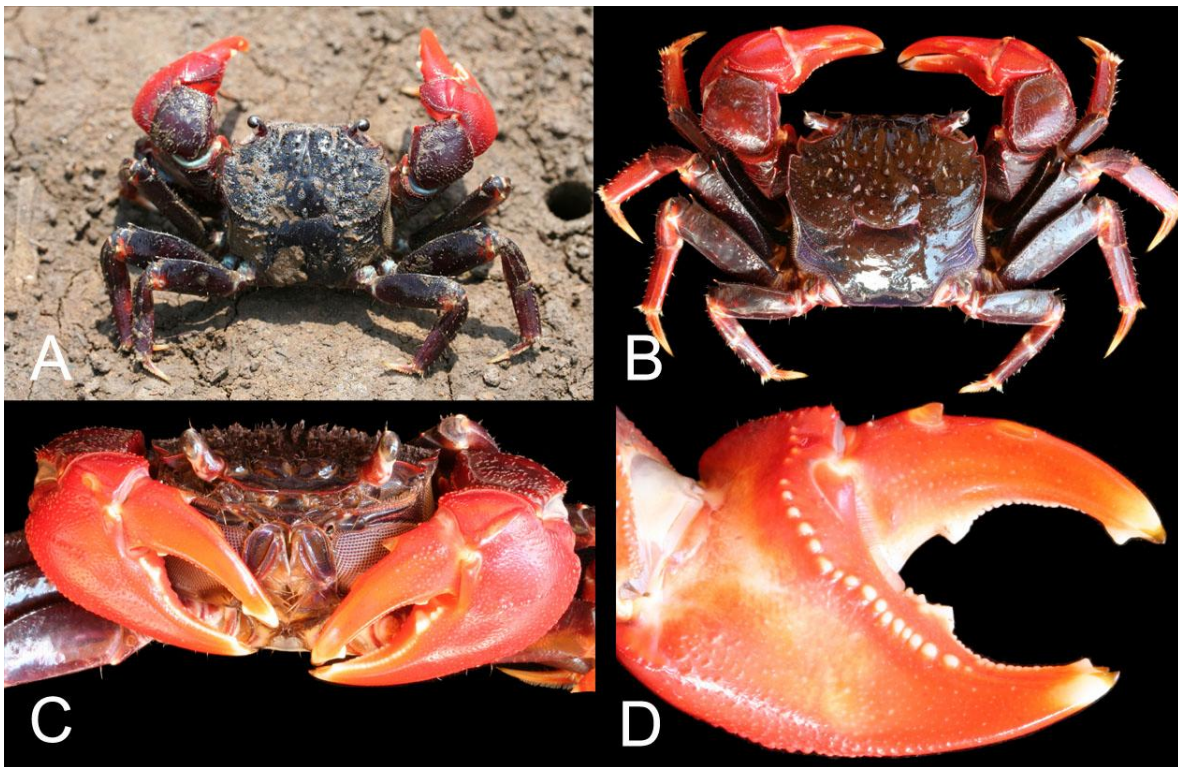


Figure 16. *Neosarmatium smithii*. Mayotte, KUW 2009 fieldwork, St. 13, Malamani mangrove, A) specimen *in situ*; male 37.0×39.7 mm (MNHN B32040), B) dorsal view, C) frontal view, D) left chela, inner face.

***Parasesarma leptosoma* (Hilgendorf, 1869).** Figure 17. – Mayotte, coll. J.-M. Bouchard, 16 April 2008, Malamani mangrove, approximate position 12°55.41 S, 44°09.27 E, close to watercourse, between roots of *Rhizophora* trees, 1 male 12.0×13.6 mm (MNHN B32081).

Distribution. – IWP. Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Mayotte (first record) to eastern Australia, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Fiji.

Comment. – This unique specimen was first erroneously attributed to *Parasesarma plicatum*, also recorded in WIO. Careful examination shows that it is distinct by the following characters: carapace more elongated with lateral margins less sinuous; walking legs (pereopods P2-P5) much more elongated, with ratio length/width of the merus greater than 2 and propodus length equal to 3-4 times the length of the dactyl; terminal corneous ‘nail’ of the pleopod is feebly curved whereas it is almost at right angle in *P. plicatum*. With Tesch (1917) key and without comparative specimens in MNHN collections, the best candidate for this unique specimen is *Parasesarma leptosoma*, a species common in Eastern Africa. According to Vannini & Ruwa (1994) and Fratini *et al.* (2005) the elongation of the carapace and walking legs is an evolutionary character that allows the crab to climb more easily in the mangrove trees. At high tide *Parasesarma leptosoma* gets refuge in the canopy of the mangrove trees whereas *Parasesarma plicatum*, with its sturdiest morphology, not adapted to climb to the trees, stays in its burrow in the mudflat.

Rahayu & Ng (2009) have indicated that *Parasesarma leptosoma*, as presently known, is actually a complex of species with differences in the form of the carapace, structure of dactylar tubercles, and aspect of first gonopod observed between populations of Kenya, Malaysia, Papua (Indonesia) and Guam. They conclude that a revision of its status is necessary.



Figure 17. *Parasesarma leptosoma*. Mayotte, coll. J.-M. Bouchard, 16 April 2008, Malamani mangrove, 1 male 12.0×13.6 mm (MNHN B32081); A-B) dorsal view, C) frontal view, D) ventral view. Coloration altered by preservative.

Perisesarma guttatum (A. Milne-Edwards, 1869). Figure 18. – *Sesarma* (*Chiromantes*) *guttata* - Guinot, 1967: 288 (WIO crabs checklist, including Mayotte). - *Perisesarma guttatum* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 9, Mayotte, coll. J.-M. Bouchard, 16 April 2008, 12°55.368 S, 45°09.267 E, mangrove, burrows in *Rhizophora* mangrove trees, 1 female broken (mixed with 1 male of '*Chiromantes*' *ortmanni*) 10×14 mm (MNHN B32263); coll. J.-M. Bouchard, 2009, Malamani mangrove in roots of *Rhizophora* mangrove trees, 2 males 15.0×18.3 and 16.5×20.5 mm, 3 females 9.5×12.3 to 16.2×20.2 mm, 1 juvenile (MNHN B32030), 17 males 7.3×9.3 to 24.0×29.0 mm, 8 females 8.0×10.0 to 16.5×20.8 mm, 1 juvenile (MNHN B32031), 4 males 8.2×10.2 to 22.8×27.8 mm, 8 females (4 ovigerous) 8.0×10.2 to 17.2×21.2 mm, 1 juvenile (MNHN B32032), 4 males 17.0×21.3 to 20.6×25.3 mm, photo of male 19.0×23.3 mm, 1 female 16.5×21.5 mm (MNHN B32033). - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 13, Malamani mangrove, 2 juveniles mixed with *Macrophthalmus* crabs (MNHN B32364).

Distribution. – WIO. Tanzania, Zanzibar, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte.

Comment. – Very common species with numerous specimens collected between the roots of *Rhizophora* mangrove trees at Malamani station. The entrance of the burrow is sometimes protected from the flood by a mud tube of variable height. According to Crosnier (1965: 70) *Perisesarma guttatum* is very similar to *P. lividum* (A. Milne-Edwards, 1869) known from Indonesia, eastern Australia and New-Caledonia. It is distinct by the 'chiton-like' shape of the tubercles disposed on upper margin of the finger of the chela (Fig. 18 C).

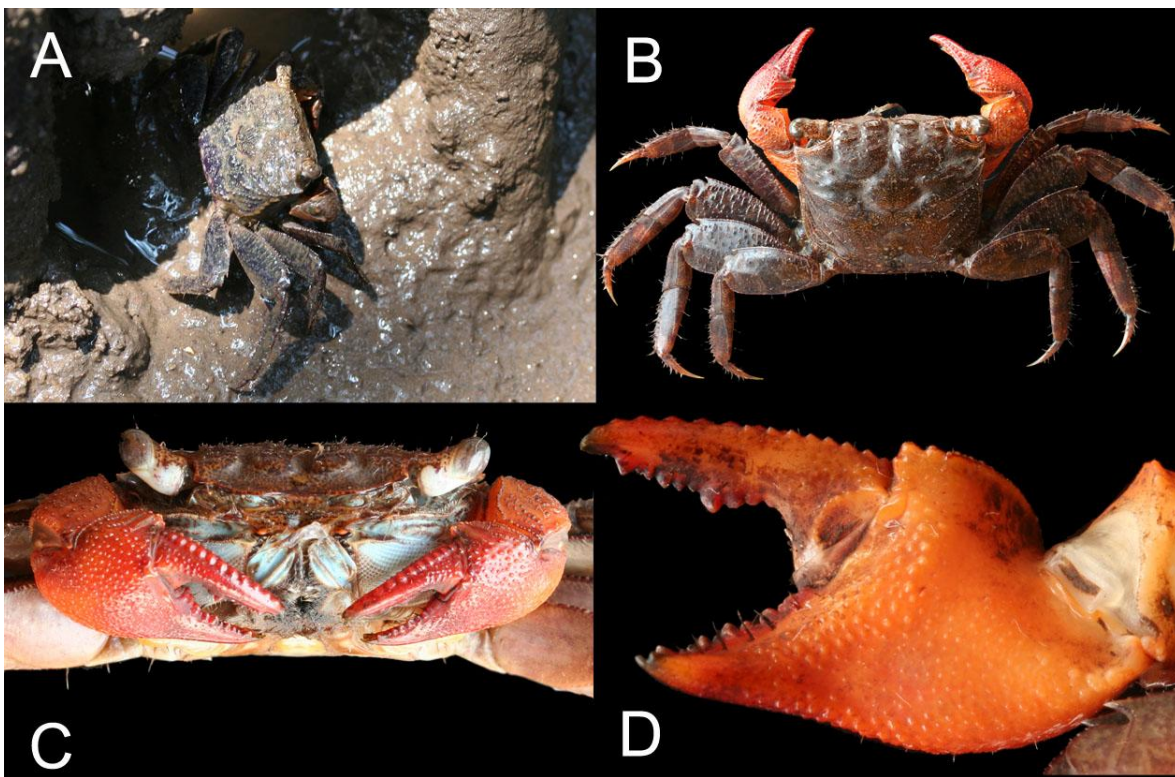


Figure 18. *Perisesarma guttatum*. Mayotte, KUW 2009 fieldwork, St. 13, Malamani mangrove, A) specimen *in situ*; male 19.0×23.3 mm (MNHN B32033), B) dorsal view, C) frontal view, D) right chela, inner face. Coloration of B-D slightly altered by preservative.

***Sesarmops impressus* (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)**. Figure 19. – *Sesarma nodulifera* de Man - Lenz, 1910: 562, two specimens, larger 16x17 mm (Comoros: Mohéli); non *Geosesarma noduliferum* (De Man, 1892) according to re-examination of Lenz's specimens by Crosnier (1965: 63) – *Sesarma (Sesarma) impressa* - Crosnier, 1965: 63, fig. 82, 92, 104 (Comoros: Mohéli). - Guinot, 1967: 287 (WIO crabs checklist, including Comoros). – *Sesarmops impressum* - Keith *et al.*, 2006: 36 (Comoros: Mohéli, Mayotte). – *Sesarmops impressus* - Coll. Anker and Michonneau, 2008, St. MAY08-St3, Hajangoua, path north of old sugar factory, in brushes and under rocks (UF 13657, 13667). - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 15, Mayotte, cultivated field behind Malamani mangrove, 3 males 14.5x16.8 to 36.0x42.0 mm (MNHN B32034). - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 13, Malamani mangrove, from J.-M. Bouchard collection, 1 male 25.3x27.0 mm (MNHN B32034). – Photo Matthias Deuss - Mayotte, river side, determination P. Davie and P. Ng from photograph (Fig. 19 A).

Distribution. – IWP. Zanzibar, Dar es Salaam, Madagascar, Comoros (Mohéli, Mayotte), Seychelles, Indonesia, Taiwan, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Samoa. According to P. Davie (pers. com.) the record of this species in Fiji (McLay & Ryan, 1990) could be an error for *Sesarmops atrorubens* (Hess, 1865).

Comment. – This crab is discrete and only few specimens have been captured during this study. It lives generally in the upper part of the Mangrove, in cultivated fields and/or in meadows (see Fig. 41). According to P. Ng (pers. com.), who is currently working on the taxonomic status of this crab, *Sesarmops impressus* is part of a species complex with at least two forms in the IWP. The Indian Ocean population generally has white chela and a yellowish-white carapace. This is probably the real *Sesarmops impressus*. The '*Sesarmops impressus*' reported from the East Pacific (e.g. Taiwan, China, Japan, Philippines, New Guinea, and eastern Indonesia) has dark brown carapaces with deep red chela. Their gonopods also differ.

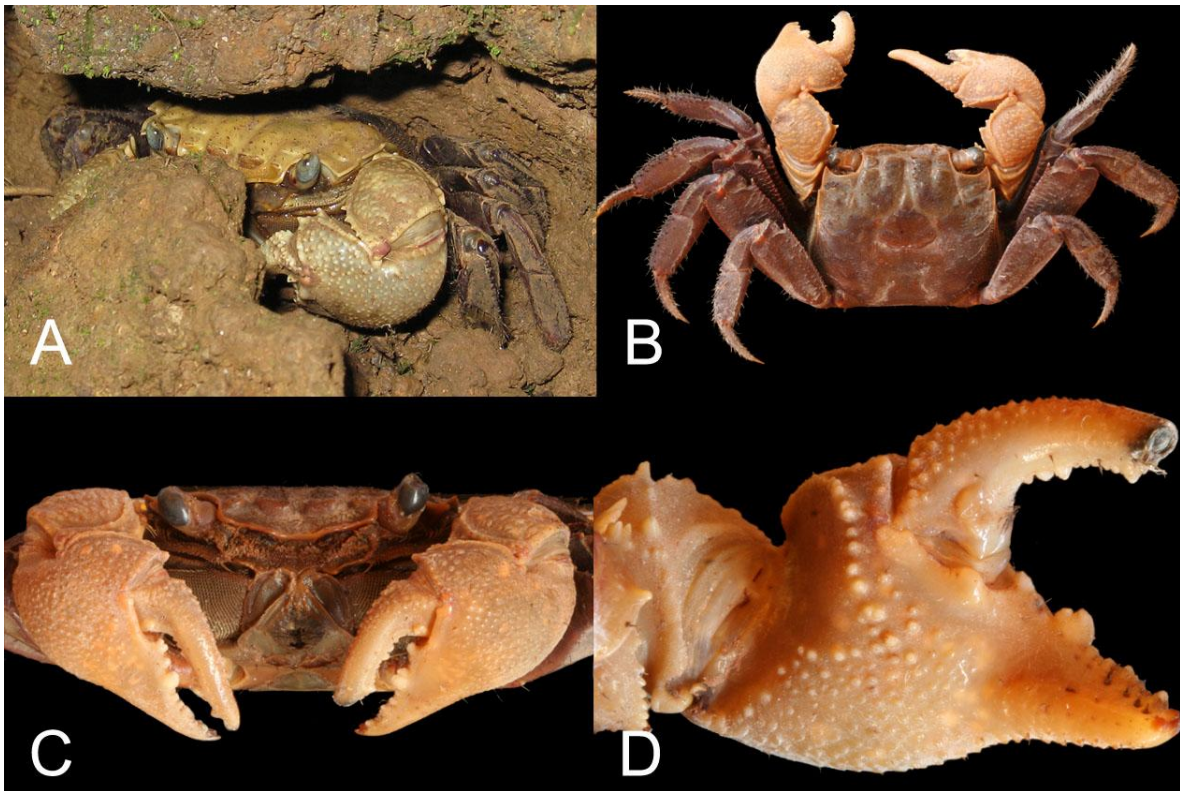


Figure 19. *Sesarmops impressus*. A) Mayotte, river bank, *in situ* photograph by Matthias Deuss, specimen not collected, det. P. Davie and P. Ng from photograph; KUW 2009 fieldwork, St. 13, Malamani mangrove 1 male 25.3x27.0 mm (MNHN B32034), B) dorsal view, C) frontal view, D) left chela, inner face. Coloration of B-D altered by preservative.

FAMILY GRAPSIDAE

***Geograpsus crinipes* (Dana, 1851).** Figure 20 A. – K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 21a, East of islet Choizil, Malanzamiayatsini, supralittoral zone, 1 male 36×42.5 mm (MNHN B32042).

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP. Red Sea, Somalia, ?Tanzania, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Réunion to Cocos (Keeling), Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan, Papua New Guinea, ?eastern Australia, Loyalty, Vanuatu, Fiji, Wallis & Futuna, Samoa, Cook, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Easter Island.

Comment. – The single specimen captured in Mayotte has an orange-red coloration, instead of often cream to light green in this species. It is attributed to *G. crinipes* based on the aspect of lateral margins of the carapace, slightly diverging posteriorly, and the presence of small striae on the postero-median areas of the carapace (cardiac and intestinal areas).

***Geograpsus grayi* (H. Milne Edwards, 1853).** Figure 20 B. – K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 1, Trévani beach supralittoral zone, 1 male 38.5×48.0 mm (MNHN B32041).

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP. Red Sea, Tanzania, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Réunion, Mauritius to Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan, Australia, Solomon, New Caledonia, Loyalty, Fiji, Kermadec, Wallis & Futuna, Niue, Cook, French Polynesia, Henderson.

Comment. – A very discrete species but common at night in supralittoral zone or in coastal forests. Its purple color is a good mean to recognize it on the field.

***Grapsus fourmanoiri* Crosnier, 1965.** Figure 20 C-D. – *Grapsus fourmanoiri* - Crosnier, 1965: 12, fig. 4-6, p. III, fig. 1 (Mayotte). - K UW fieldwork November 2009, supralittoral zone, St. 1, Trévani beach 1 female 25.0×28.0 mm (MNHN B32046); St. 2, Trévani beach to Kanganani mangrove, 3 males 17.4×20.4 to 27.2×31.0 mm (MNHN B32045); St. 6, Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway, upper littoral, 1 juvenile 16.3×19.0 mm (MNHN B32063); St. 10, east of islet Quatre Frères (Vatou), rocky shore, 2 males 15.0×17.0 and 18.0×20.7 mm, 2 females 15.8×18.6 and 25.6×30.0 mm, largest ovigerous (MNHN B32044); St. 15, islet Mtsamboro, northeast tip of the beach, 1 male 13.4×15.5 mm, 1 juvenile 7.5×9.0 mm (MNHN B32060); St. 21a, east of islet Choizil, Malanzamiayatsini, rocky shore, 4 males 8.2×9.5 to 24.5×28.0 mm, 4 females 13.5×16.0 to 21.0×24.3 mm, largest ovigerous (MNHN B32043); St. 26, Mutsumbatsou reef flat, 1 male 17.3×19.7 mm, 3 females 11.5×13.0 to 13.0×15.3 mm (MNHN B32061); St. 29, Mboianatsa beach, Ngouja hotel, 1 juvenile 7.0×8.6 mm (MNHN B32062); Coll. J.-M. Bouchard, Malamani mangrove, 1 male 32.7×36.0 mm (MNHN B32047).

Distribution. – WIO. Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte, Seychelles, Réunion.

Comment. – Described from Madagascar and Mayotte. This species is very common in supralittoral or intertidal zone, in rocky shores, sometimes near mangrove areas. Its coloration is variable by it is often yellow-maroon or green. The aspect of the front, much more elongated than in *Grapsus tenuicrustatus*, is a good character for telling both species apart (compare Fig. 20 C-D and E-F).

***Grapsus tenuicrustatus* (Herbst, 1783).** Figure 20 E-F. – K UW fieldwork November 2009, rocky shore, St. 21, East of islet Choizil, Malanzamiayatsini, 3 females 18.2×20.2 to 39.5×41.3 mm (MNHN B32049); St. 26, Mutsumbatsou reef flat, 1 male 43.0×45.5 mm (MNHN B32050); St. 26c, Mutsumbatsou reef flat, 1 male 43.5×46.4 mm (MNHN B32051); St. 38, South-East bay of Chiconi/Sada, coll. J.-M. Bouchard, intertidal, 24 July 2008, 2 females 22.0×24.2 mm and 26.0×27.6 mm, largest ovigerous (MNHN B32048).

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP. Red Sea, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Réunion, to Indonesia, Ashmore Reef, Taiwan, Japan, New Caledonia, Loyalty, Wallis & Futuna, Cook, French Polynesia, Hawaii.

Comment. – Although it is common on rocky shores it is less abundant in Mayotte than *G. fourmanoiri*. In *G. tenuicrustatus* the front is distinctly higher than in *G. fourmanoiri* with a ratio length/height of about 2 instead of about 4 in *G. fourmanoiri*.

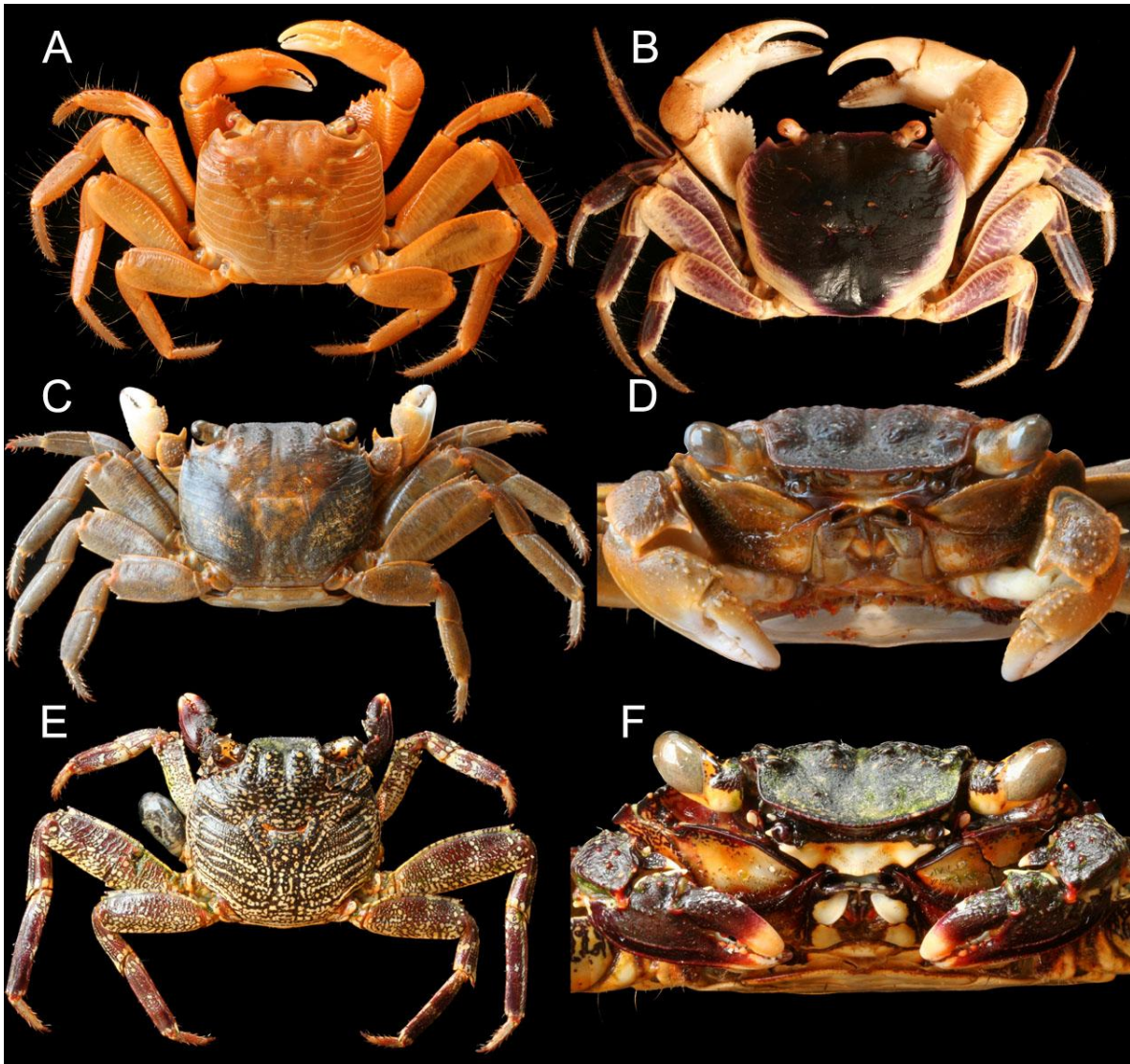


Figure 20. *Geograpsus* and *Grapsus* crabs from KUW 2009 fieldwork, Mayotte. A) *Geograpsus crinipes*, St. 21a, supralittoral of islet Choizil, 1 male 36×42.5 mm (MNHN B32042); B) *Geograpsus grayi*, St. 1, supralittoral of Trévani beach, 1 male 38.5×48.0 mm (MNHN B32041); C-D) *Grapsus fourmanoiri*, St. 10, rocky shore at islet Quatre Frères (Vatou), 1 ovigerous female 25.6×30.0 mm (MNHN B32044); E-F) *Grapsus tenuicrustatus*, St. 21 rocky shore at islet Choizil, 1 female 39.5×41.3 mm (MNHN B32049).

***Metopograpsus messor* (Forskål, 1775).** – K UW fieldwork November 2009, det. R. Cleva, St. 2, Trévani beach to Kangani mangrove, supralittoral zone, 1 male 9.5×13.2 mm, 2 females 7.6×10.3 and 9.0×12.4 mm (MNHN B32067).

Distribution. – IWP. Red Sea, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Mauritius, Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan, Australia, Samoa, Line Islands, Hawaii, French Polynesia. Presence in French Polynesian Islands should be confirmed by new collections (Poupin, 2005: 39).

Comment. – This species can be confused with *Metopograpsus thukuhar*, also present in Mayotte. As stated by Vannini & Valmori (1981: 73) ‘*The internal orbital tooth varies considerably and does not allow for the easy distinction which Crosnier’s (1965, figs 26, 27) picture would lead one to believe*’. The two best characters to separate these species are: the shape of carapace, less rectangular with lateral margins clearly converging backwards, in *M. messor*; and the chitinous terminal projection of male pleopod (Pl 1), short and curved almost at right angle in *M. messor*, instead of longer and curved at only about 45° in *M. thukuhar*.

***Metopograpsus thukuhar* (Owen, 1839).** Figure 21. – K UW fieldwork November 2009, det. R. Cleva, St. 2, Trévani beach to Kangani mangrove, supralittoral zone, 1 male 14.0×17.8 mm (MNHN B32066), 1 female 6.5×9.0 mm (MNHN B32083); St. 6, Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway, upper littoral, 1 male 11.3×15.3 mm (MNHN B32065), 5 males 8.5×10.5 to 12.8×17.0 mm, 5 females 8.3×11.4 to 10.8×14.6 mm, (MNHN B32064).

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP. Red sea, Somalia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Kenya, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Réunion, Indonesia, Taiwan, China, Japan, Australia, Solomon, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Wallis & Futuna, French Polynesia, Hawaii.

Comment. – Can be confused with *Metopograpsus messor* (see remarks under that species). *Metopograpsus thukuhar* is very common in the IWP and rather ubiquitous. It is collected in brackish waters of estuaries, in mangroves, or in intertidal areas on rocks and mud flats.

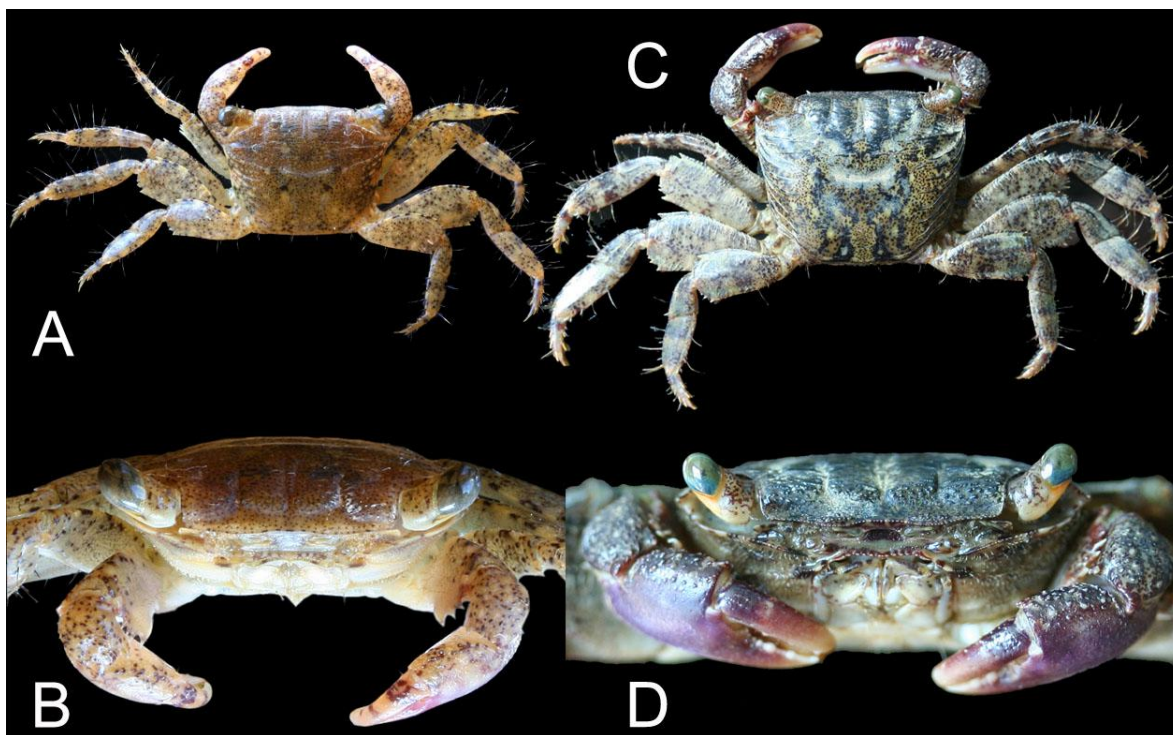


Figure 21. *Metopograpsus thukuhar*. K UW 2009 fieldwork, St. 6, Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway, upper littoral, 1 young male 11.3×15.3 mm (MNHN B32065), A) dorsal view, B) frontal view. C-D) Réunion, larger male 22×22.6 mm with more typical coloration (from Poupin & Massoukou [3]).

***Pachygrapsus minutus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1873.** Fig. 22 A-B – K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 10, east of islet Quatre Frères (Vatou), 4 females 4.5×6.5 to 5.7×8.3 mm, largest ovigerous (MNHN B32068); St. 26, Mutsumbatsou reef flat, 1 male 4.3×6.5 mm, 1 female 3.8×5.6 mm (MNHN B32069), plus 1 male 3.3×5.2 mm retrieved in a lot of small *Macrophthalmus*; St. 31, Brandélé ‘Musical beach’, 1 male 5.3×7.6 mm, 5 females 3.0×4.5 to 4.8×7.0 mm (MNHN B32070).

Distribution. – Widespread in the Indo-Pacific. Red sea, eastern Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Thailand, Indonesia, China, Taiwan, Japan, Caroline, Marianna, Australia, New Caledonia, Fiji, Wallis & Futuna, Niue, Samoa, Kiribati, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Clipperton, Revillagigedo.

Comment. – This *Pachygrapsus* crab is common in the intertidal area although often unnoticed because of its small size. At low tide it grazes the algae film that covers the rocks. A good mean to capture it is to remove quickly a rock and to examine it carefully or to look on the empty place left on the ground. *Pachygrapsus minutus* can be confused with similar small-sized *Pachygrapsus planifrons*. It is distinguished by examination of the tip of fingers of the chelae, smooth, without setae, instead of furnished with a conspicuous row of setae in *P. planifrons* (compare Fig. 22 B-D). In addition to this character, the front of *P. minutus* is more sinuous than in *P. planifrons* and the posterior margin of merus of P5 has a submedian tooth, absent in *P. planifrons*.

***Pachygrapsus planifrons* De Man, 1888.** Figure 22 C-D. – K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 2, Trévani beach to Kangani mangrove, supralittoral zone, 1 ovigerous female 4.7×5.6 mm (MNHN B32365).

Distribution. – Widespread in the Indo-Pacific. Eastern Africa (Tanzania), Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Christmas Island, Indonesia, China, Japan, Caroline, Marianas, Kiribati, Funafuti, Hawaii, French Polynesia, Clipperton.

Comment. – Similar to *Pachygrapsus minutus* for its small size and ecology. The two species are separated by characters indicated under *P. minutus*.

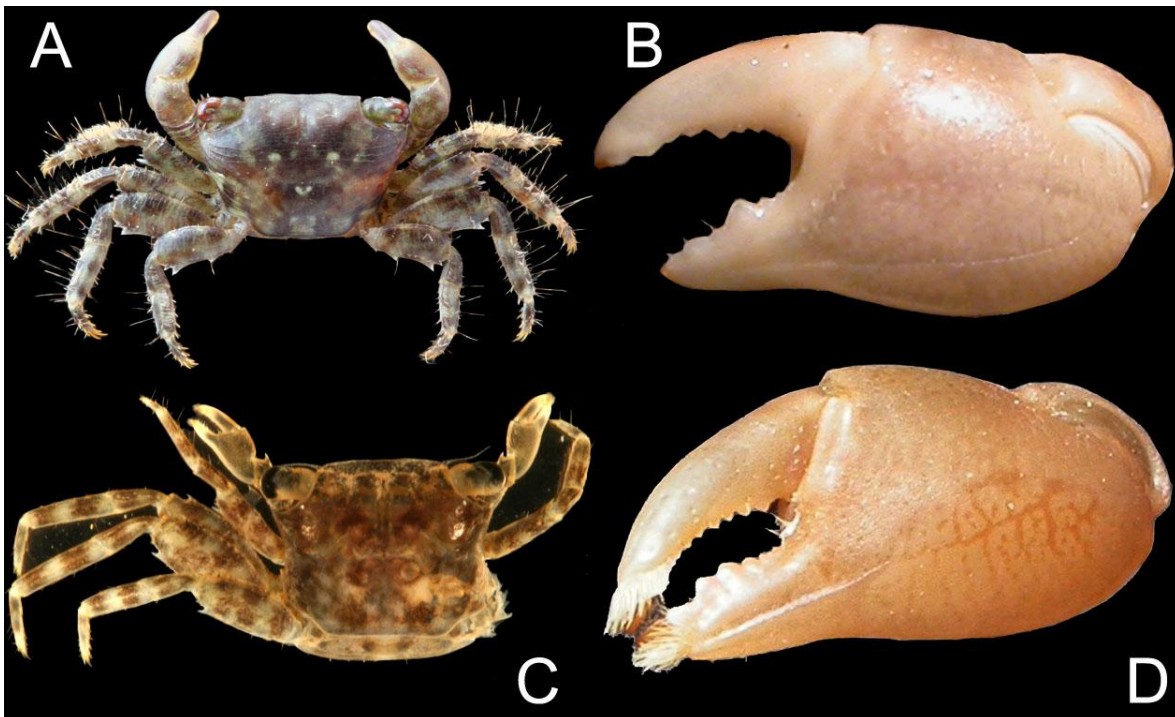


Figure 22. A-B, *Pachygrapsus minutus*. A) K UW 2009 fieldwork, St. 10, islet Quatre Frères, female 5.7×7.6 mm (MNHN B32068), B) Male 4.3×5.9 mm, Moruroa, French Polynesia (MNHN B29273), left chela, outer face. C-D, *Pachygrapsus planifrons*, C) K UW 2009 fieldwork, St. 2, Littoral, from Trévani to Kangani Mangrove, ovigerous female 4.7×5.6 mm, right ambulatory legs missing, color altered by preservative (MNHN B32365), D) Male 7.0×9.0 mm, Rangiroa, French Polynesia (UF 1490), left chela, outer face. B-D from Poupin *et al.* (2005).

***Pachygrapsus plicatus* (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)**. Figure 23. – *Pachygrapsus plicatus* - Crosnier, 1965: 27, fig. 24-25, 31-32 (Glorioso). - Guinot, 1967: 285 (WIO crabs checklist, including Glorioso).

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP. Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Glorioso, Seychelles, Réunion, Mauritius, Christmas, Cocos, Indonesia, China, Taiwan, Japan, Marianas, Micronesia, Marshall, New Caledonia, Samoa, Niue, Tuvalu, Hawaii, French Polynesia.

Comment. – A medium to small-sized *Pachygrapsus* still not recorded around Mayotte Island although it is common in the IWP. It leaves along rocky intertidal shores exposed to the ocean and therefore could be also listed with marine species. It is characterized by the striated aspect of its carapace and outer faces of chelae (Fig. 23).

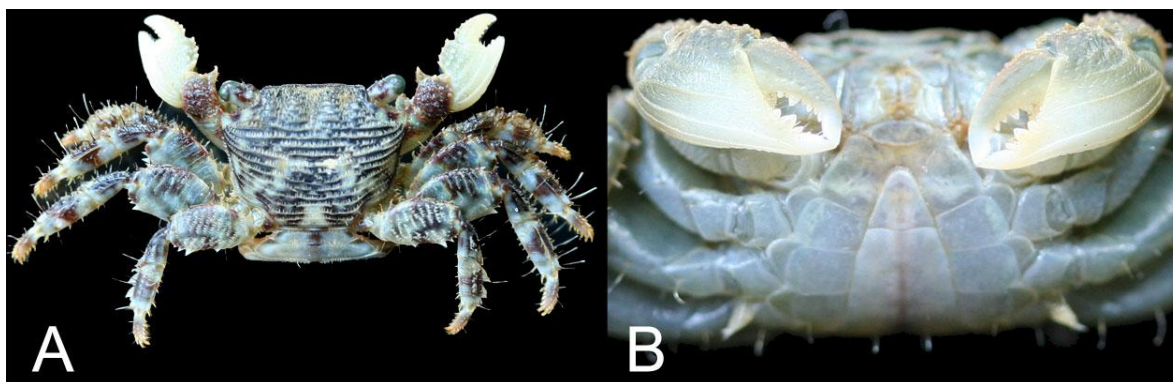


Figure 23. *Pachygrapsus plicatus*. Male 9×11 mm, from Réunion (MNHN), A) dorsal view, B) ventral view with aspect of outer faces of chelae (from Poupin & Massoukou [3]).

FAMILY VARUNIDAE

***Pseudograpsus albus* Stimpson, 1858**. Figure 27 A. – KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 15, islet Mtsamboro, beach of the north-eastern tip, intertidal under stones, 1 female 5.3×5.9 mm, as '*Pseudograpsus cf. albus*' in Bouchard *et al.*, 2009: 85, photo (MNHN B32084).

Distribution. – IWP. Eastern Africa (Kenya), Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Mauritius, Réunion, Maldives, Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan, Australia, New Caledonia, Fiji, Line Islands, French Polynesia.

Comment. – A small-sized flat crab that lives on sandy intertidal places, under rocks. It is mimetic and can be easily unnoticed without careful examination of the substrate. *Pseudograpsus elongatus* (A. Milne-Edwards, 1873) is also present in the Indian Ocean, especially in Madagascar and the Seychelles and, therefore, could be also present in Mayotte. In *Pseudograpsus albus* the 3 anterolateral teeth are indistinct and the posterior margins of the carapace are sub-parallel. In *P. elongatus* the 3 anterolateral teeth are well marked and the posterior margins of the carapace converge posteriorly.

***Pseudohelice subquadrata* (Dana, 1851)**. Figure 24. – *Pseudohelice quadrata* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 28, Malamani mangrove, coll. J.-M. Bouchard, 12/12/2008, 12°55'07" S, 45°09'07" E, 2 males 11.3×13 and 11.7×13.8 mm, 1 female 11.0×13.5 mm (MNHN B32363). – Bouchard *et al.*, 2009: 86, photos (same specimens). - Ng *et al.*, 2008: 227 (Checklist of valid names). - *Pseudohelice subquadrata* – New valid name from P. Davie (WoRMS [2]).

Distribution. – IWP. Red Sea, Somalia, Tanzania, Kenya, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Mauritius, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Japan, Philippines, Australia, Caroline, Solomon, New Caledonia, Fiji, Western Samoa, French Polynesia.

Comment. – A medium-sized crab living near brackish waters pools or streams in the mangrove. Only three specimens have been found after ten investigations at Malamani mangrove. The crab has a stridulating apparatus made of a row of long tubercles disposed on the pterygostomian area (Fig. 24 D). It stridulates by rubbing its chela against these tubercles. On fresh specimens (Fig. 24 A') the color is deep violet on dorsal surface of the carapace with chelae and ventral surface being yellowish to orangish. The species has been often recorded in WIO (e.g. Madagascar in Crosnier, 1965) under *Helice leachii* Hess, 1865, a junior synonym. For a complete synonymy and distribution Sakai *et al.* (2006) can be consulted.

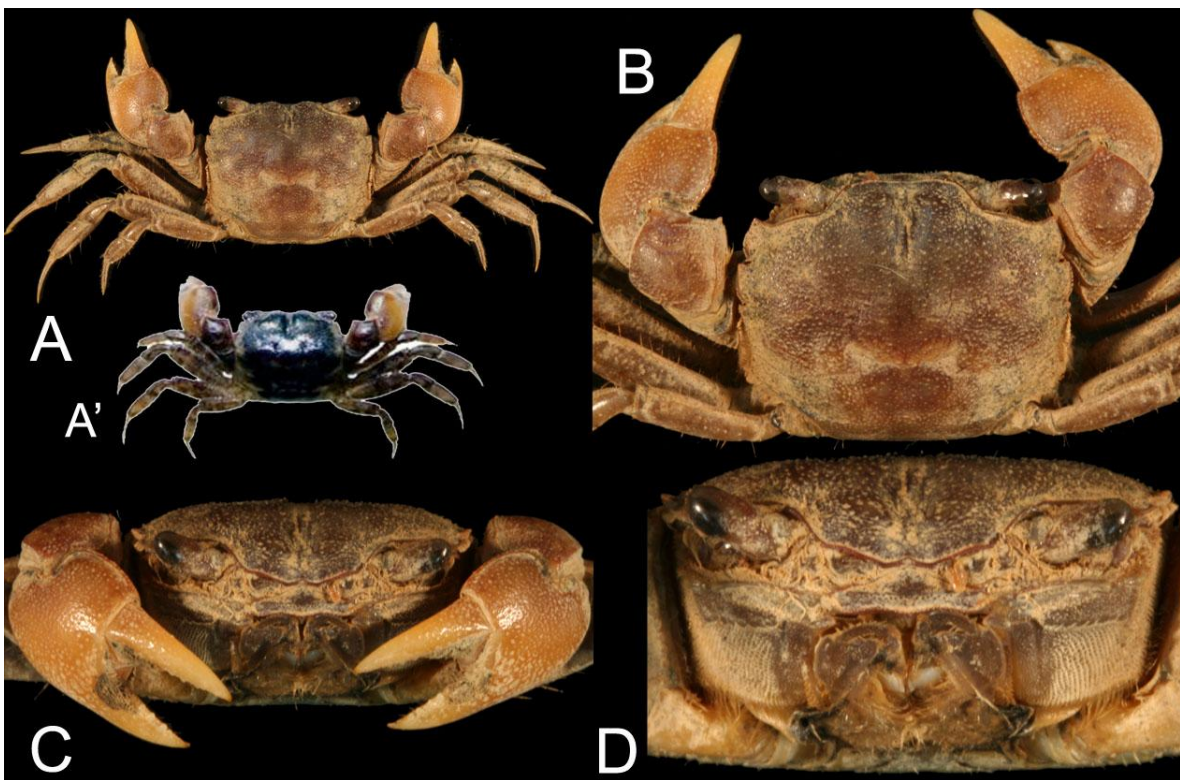


Figure 24. *Pseudohelice subquadrata*. Malamani mangrove, coll. J.-M. Bouchard, 2008, 1 male 11.7×13.8 mm (MNHN B32363), A-B) dorsal view, C-D) frontal view. Except for A' coloration is altered by preservative.

***Ptychognathus barbatus* (A. Milne-Edwards, 1873).** Figure 25 A. – *Ptychognathus barbatus* - Keith *et al.*, 2006: 36, 80 (Comoros: Anjouan, Mohéli).

Distribution. – IWP. Madagascar, Comoros, Indonesia, Taiwan, China, Japan, New Caledonia, Wallis & Futuna.

Comment. – A small-sized crab of fresh and brackish waters. Its maximum carapace size is between 5-15 mm. It is collected in estuaries under stones or among gravels. In the Comoros it may have been confused with *P. johanna*, a poorly documented species described from Anjouan (compare Fig. 25 A and C).

***Ptychognathus johannae* Rathbun, 1914.** Figure 25 C-D – Rathbun, 1914: 354, pl. 30, ‘Johanna Island’, an alternate name used for Anjouan Island in the past, coll. Hildebrandt; received in exchange from the Berlin Museum, 1 male, type Cat. N° 22799 USNM, formerly N° 4598, Berlin Museum. - Guinot, 1967: 286 (WIO crabs checklist, with Comoros).

Distribution. – Comoros only (Anjouan).

Comment. – This species has been described from Anjouan once named ‘Johanna Island’. Date of publication is kept here as 1914, as adopted by Ng *et al.* (2008) and WoRMS [2], despite a note in volume 46 of the *Proceedings of the United States National Museum* (table of content, p. VII) indicating that publication date should be 1913. A photograph of the type specimen in Smithsonian US national Museum, Washington has been obtained through the courtesy of Ng N.-K. currently preparing a revision of the genus. *Ptychognathus johannae* has been rarely reported since its description and it is still known with certainty from the Comoros only, one record from Japan being an error for *Ptychognathus hachijyoensis* Sakai, 1955 (see Osawa & Ng, 2006).

***Ptychognathus pusillus* Heller, 1865.** Figure 25 B – *Ptychognathus pusillus* - Keith *et al.*, 2006: 36, 84 (Comoros: Anjouan, Mohéli).

Distribution. – IWP. Comoros (Anjouan, Mohéli), Andaman, Christmas, Indonesia, Japan, Fiji.

Comment. – This species resembles *Ptychognathus barbatus*. It is distinct by the anterolateral margin of the carapace, with 3 low indentations, instead of deep indentations in *P. barbatus*. Maximum width of carapace reported by Keith *et al.* (2006) is between 10-25 mm.

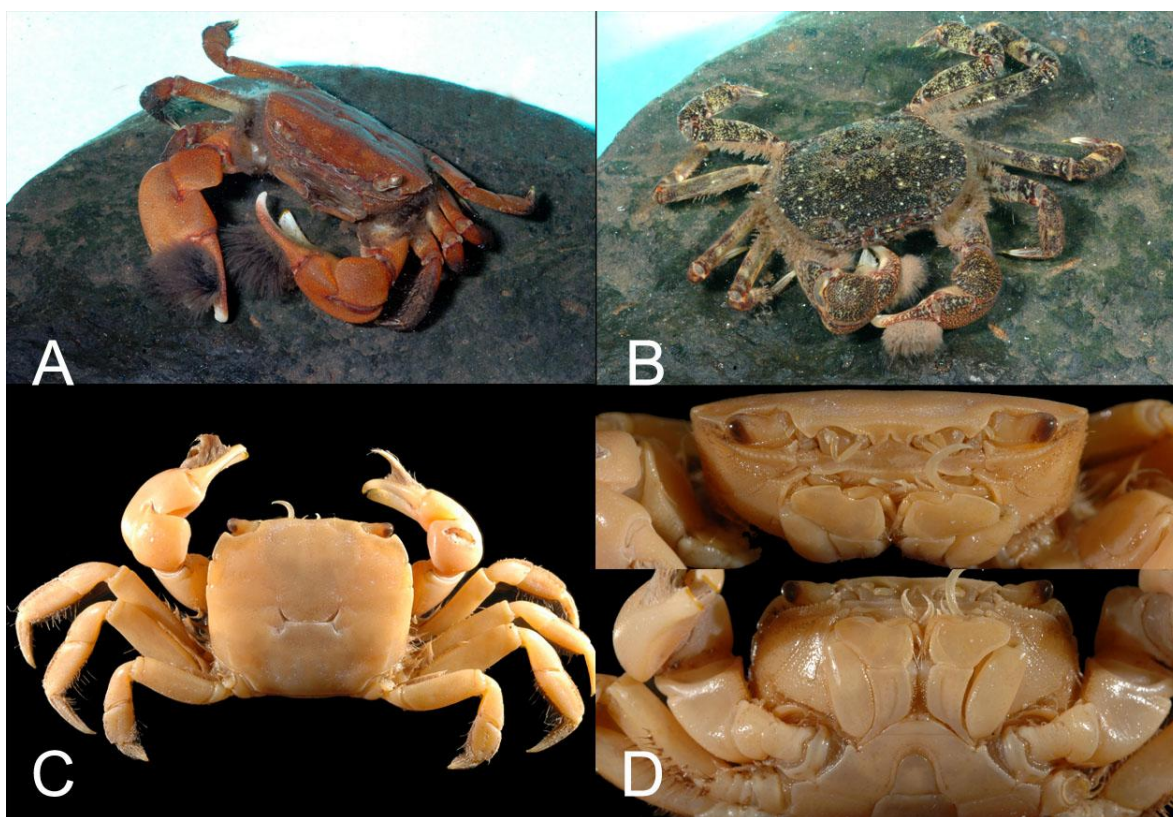


Figure 25. A) *Ptychognathus barbatus*. B) *Ptychognathus pusillus*. A-B, From Keith *et al.* (2006), copyright P. Keith. C-D) *Ptychognathus johannae*. Type specimen, 1 male 16.3x19 mm (USNM 22799), C) Dorsal view, D) Frontal (top) and ventral (bottom) views; photographs Christopher Escano Mendoza, courtesy of Ng Ngan Kee.

Thalassograpsus harpax (Hilgendorf, 1892). Figure 26. – KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 2, littoral, from Trévani to Kangani Mangrove, 1 male 6.1×7.1 mm, 1 ovigerous female 6.4×7.5 mm (MNHN B32261); St. 31, Brandélé ‘Musical beach’, 5 ovigerous females 5.0×5.4 to 6.6×7.6 mm, 1 female 6.0×6.9 mm (MNHN B32260).

Distribution. – IWP. Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Persian Gulf, Somalia, Tanzania, Mayotte (first record), Cocos, Malaysia, Taiwan, Japan, Samoa, Wallis & Futuna, French Polynesia.

Comment. – A small-sized crab that lives among rocks and gravels in the intertidal. It is vivacious and disappears quickly under rocks or in tide pools when one try to catch it by searching under stones. For that reason it is rarely reported although it is probably very common in the IWP. In the male there is a brush of setae on inner face of the palm of the chela.

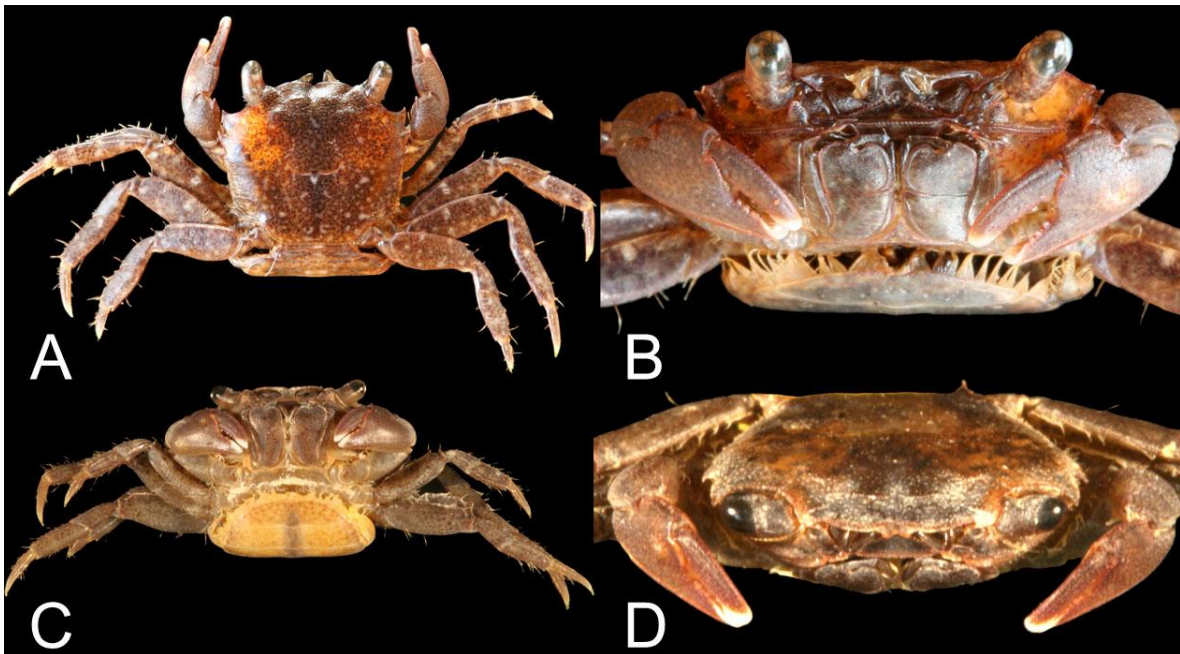


Figure 26. *Thalassograpsus harpax*. KUW 2009 fieldwork, St. 31, Brandélé ‘Musical beach’, 1 ovigerous female 6.6×7.6 mm (MNHN B32260), A) dorsal view, B-D) frontal view, C) ventral view. Coloration of C-D altered by preservative.

Varuna litterata (Fabricius, 1798). Figure 27 B-D. – *Varuna litterata* - Lenz, 1910: 560 (Comoros, Mohéli). - Crosnier, 1965: 34, fig. 40, 41a-b, 46, pl. VI, fig. 1 (Comoros: Grande Comore, Mohéli). - Keith *et al.*, 2006: 36 (Comoros: Anjouan, Mohéli, Mayotte). - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 10, islet Quatre Frères (Vatou), 1 male 36.3×41.0 mm (MNHN B32058).

Distribution. – IWP. Somalia, Mozambique, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Madagascar, Comoros, Seychelles, Réunion, Mauritius, India, Indonesia, Taiwan, China, Japan, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Australia, New Caledonia, Fiji, French Polynesia.

Comment. – This crab is euryhaline and can be found in rivers, brackish waters, or at sea. The specimen collected during the K UW fieldwork is of relatively large size and was captured in marine water, along the coastline. With its legs shaped as paddles and used for swimming, it is sometimes called the ‘Paddler crab’. After a flood it can be washed far away in the sea and observed there drifting with pieces of debris.

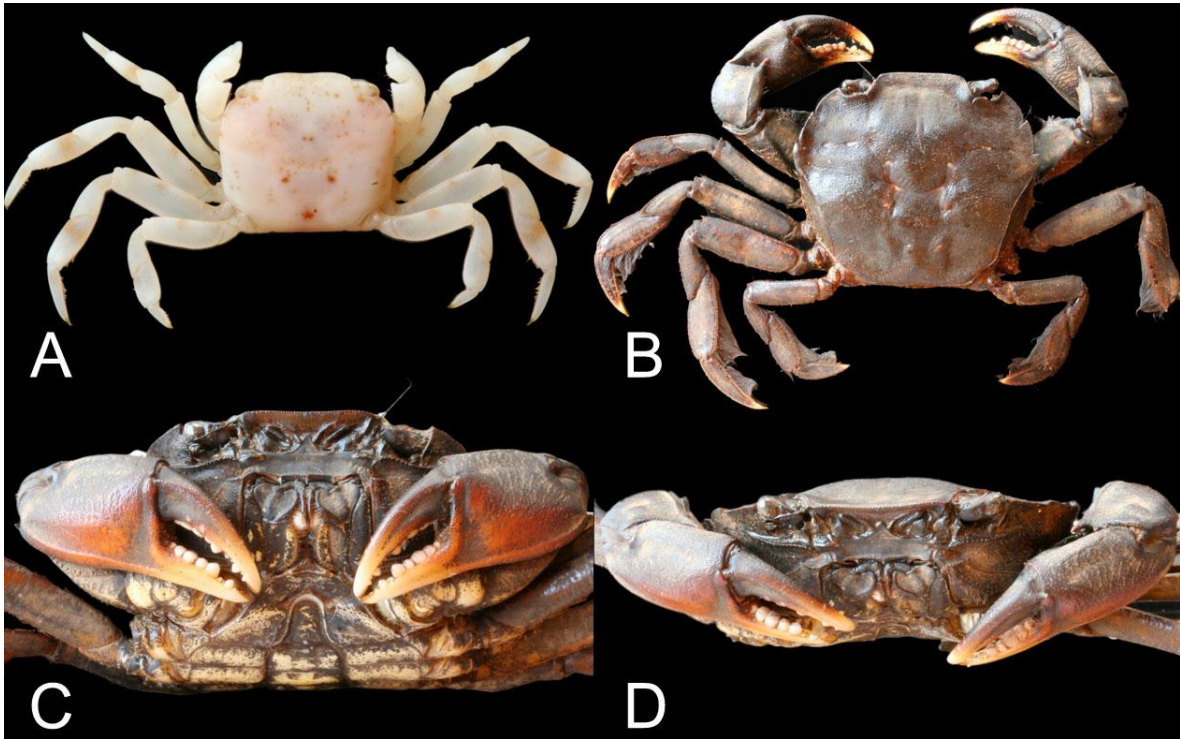


Figure 27. A) *Pseudograpsus albus*. K UW 2009 fieldwork, St. 15, intertidal, islet Mtsamboro, 1 female 5.3×5.9 mm (MNHN B32084). B-D) *Varuna litterata*, K UW 2009 fieldwork, St. 10, intertidal, islet Quatre Frères, 1 male 36.3×41.0 mm (MNHN B32058); B) dorsal view; C) ventral view with aspect of outer faces of chelae; D) frontal view.

SUPERFAMILY OCYPODOIDEA

The Ocypodoidea includes many ubiquitous species. Those living along the coastline are sometimes difficult to classify in term of terrestrial or marine species. For example, the ghost crab *Ocypode cordimanus* live in the upper intertidal and is obviously terrestrial but it is located only at a few meters of colonies of *Ocypode ceratophthalmus*, an intertidal species more adapted to marine life. In this list it has been chosen to keep together all the species of the families Macrophthalmidae and Ocypodidae reported from Mayotte region. For that reason a few species with marine affinities (e.g. *Chaenostoma sinuspersici* and *Macrophthalmus grandidieri*) or marine (*Macrophthalmus telescopicus* and *Venitus latreillei*) are included here.

FAMILY DOTILLIDAE

Dotilla fenestrata Hilgendorf, 1869. Figure 28. – *Dotilla fenestrata* - Crosnier, 1965: 120, fig. 216 (Mayotte). - Guinot, 1967: 282 (WIO crabs checklist, including Mayotte). - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 1, Trévani beach, 1 male 4.0×5.4 mm (MNHN B32078); St. 29, Ngouja hotel, Mboianatsa beach, 1 male 3.7×5.6 mm, 1 juvenile (MNHN B32079); St. 31, Brandélé ‘Musical beach’, 1 female 3.2×4.2 mm (MNHN B32080); coll. Lisa, Tom and J.-M. Boucharde, 05/01/2010, Mliha beach, 5 males 2.2×2.6 mm to 4.5×5.8 mm, 2 females 2.7×3.0 mm to 3.3×3.6 mm (MNHN B32257), upper Ambato beach, 3 km far from Mliha beach, 1 male 3.3×4.3 mm (MNHN B32258).

Distribution. – WIO. Somalia, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte.

Comment. – Small-sized crab that lives in the medio-intertidal on sandy-muddy beaches where it digs burrows. It is vivacious and disappears very quickly at arrival of an intruder. For that reason and because of its small size it can be easily unnoticed during a sampling event. It feeds on micro organisms of the sediment and makes sand pellets that are disposed in a network of lines around the entrance of its burrow (Fig. 28 A). When sampling on the field, this pellets can be used to distinguish it from other ocyropid crab (e.g. *Chaenostoma lisa*, juveniles of *O. ceratophthalmus* ...) with a different feeding behavior and without these pellets around the burrows. *Dotilla sulcata* (Forskål, 1775) is an affiliated species reported by Vannini & Valmori (1981: 214) in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, and Somalia.

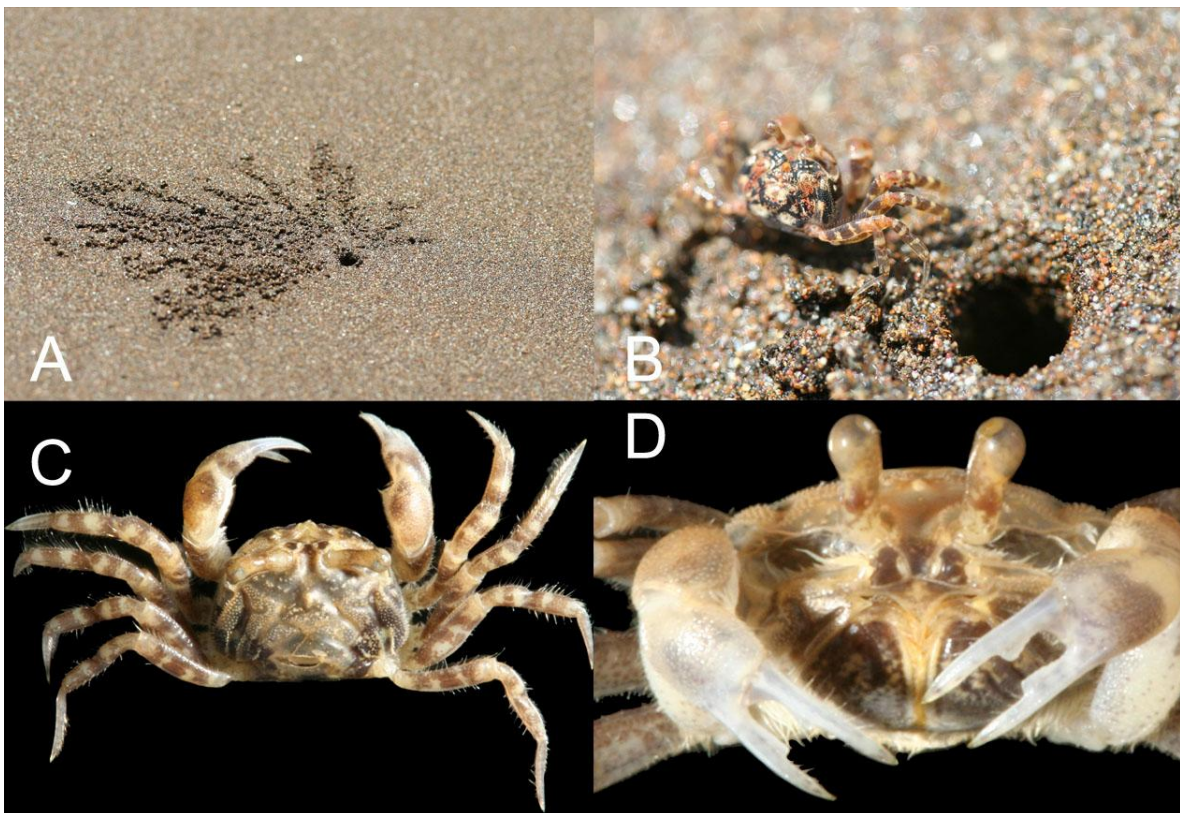


Figure 28. *Dotilla fenestrata*. A) burrow entrance with sand pellets made during feeding activity, at KUW 2009 fieldwork St. 1, Trévani beach. B-D) 1 male 4.0×5.4 mm (MNHN B32078); B) crab at the entrance of its burrow; C) dorsal view; D) frontal view. Color altered by preservative for C-D.

FAMILY MACROPHTHALMIDAE

***Chaenostoma lisae* (Poupin & Bouchard, 2010).** Figure 29, 30 D. – *Macrophthalmus* (*Chaenostoma*) *lisae* Poupin & Bouchard, 2010: 62, fig. 1a-c, 2a-o, Mayotte, KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 26, Mutsumbatsou mud flat, 1 male 4.1×5.4 mm, 3 ovigerous females 3.1×4.1 to 3.95×5.3 mm, 3 females 2.6×3.3 to 3.7×4.9 mm, 1 female juvenile, broken (paratypes MNHN B32071), 1 male 3.75×4.9 (holotype MNHN B32254), 1 ovigerous female 3.85×5.1 mm, (paratype MNHN B32362), as ‘Ocypodidae sp.’ in Bouchard *et al.*, 2009, photo p. 90; coll. J.-M. Bouchard, 8 October 2008, Malamani mangrove, intertidal, 1 ovigerous female 3.75×5.01 mm (paratype MNHN B32072).

Distribution. – IWP. Mayotte (also Madagascar, New Caledonia, see comment).

Comment. – These small-sized crabs live in burrows in the upper part of sandy-muddy beaches with entrances of burrows that resemble those made by *Dotilla fenestrata*. *Chaenostoma lisae* is smaller but morphologically close to *Chaenostoma sinuspersici* and juveniles or small specimens of this last species can be confused with adults of *C. lisae* (see under *C. sinuspersici*). Just after its description *Chaenostoma lisae* has been recognized again in Madagascar and New Caledonia, from specimens deposited in MNHN attributed to *Macrophthalmus boscii* by Crosnier (coll. A. Crosnier, February 1962, Nosy Bé, 2 males 4.3×5.5 and 4.3×5.5 mm, 1 ovigerous female 5.3×5.9 mm, 1 juvenile 2.78×3.30, MNHN B10717) and Juncker & Poupin (2009: 14, n°164, *M. boscii*, in part, only specimens from St 9 Pindai, 1 male 4.5×5.6 mm, 1 F ov 5.1×6.6 mm, MNHN B32603). This observation has been made by R. Naderloo, Research Institute & Nature Museum of Senckenberg.

Following McLay *et al.* (2010) and Davie (WoRMS [2]), we have raised in this work the subgenus *Chaenostoma* to genus level although other authors such as Naderloo *et al.* (2011: 2) indicate that this is controversial and should be done only when a comprehensive study is undertaken on the subgeneric system of the genus *Macrophthalmus*.

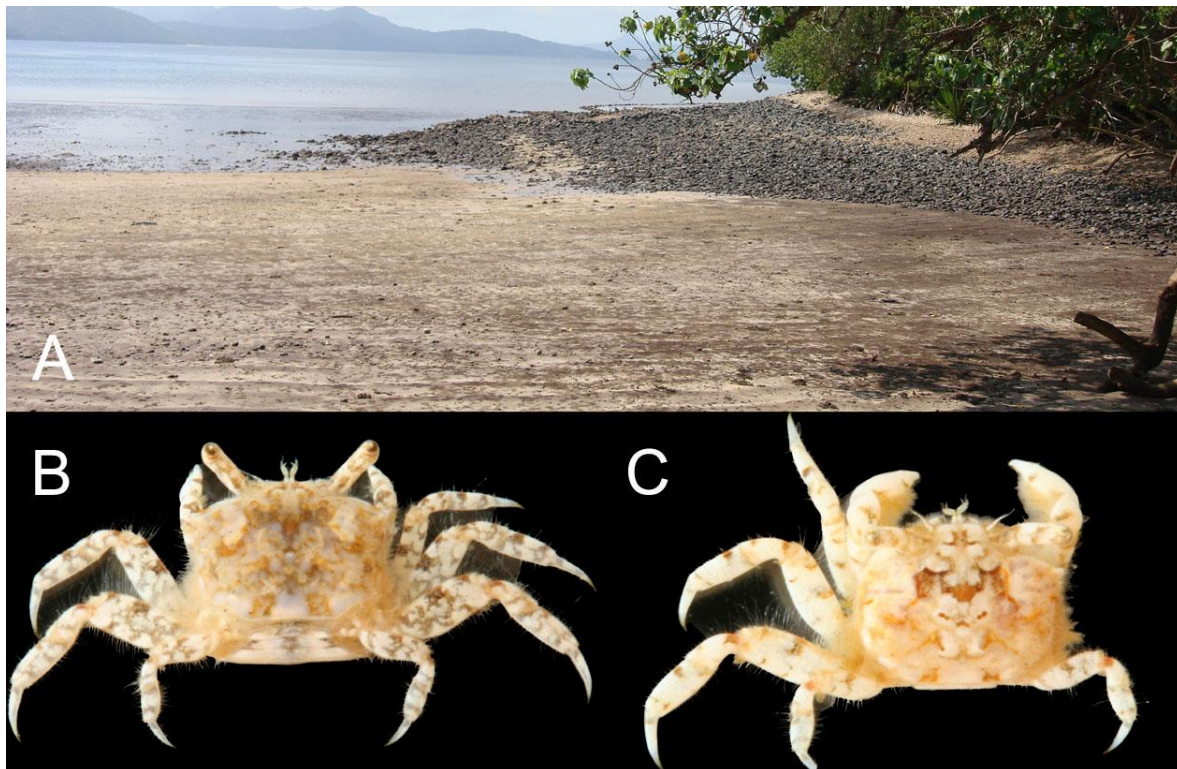


Figure 29. *Chaenostoma lisae*. A) biotope at KUW fieldwork 2009, St. 26, beach of Mliha at low tide. The crabs were collected on the upper part of the beach (foreground of photograph); B) paratype ovigerous female 3.85×5.1 mm (MNHN B32362); C) holotype male 3.75×4.9 mm (MNHN B32254). Adapted from Poupin & Bouchard (2010, fig. 1).

Chaenostoma sinuspersici (Naderloo & Türkay, 2010). Figure 30 A-C. – Recorded in MNHN as *Macrophthalmus* (*Chaenostoma*) *boscii* - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 1, Trévani Beach, 1 female 7.5×9.1 mm (MNHN B32073); St. 31, Brandélé ‘Musical beach’, 1 male juvenile 3.6×4.9 mm, 1 juvenile (MNHN B32074).

Distribution. – IWP, where it has been reported in the past as *Macrophthalmus boscii*. Probably not Red Sea where it is ‘replaced’ by typical *M. boscii* (see Naderloo & Türkay, 2010). Somalia, Kenya, Zanzibar, Mozambique, South Africa, Europa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, Japan, Philippines, Australia, Papua New-Guinea, New Caledonia, Salomon, Fiji, Wallis & Futuna.

Comment. – A small-sized crab, common in the intertidal area under rocks or in tide pools, without noticeable burrow entrances (although the species may perhaps live in burrows). The adults have a deep indentation on the anterolateral margin of the carapace, between the first and the second anterolateral tooth. In juveniles it is reduced to a feeble slit and confusion can be made with adults of the *Chaenostoma lisae*, a species much smaller than *C. sinuspersici*. A careful comparison between a young male of *C. sinuspersici* (3.6×4.6 mm, St. 31, MNHN B32074) and the male holotype of *C. lisae* of similar size (3.75×4.9 mm, St. 26, B32254) shows that it is still possible to recognize them by the granulation and pilosity of the dorsal surface of the carapace, more pronounced in *C. sinuspersici*, and by the aspect of the chela, with a juvenile or female aspect in the small male of *C. sinuspersici* (no setae on the inner face of the palm), instead of larger and with a brush of setae on the inner face of the palm in *C. lisae*.

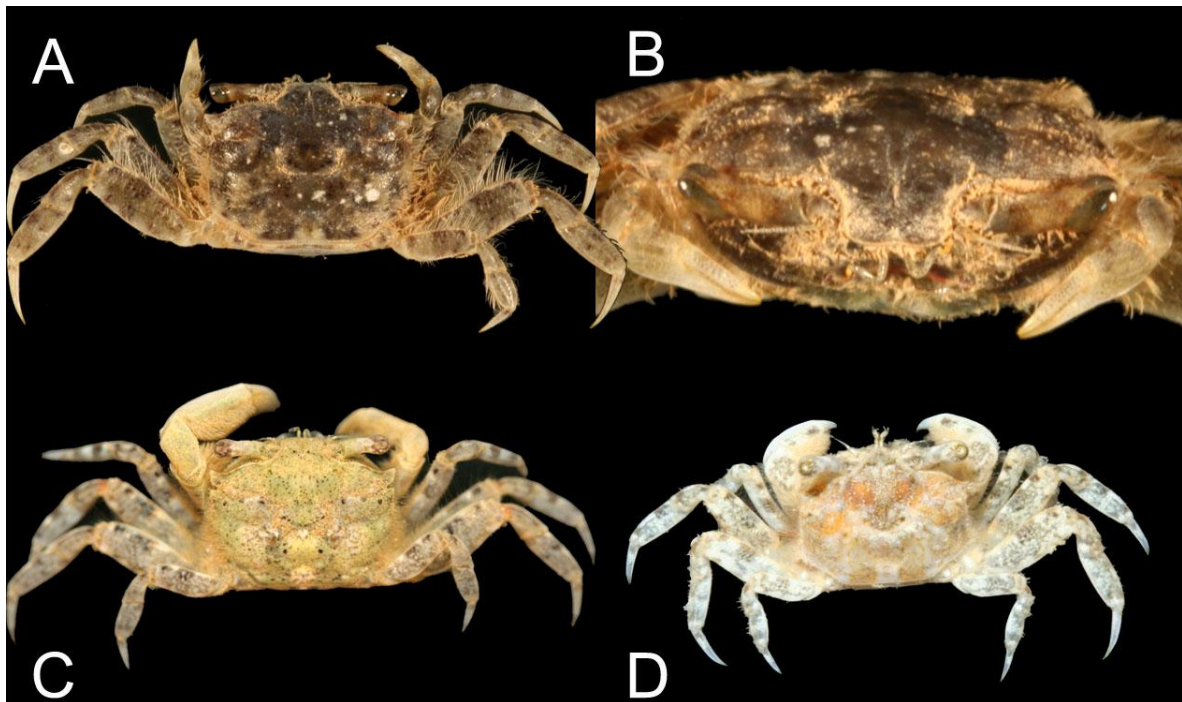


Figure 30. *Chaenostoma sinuspersici*. A-B) KUW fieldwork 2009, St. 1, Trévani beach, 1 female 7.5×9.1 mm (MNHN B32073); A) dorsal view, B) frontal view; color altered by preservative. C) Specimen from New Caledonia with live coloration, from Juncker & Poupin (2009: 14, n°164, as *M. boscii*, in part, only specimen from St 2, Nouville, intertidal, 1 male 8.1×14.1 mm, MNHN). D) *Chaenostoma lisae*, see text. New Caledonia, det. R. Naderloo, from Juncker & Poupin (2009: 14, n°164, as *M. boscii*, in part, from St 9 Pindai, 1 male 4.5×5.6 mm, MNHN).

***Macrophthalmus (Macrophthalmus) grandidieri* A. Milne-Edwards, 1867.** Figure 31. – KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 1, Trévani Beach, 7 males 6.2×13.3 to 8.0×16.5 mm, 1 female 6.1×12.0 mm, 1 ovigerous female 9.0×18.6 mm (MNHN B32077), as ‘*Macrophthalmus parvimanus*’ in Bouchard *et al.*, 2009: photo p. 89.

Distribution. – WIO. Red Sea, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record).

Comment. – Medium-sized sentinel crabs living in burrows in sandy-muddy beaches of the low intertidal (Fig. 31 A). The crabs are prompt to hide in their burrows and can be easily overlooked during a sampling event. In a first step they were erroneously attributed to *Macrophthalmus (Macrophthalmus) parvimanus* Guérin, 1834, an IWP species common in WIO. However, after careful re-examination there is no doubt that they belong in fact to *M. grandidieri* described from Zanzibar that can be easily recognized by the shape and length of the anterolateral teeth of the carapace, the first tooth being much shorter than the second (see fig. 31 B).



Figure 31. *Macrophthalmus (Macrophthalmus) grandidieri*. A) biotope at KUW fieldwork 2009, St. 1, Trévani beach at ebb tide; crabs were collected near the pebbles, on the background, when sea level was about 1 m lower. B-D) 1 male 7.6×16.6 mm (MNHN B32077), B-C) dorsal view, C) frontal view with aspect of chelae.

***Macrophthalmus (Macrophthalmus) telescopicus* Owen, 1839.** – *Macrophthalmus telescopicus* – Crosnier, 1975: 737 (Comoros Islands: Grande Comore, ‘Trou du Prophète’, 1 m, coral sand, coll. R. Plante, 13 October 1969, 1 sp. 15.7×25.4 mm; Mayotte, Boéni Bay, 55 m, dredge, muddy sand, coll. R. Plante, 21 January 1970, 1 sp. 9.6×16.0 mm; Mayotte, 26 m, dredge, sand-shell bed, coll. R. Plante, 29 January 1970, 1 ovigerous female 7.9×13.0 mm; all specimens in MNHN).

Distribution. – IWP. Red Sea, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar, Comoros (Grande Comore, Mayotte), India, Mergui archipelago, Singapore, Japan, Australia, Caroline, Fiji, Hawaii.

Comment. – This is a marine species collected by dredges in the Comoros Islands at depths of 1-55 m. It is included here only to give a complete list of all the *Macrophthalmus* species that are reported from Mayotte region. *Macrophthalmus telescopicus* is characterized by its long ocular peduncles, greatly exceeding the margin of carapace. It has been reported in Eastern Africa as *Macrophthalmus verreauxi* H. Milne Edwards, 1848, a junior synonym (Vannini & Valmori, 1981).

***Macrophthalmus (Mareotis) depressus* Rüppel, 1830.** Figure 32. – *Macrophthalmus (Mareotis) depressus* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 28 (Malamani mangrove) - K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 13, 1 male 7.0×11.4 mm, 3 females 7.4×11.9 to 9.4×15.1 mm (MNHN B32075), plus additional specimens from Bouchard (2009, St. P11), 4 males 8.9×13.9 to 9.5×15.6 mm, 4 females 8.0×12.6 to 8.5×13.5 mm (MNHN B32076).
Distribution. – WIO. Red Sea, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Persian Gulf.

Comment. – This medium-sized crab lives in a burrow with its entrance visible only at low tide, on mudflats near brackish water stream of the mangrove (Fig. 32 A); openings of the burrows are rarely circular, usually more or less oval, and they are always filled with water (Fig. 32 B). The two sub-parallel longitudinal granular ridges of the branchial areas of carapace that are characteristic of this species are distinct only on large specimens (MNHN B32076) but not on the smaller specimens examined (MNHN B32075).

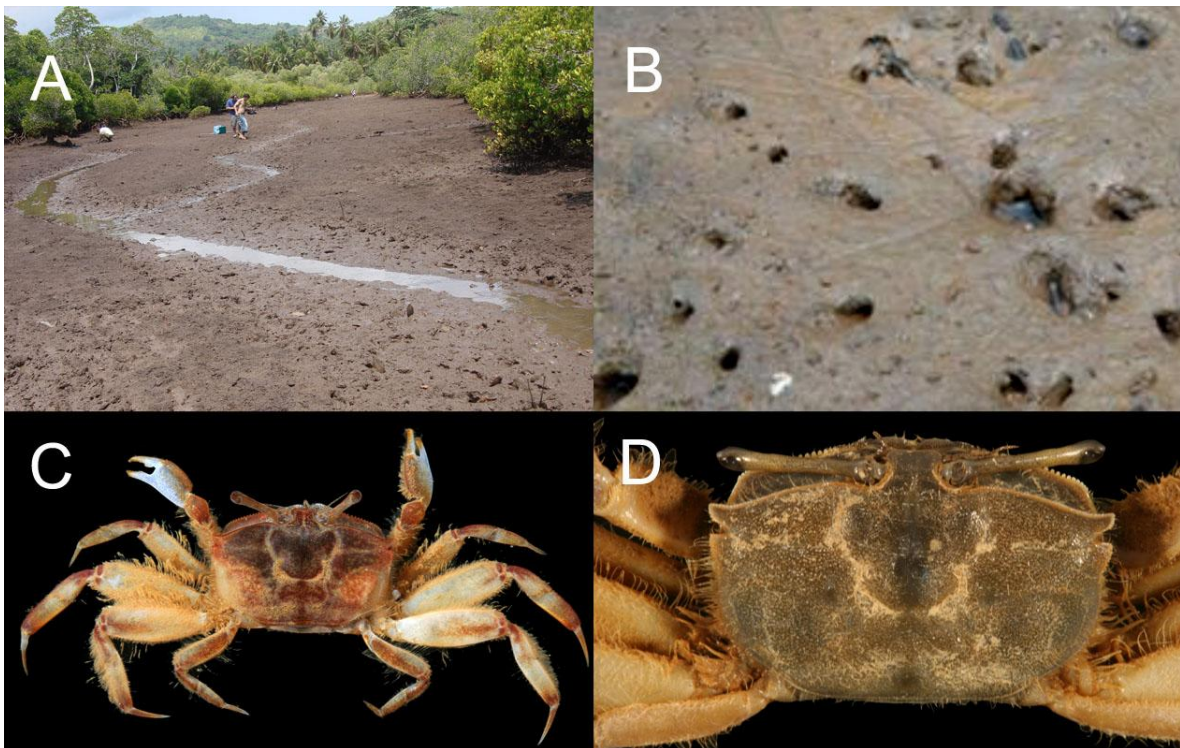


Figure 32. *Macrophthalmus (Mareotis) depressus*. A) biotope at K UW fieldwork 2009, St. 13, Malamani mangrove; B) aspect of burrows at low tide, adapted from Bouchard (2009: 27, fig. 48); C) dorsal view, 1 male 7.0×11.4 mm (MNHN B32075); D) detail of dorsal view, 1 male 9.5×15.6 mm (MNHN B32076).

***Venitus latreillei* (Desmarest, 1822).** – *Macrophthalmus latreillei* - Crosnier, 1965: 131, fig. 239-242 (Mayotte, muddy bottoms at depths of 5-15 m for the adults, down to 50 m for juveniles). - Guinot, 1967: 282 (WIO crabs checklist, with Comoros). – *Venitus latreillei* - Davie (WoRMS [2]) *Macrophthalmus (Venitus) latreillei* (Desmarest, 1822) is accepted as *Venitus latreillei* (Desmarest, 1822).

Distribution. – IWP. Red Sea, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Japan, Philippines, Papua New-Guinea, Australia, New Caledonia.

Comment. – Marine species collected in the Comoros Islands on muddy bottoms of the lagoon, between 5-50 m. It is included here only to give a full list of crabs Macrophthalmidae from Mayotte region. *Venitus latreillei* is distinct from *M. telescopicus* by shorter ocular peduncles, not exceeding anterolateral margin of carapace, and by four teeth on anterolateral margin of the carapace, instead of three in *M. telescopicus*. Crosnier (1965: 132, fig. 241-242) gives two drawings of the carapace.

FAMILY OCYPODIDAE

Ocypode ceratophthalmus (Pallas, 1772). Figure 33. – KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 1, Trévani beach, 3 males 19.5×22.5 to 26.8×31.0 mm, 2 females 27.0×31.5 and 33.0×38.4mm, 1 juvenile 10.5×12.5 mm (MNHN B32086); St. 2, littoral, from Trévani to Kangani Mangrove, ?1 juvenile 14×16.8 mm (photograph but specimen not retrieved, see fig. 33 D); St. 21, islet Choizil, east, Malandzamiayatsini, field observation only, no sample; St. 26, sand beach near Mutsumbatsou reef flat, field notes, 2 juveniles, probably lost; St. 29, Ngouja hotel, Mboianatsa beach, 2 males 31.8×37.7 and 34.0×38.6 mm (MNHN B32085); St. 31, Brandélé ‘Musical beach’, 1 juvenile (?MNHN); coll. Lisa, Tom and J.-M. Bouchard, 05 January 2010, Mliha beach, 5 juveniles (MNHN B32255), upper Ambato beach, 3 km far from Mliha beach, 2 males 13.6×16.0 and 17.6×20.6 mm, 2 juveniles (MNHN B32256).

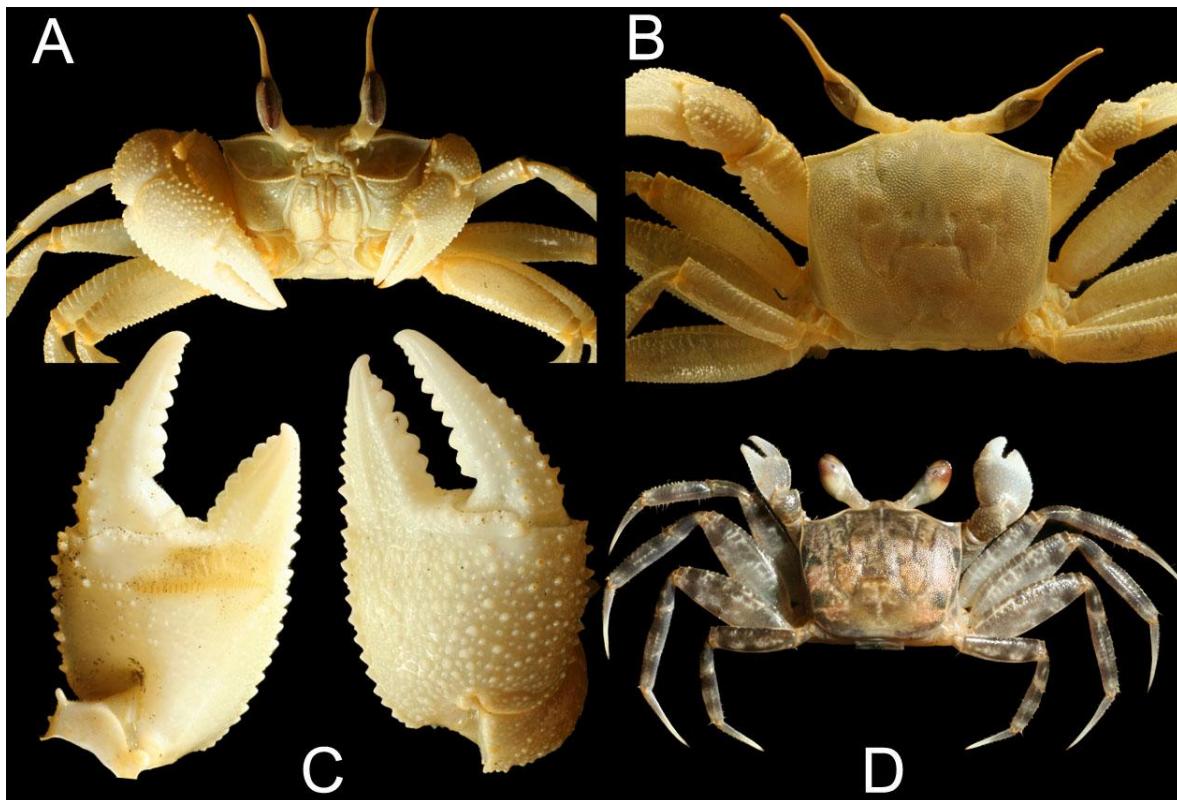


Figure 33. *Ocypode ceratophthalmus*. KUW fieldwork 2009. A-C) St. 29, 1 male 34.0×38.6 mm (MNHN B32085) A) frontal view, B) dorsal view, C) aspect of right chela, inner view, with stridulating ridge on the palm, at base of fingers (left) and outer view (right). D) St. 2, ?1 juvenile 14×16.8 mm (specimen not retrieved).

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP and reaching Clipperton atoll in the eastern Pacific. Kenya, Somalia, Mozambique, Tanzania, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Mauritius, Réunion, India, Maldives, Burma, Indonesia, China, Taiwan, Japan, Philippines, Australia, Papua New-Guinea, Vanuatu, Fiji, Wallis & Futuna, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Clipperton. *Ocypode ceratophthalmus* has been recorded from the Red Sea, but all these records refer to juvenile *O. saratan* (see Türkay *et al.*, 1996)

Comment. – This large-sized ghost crab is common on sandy beaches but is seen at night only, when it goes out of its burrow. During the day the entrance of its burrow is usually obstructed by sand and unnoticeable. The crab can be recognized easily by its long ocular horns (Fig. 33 A-B). *Ocypode saratan*

(Forskål, 1775) is another ghost crab of the region that has such ocular horns but they are shorter and curved backwards. Additionally, the anterolateral angles of the carapace are rounded in *O. saratan* (see photographs in Crosnier, 1965, pl. VIII 1-2; Vannini & Valmori, 1981: 201, fig. 1 a-b) instead of acute in *O. ceratophthalmus* (Fig. 33 D). In *Ocypode ceratophthalmus* the ocular horns can be reduced or even totally absent in females and/or juveniles. As a result, these can be confounded with adults of *Ocypode pallidula* Jacquinot, in Hombron & Jacquinot, 1846, a small-sized ghost crab, still not recognized in Mayotte region but present in Madagascar, Réunion, and Mauritius. Both species have a stridulating ridge on inner faces of the chelae (Fig. 33 C) but specimens of same size can be tell apart by the aspect of the anterolateral angle of the carapace, slightly directed outwards in *O. ceratophthalmus* (Fig. 33 B-D), instead of straight or directed inwards in *O. pallidula*. Specimen of figure 33 D is here tentatively attributed to a juvenile of *O. ceratophthalmus*, based on this character.

***Ocypode cordimanus* Latreille, 1818.** Figure 34. – KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 1, Trévani beach, 2 males 30.7×34.0 and 32.5×36.4 mm, 1 female 28.4×31.5 mm (MNHN B32087).

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP. Red Sea, eastern Africa (Somalia, Kenya, Mozambique), Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Réunion, Mauritius, India, Laccadive, Andaman, Nicobar, Burma, Indonesia, Taiwan, China, Japan, Philippines, Australia, Papua New-Guinea, New Caledonia, Wallis & Futuna, Hawaii, French Polynesia.

Comment. – This medium to large-sized ghost crab is much more terrestrial than *O. ceratophthalmus*. It is discrete but can be observed at night in the upper littoral in herbaceous places (Fig. 34 A). Contrary to *O. ceratophthalmus* the ocular peduncles do not have horns (Fig. 34 B-C) and the inner face of the chela is smooth, without stridulating ridge (Fig. 34 D).

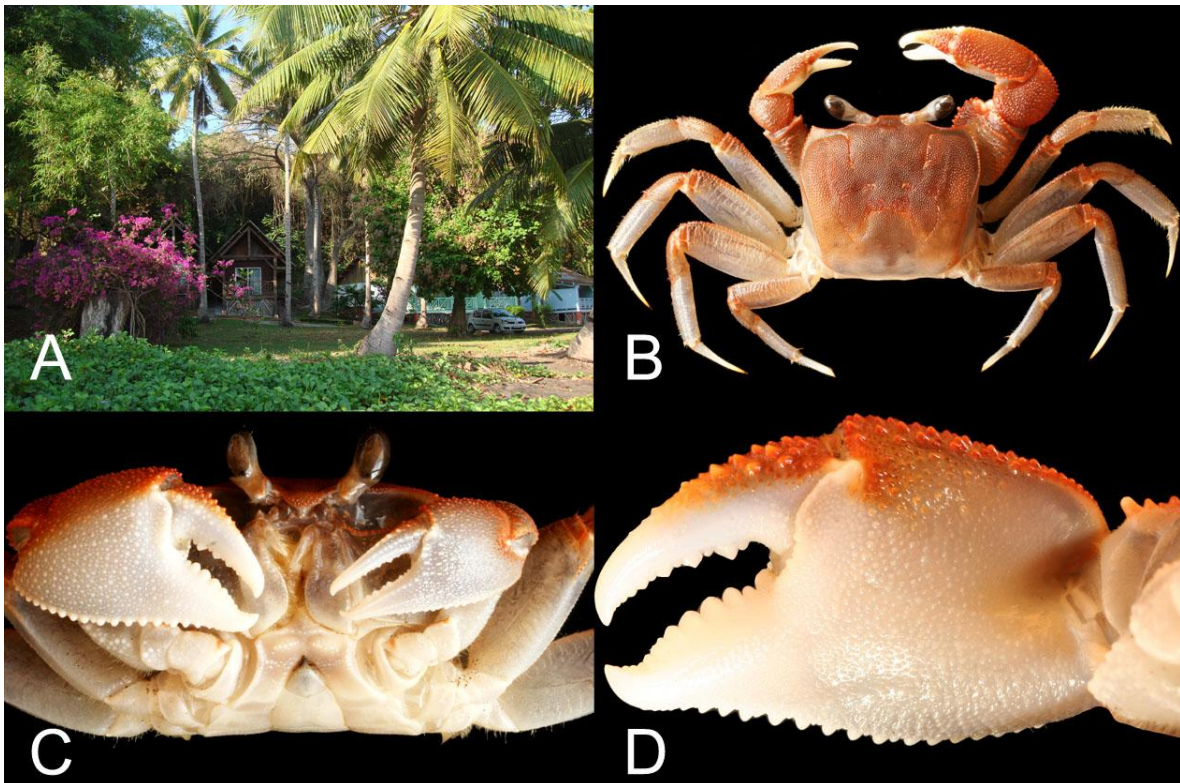


Figure 34. *Ocypode cordimanus*. A) biotope at KUW fieldwork 2009, St. 1 upper littoral of Trévani beach with herbaceous area where *O. cordimanus* was collected. B-D) 1 male 32.5×36.4 mm (MNHN B32087); B) dorsal view; C) frontal view; D) aspect of right chela, inner face (without stridulating ridge on the palm).

Ocypode pauliani Crosnier, 1965. – *Ocypode pauliani* Crosnier, 1965: 102, fig. 158, 165, 178-179, pl. IX, fig. 2, pl. XI, fig. 1 (Comoros: Grande Comore). – Guinot, 1967: 281 (WIO checklist, with Comoros).

Distribution. – WIO. Madagascar and Mayotte.

Comment. – It seems that this species has never been recorded since its description. According to Crosnier (1965), it can be recognized by its stridulating ridge, on inner face of the palm, made of rounded tubercles instead of striae. By this character it is affiliated to *Ocypode kuhlii* De Haan, 1835 but distinct by the presence of a brush of setae on propodus of second and third ambulatory legs (P2, P3).

Uca (Austruca) annulipes (H. Milne Edwards, 1837). Figure 35. – *Uca annulipes* - Guinot, 1967: 281 (WIO crabs checklist, with Mayotte). - *Uca (Paraleptuca) annulipes*. - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 20, Mayotte, Malamani mangrove, specimens re-examined for K UW fieldwork, St. J.-M. Bouchard n° 1-2, 8 males 3.5×5.5 to 7.7×13.4 mm, 4 females 5.0×8.5 to 7.3×11.8 mm (MNHN B32094); St. J.-M. Bouchard P3, sample 11, 10 males 5.0×8.0 to 8.5×14.7 mm, 1 male 8.8×15.0 mm (MNHN B32093). - K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 2, Kangani mangrove, 1 male 6.3×11.4 mm (MNHN B32095), as '*Uca sp.*' in Bouchard *et al.*, 2009, photo p. 93, 1 male 6.2×10.3 mm (MNHN B32096), 9 males 4.5×7.8 to 7.5×12.8 mm, 8 females (1 ovigerous) 4.2×6.5 to 6.5×10.3 mm (MNHN B32097); St. 6, Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway, 2 males 5.5×9.2 and 6.4×10.5 mm, 2 females 5.2×8.8 and 6.5×11.0 mm (MNHN B32098); St. 13, Malamani mangrove (mixed with *U. chlorophthalmus* and *U. inversa*), 11 males 5.0×8.3 to 8.5×14.0 mm (MNHN B32099).

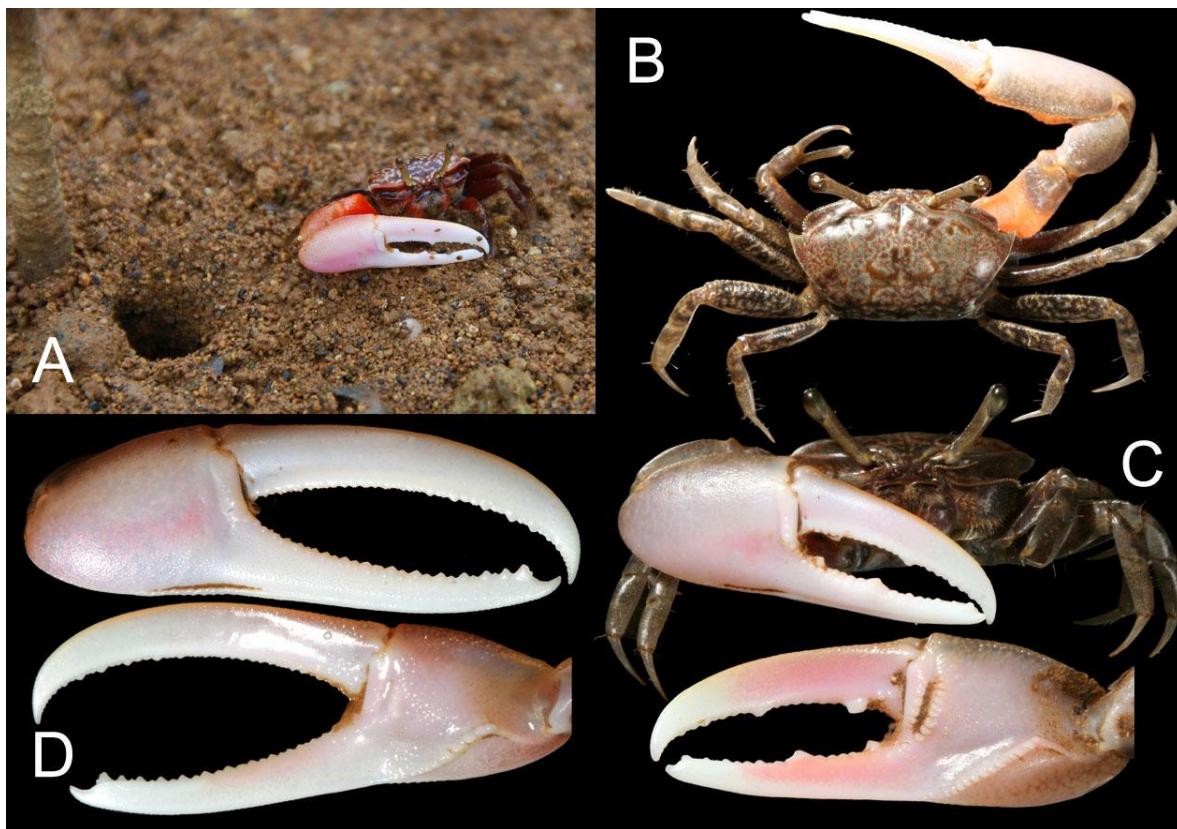


Figure 35. *Uca (Austruca) annulipes*. A) K UW St. 6, Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway, specimen near entrance of its burrow. B-C) K UW St. 2, Kangani Mangrove, 1 male 6.2×10.3 mm (MNHN B32096); B) dorsal view, C) frontal view with aspect of inner face of big chela (bottom). D) K UW St. 2, Kangani mangrove, 1 male 6.3×11.4 mm (MNHN B32095), big chela outer (top) and inner (bottom) faces.

Distribution. – IWP. Mozambique, Tanzania, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte, Seychelles, Mauritius, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Japan, Philippines, Samoa. The species does not occur in the Red Sea where it is replaced by *Uca (Austruca) albimana* (Kossmann, 1877) (see Naderloo *et al.*, 2010).

Comment. – A small to medium-sized fiddler crab that can be confused with *U. inversa* (see comparison under that species). *Uca annulipes* was very abundant at KUW St. 6. Variation of the shape of male big chela is illustrated in Fig. 35 A, C-D.

***Uca (Cranuca) inversa* (Hoffmann 1874).** Figure 36 – *Uca (Cranuca) inversa* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 18, Mayotte, Malamani mangrove, specimens re-examined for KUW fieldwork, St. J.-M. Bouchard n° 1, 1 male 11.6×20.2 mm, 1 female 6.8×10.7 mm, 1 juvenile (MNHN B32100); St. J.-M. Bouchard n° 1-2, 5 males 6.5×11.6 to 10.8×18.2 mm, 1 juvenile (MNHN B32101); St. J.-M. Bouchard n° P13, P15, sample 13, 9 males 6.5×11.0 to 13.2×22.9 mm, 6 females 5.2×8.5 to 10.7×17.0 mm (MNHN B32104). - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 6, Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway, 3 males 7.8×14.0, 7.8×13.4 mm and 7.4×12.2 mm (MNHN B32102); St. 13, 2 males 6.3×10.3 and 8.3×14.7 mm (MNHN B32103).

Distribution. – WIO. Red Sea and Yemen, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Europa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record).

Comment. – A small to medium-sized fiddler crab that resembles *U. annulipes* collected at same stations. The aspect of the tips of fingers of chelae can be used to tell them apart: the movable finger in *U. inversa* has the same shape at tip than the fixed finger in *U. annulipes* (compare C-D, fig. 35 and 36). Variations in the shape of the big chela are illustrated on Fig. 36 C-D.

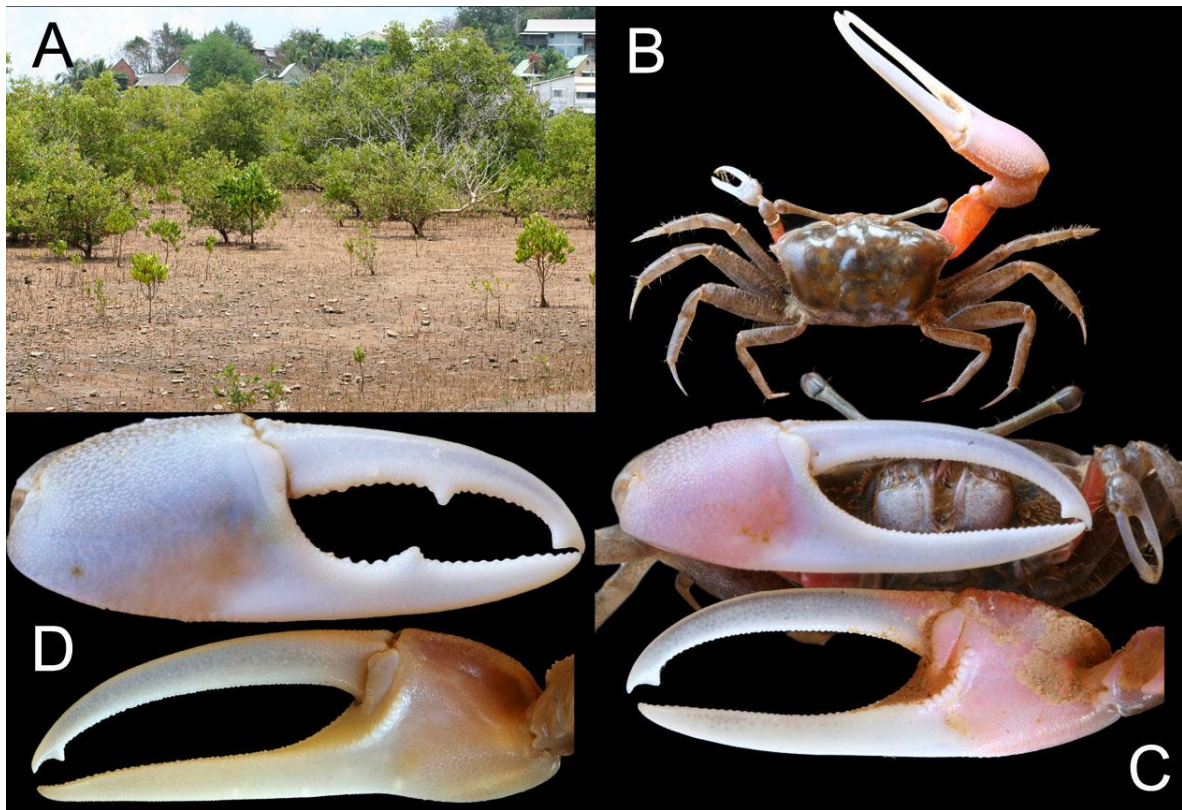


Figure 36. *Uca (Cranuca) inversa*. A) biotope at KUW fieldwork 2009, St. 6, Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway (Station also colonized by *U. annulipes*). B-C) 1 male 7.8×14 mm (MNHN B32102); B) dorsal view, C) aspect of larger right chela, outer and inner faces. D) variation of shape of big chela: top, 1 male about 7×14 mm at St. 6 (MNHN B32102), bottom, 1 male 13.2×22.9 mm at St. 13, Malamani mangrove (MNHN B32104).

Uca (Gelasimus) hesperiae Crane, 1975. Figure 37. – *Uca marioni marioni* (Desmaret, 1823) - Guinot, 1967: 281 (WIO crabs checklist, with Mayotte; in the WIO, *U. marioni* is usually accepted as a junior synonym of *U. hesperiae*). - *Uca (Gelasimus) vocans* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 24, Mayotte, Malamani mangrove, specimens re-examined for K UW fieldwork, St. J.-M. Bouchard P11, sample 12, 1 male 12.2×19.2 mm (MNHN B32105), not *U. vocans* (Linnaeus, 1758), see comment. - K UW fieldwork November 2009, St. 2 Kangani mangrove, 1 male 11.0×16.8 mm, 1 female 12.5×18.3 mm (MNHN B32106), 1 male 11.0×17.3 mm (MNHN B32107), as '*Uca (Gelasimus) aff. vocans*' in Bouchard *et al.*, 2009, photo p. 92.

Distribution. – WIO to Thailand and Malaysia. Red Sea, Mozambique, Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar, Comoros (Grande Comore, Mayotte), Mauritius, Rodriguez, India, Nicobar, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore. Others Indo-Malaysian records must be checked as this species is part of the '*U. vocans* species complex' with six species that can be confounded: *U. borealis* Crane, 1975, *U. dampieri* Crane, 1975, *U. jocelynae* Shih, Naruse & Ng, 2010, *U. neocultrimana* (Bott, 1973), *U. vocans* (Linnaeus, 1758), and *U. vomeris* McNeill, 1920 (see Shih *et al.*, 2010).

Comment. – *Uca hesperiae* is a narrow-fronted fiddler crab with some resemblance with *U. urvillei*, also in Mayotte region. The two can be separated with live coloration and the shape of the big male chela (compare Fig. 37 and 40). *Uca hesperiae* seems to be more tolerant to marine water as it was collected near the coastline at K UW St. 2 while *U. urvillei* was found in mangrove only.

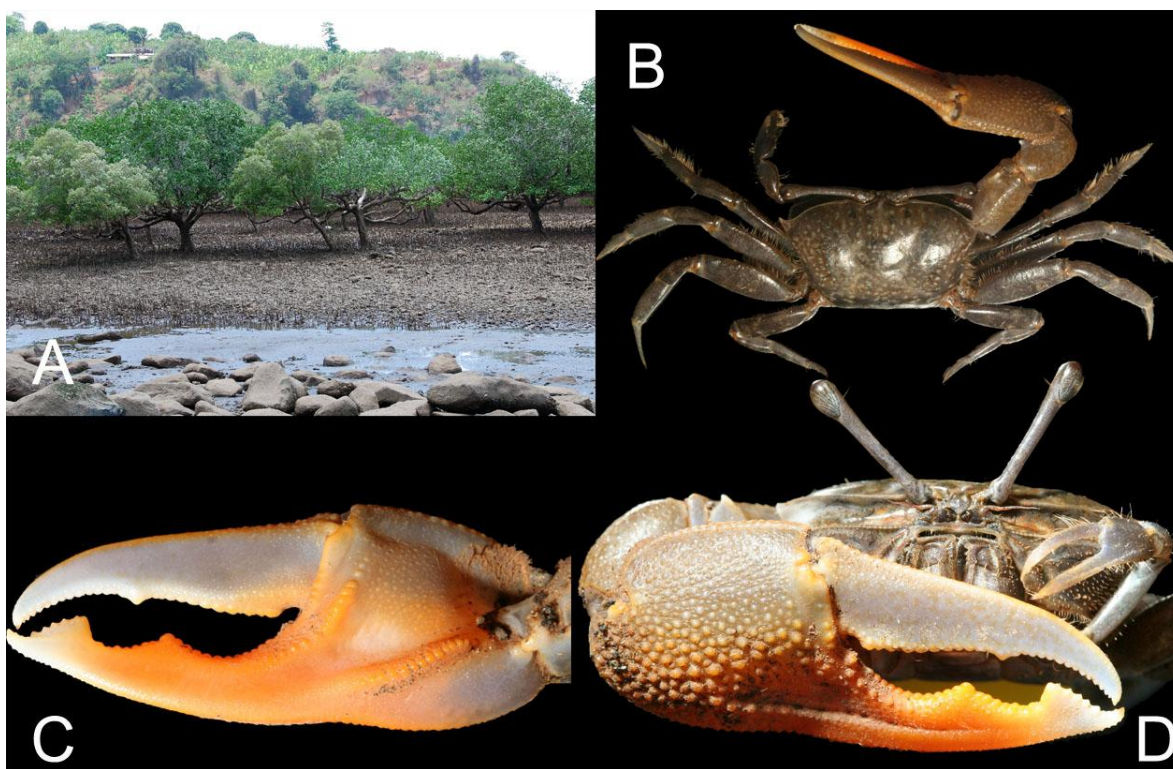


Figure 37. *Uca hesperiae*. A) biotope at K UW fieldwork 2009, St. 2, Kangani Mangrove; 1 male 11.0×17.3 mm (MNHN B32107), B) dorsal view, C) inner face of larger chela, D) same, outer face.

Uca (Gelasimus) tetragonon (Herbst, 1790). Figure 38. – KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 2, Kangani mangrove, 1 male 13.8×20.8 mm, as '*Uca (Gelasimus) cf. tetragonon*' in Bouchard *et al.*, 2009, photo p. 92, 1 female 11.4×17.2, 1 ovigerous female 18.8×26.2 mm (MNHN B32108).

Distribution. – Widespread in the IWP. Red Sea, Iran, Somalia, Tanzania, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), Seychelles, Réunion, Mauritius, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia, Taiwan, Japan, Philippines, Micronesia, Melanesia, Papua New-Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Wallis & Futuna, Tonga, Samoa, Cook, French Polynesia.

Comment. – Medium-sized fiddler crab with a narrow front at base like in *U. urvillei* or *U. hesperiae*. In *Uca tetragonon* the carpus of larger cheliped of the male is rather smooth (Fig. 38 A) while it is granulated in *U. urvillei* and *U. hesperiae*. These three species can be also recognized based on live coloration and shape of the big chela of the male (see Fig. 37, 38 and 40). *Uca tetragonon* can be collected with *U. hesperiae* as in KUW St. 2. It is always located at the vicinity of the coastline and is clearly more 'marine' than *U. urvillei* adapted to brackish water and collected only in the mangrove during this study.



Figure 38. *Uca tetragonon*. St. 2, Kangani Mangrove, 1 male 13.8×20.8 mm (MNHN B32108), A) dorsal view, B) aspect of right chela, outer (top) and inner (bottom) faces.

Uca (Paraleptuca) chlorophthalmus (H. Milne Edwards, 1837). Figure 39. – *Uca chlorophthalmus* - Guinot, 1967: 281 (WIO crabs checklist, with Mayotte, Anjouan and Grande Comore). - *Uca (Tubuca) chlorophthalmus* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 22 Mayotte, Malamani mangrove, specimens re-examined for KUW fieldwork, St. J.-M. Bouchard n° 2, 4 males 8.2×14.0 to 10.8×18.3 mm, 1 female 10.5×17.3 mm (MNHN B32109); St. J.-M. Bouchard n° 3, 1 male 8.5×14.0 mm, 1 female 8.0×13.0 mm (MNHN B32110); St. J.-M. Bouchard n° P35vdi, 1 male 7.4×12.4 mm, 1 ovigerous female 9.3×15.3 mm (MNHN B32111); ?Malamani, 6 females 7.8×13.0 to 9.0×14.7 mm (MNHN B32112); St. J.-M. Bouchard P3, sample 11, 1 male 6.0×10.4 mm (MNHN B32113); St. J.-M. Bouchard n° 1-2, 4 males 6.8×11.3 to 10.8×18.7 mm, 2 females 6.2×10.4 and 9.2×15.0 mm (MNHN B32114); St. J.-M. Bouchard P2, P3, sample 9, 19 males 7.0×11.9 to 11.0×19.2 mm, 4 female 10.3×16.9 to 11.4×18.7 mm (MNHN B32115) - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 13, Malamani mangrove, 15 males 6.7×11.0 to 10.4×17.7 mm, 15 females 5.3×8.8 to 10.0×16.9 mm (MNHN B32116).

Distribution. – WIO. Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Europa, Madagascar, Comoros (Mayotte, Anjouan, Grande Comore), Réunion, Mauritius.

Comment. – A small-sized fiddler crab, collected in abundance at KUW St. 13, Malamani mangrove. On the field the larger males have a remarkable sky blue carapace and bright red ambulatory legs and chelae while juveniles and females are less colorful. The big chela of the male has often a characteristic triangular depression on outer face of palm, at base of the fixed finger (but it is not obvious on Fig. 39 B, top) and a double row of granules on inner face of palm at base of fingers (see Fig. 39 B, bottom). In males the relative length of the fingers of the big chela is variable: fingers are shorter than palm in small specimens but much longer in large specimens. *Uca chlorophthalmus* is closely related to *Uca crassipes* (White, 1847) from Indo-Malaysia and western and central Pacific, a species once considered as a subspecies of *U. chlorophthalmus*. Distinction between the two can be difficult. Based on the geographic distribution all specimens examined for this work have been attributed to *U. chlorophthalmus*. *Uca chlorophthalmus* and *U. crassipes* have a preference for brackish waters and are usually collected in mangroves or rivers mouths, sometimes near colonies of *U. tetragonon* but a little farther from the coastline.

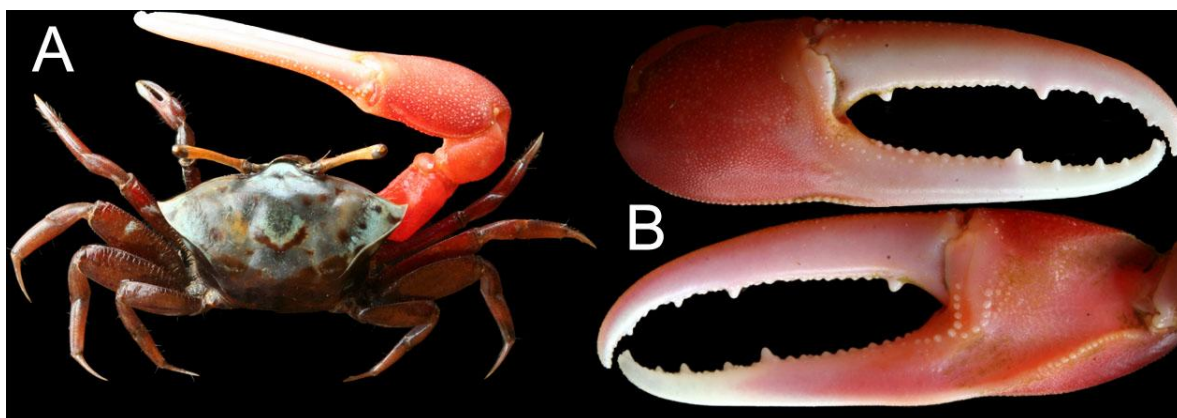


Figure 39. *Uca (Paraleptuca) chlorophthalmus*. KUW St. 13, Malamani mangrove, 1 male 10.4×17.7 mm (MNHN B32116); A) dorsal view; B) aspect of right chela, outer (top) and inner (bottom) faces. Coloration slightly altered by preservation; in fresh specimens carapace can be sky blue and ambulatory legs bright red.

Uca (Tubuca) urvillei (H. Milne Edwards, 1852). Figure 40. – *Uca (Tubuca) urvillei* - Bouchard, 2009: 6, 16 Mayotte, Malamani mangrove, specimens re-examined for KUW fieldwork, St. J.-M. Bouchard 16 April 2008 n° 3, 12°55.415 S, 45°09.275 E, burrow entrances near the stream, 10 males 12.5×22 to 16×28 mm, 2 females 13×22.5 to 13×23.5 mm (MNHN B32089); St. J.-M. Bouchard P11, sample 7, 12 males 9.8×17.0 to 17.5×30.0 mm, 10 females (1 ovigerous) 10.0×17.0 to 17.5×29.0 mm (MNHN B32088); St. J.-M. Bouchard n° 1-2, 1 male 15.2×27.2 mm, 1 female 14.0×23.5 mm (MNHN B32090), 1 female 8.3×13.8 mm (MNHN B32091) - KUW fieldwork November 2009, St. 13, 15 males 12.8×22.0 to 18.8×33.7 mm, 3 females 12.2×20.7 to 14.8×25.0 mm (MNHN B32092).

Distribution. – WIO. Red Sea, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Mayotte (first record), India, Pakistan, Malaysia.

Comment. – A medium-sized narrow-fronted fiddler crab. Males are remarkable by the bright blue coloration of the carapace and the red-yellow coloration of the big chela (Fig. 40 C). Females are duller, overall brown to black. *Uca urvillei* was very abundant in Malamani mangrove with its burrows located near brackish water streams (Fig. 40 A, B). By its coloration and shape of the male big chela, *Uca urvillei* is morphologically related to *Uca (Tubuca) dussumieri* (H. Milne Edwards, 1852) from Indo-Malaysia and western Pacific.



Figure 40. *Uca (Tubuca) urvillei*. A) biotope at KUW fieldwork 2009, St. 13, Malamani mangrove, brackish water stream at low tide; B) Burrow at low tide with entrance protected from flood by a mud-tube; C) Live coloration of 1 male; D) 1 male 18.8×33.3 mm (MNHN B32092), big chela outer (top) and inner face (bottom), coloration slightly altered by preservative.

DISCUSSION

STATISTICS

The distribution by families for the 58 species of this inventory is given in Table 1. The crabs alone account for 42 species (72 %) with predominance of the Grapsoidea (24 species). The 11 shrimps of table 1 are mostly from the inventory made previously in the Comoros by Keith *et al.* (2006) with one record added from Lenz (1910) and *Palaemon debilis* collected again in Malamani mangrove (KUW St. 13). The hermit crabs are limited to coenobitids, including the coconut crab (*Birgus latro*) whose presence is confirmed in the Glorioso. In terms of abundance, the most obvious and ubiquitous species observed during this study are the grapsoid crabs of the genera *Cardisoma* and *Grapsus* and the ocypodoid crabs of the genera *Ocyopode* and *Uca*. In table 2, 25 species (identified in bold) are new records for Mayotte region, some of them being very common in the IWP (e.g. *Coenobita perlatus*, *Geograpsus crinipes*, *Grapsus tenuicrustatus*, *Ocyopode ceratophthalmus*) but not formerly reported from this area before this work.

Table 1 – Land, mangrove and freshwater decapods of Mayotte region
Number of species (n) by main taxa.

Group	Superfamily	Family	n
Shrimps (19 %)			11
	Atyoidea	Atyidae	5
	Palaemonoidea	Palaemonidae	6
Hermit crabs (9 %)			5
	Paguroidea	Coenobitidae	5
Crabs (72 %)			42
	Portunoidea	Portunidae	1
	Eriphioidea	Oziidae	1
	Grapsoidea		24
		Gecarcinidae	1
		Sesamidae	7
		Grapsidae	9
		Varunidae	7
	Ocyopodoidea		16
		Dotillidae	1
		Macrophthalmidae	6
		Ocypodidae	9
Total (100 %)			58

DISTRIBUTION BY BIOTOPES

Table 2 indicates the distribution by biotopes for the 58 species of this inventory, with distinction of six environments: freshwater and estuary; land; mangrove; coastal area with rocks and rubbles; coastal area with sand and mud; and marine for 3 ubiquitous species and 2 marine species included here for taxonomic reasons. ‘Land’ species are sometimes collected not far from the seashore but have an obvious terrestrial affinity, for example, *Cardisoma carnifex*, *Geograpsus crinipes*, *G. grayi* and *Ocypode cordimanus*. Some ubiquitous species are indicated in several biotopes such as ‘Land’ and ‘Mangrove’ (*Neosarmatium meinerti*, *Pseudohelice subquadrata*, *Sesarmops impressus*...) or ‘Land’ and ‘Coastal’ (*Coenobita perlatus*, *C. rugosus*...). Potential biotopes are suggested from data in the literature, such as ‘Marine’ for the paddler crab *Varuna litterata* often reported at sea. In total the species of this inventory are distributed almost equally between ‘Freshwater and estuary’ (16), ‘Land’ (13), ‘Coastal Rock-rubble’ (15) and ‘Coastal sand-mud’ (14), with a slight preeminence for ‘Mangrove’ (22).

Table 2a – Land, mangrove, and freshwater shrimps and hermit crabs from Mayotte region with indication of their biotopes (X = observed; x potential). Species in bold are first records for Mayotte region. Species highlighted in grey are recorded only in WIO; other species have an IWP distribution.

	Species	Freshwater Estuary	Land	Mangrove	Coastal Rock-rubble	Coastal Sand-mud	Marine
Shrimps	<i>Atyoida serrata</i>	X					
	<i>Caridina brachydactyla</i>	X					
	<i>Caridina longirostris</i>	X					
	<i>Caridina serratiostris</i>	X					
	<i>Caridina typus</i>	X					
	<i>Macrobrachium australe</i>	X		X			
	<i>Macrobrachium equidens</i>	X		X			
	<i>Macrobrachium lar</i>	X					
	<i>Macrobrachium lepidactylus</i>	X					
	<i>Palaemon concinnus</i>	X					
	<i>Palaemon debilis</i>	X		X	x	x	x
Hermit crabs	<i>Birgus latro</i>		X				
	<i>Coenobita cavipes</i>		X				
	<i>Coenobita brevimanus</i>		X				
	<i>Coenobita perlatus</i>		X		X	X	
	<i>Coenobita rugosus</i>		X		X	X	

Table 2b – Same as 2a (Crabs).

	Species	Freshwater Estuaries	Land	Mangrove	Coastal Rock-rubble	Coastal Sand-mud	Marine	
Crabs	<i>Cardisoma carnifex</i>		X	X				
	<i>Chaenostoma sinuspersici</i>				X			
	<i>Chaenostoma lisae</i>					X		
	<i>Chiromantes ortmanni</i>			X				
	<i>Dotilla fenestrata</i>					X		
	<i>Epixanthus dentatus</i>			X		x		
	<i>Geograpsus crinipes</i>		X					
	<i>Geograpsus grayi</i>		X					
	<i>Grapsus fourmanoiri</i>			X	X			
	<i>Grapsus tenuicrustatus</i>				X			
	<i>Macrophthalmus depressus</i>			X				
	<i>Macrophthalmus grandidieri</i>					X		
	<i>Macrophthalmus telescopicus</i>						X	
	<i>Metasesarma obesum</i>		X		X			
	<i>Metopograpsus messor</i>				x	X		
	<i>Metopograpsus thukuhar</i>	x			x	X	x	
	<i>Neosarmatium meinerti</i>		X	X				
	<i>Neosarmatium smithii</i>			X				
	<i>Ocypode ceratophthalmus</i>						X	
	<i>Ocypode cordimanus</i>		X					
	<i>Ocypode pauliani</i>						X	
	<i>Pachygrapsus minutus</i>					X		
	<i>Pachygrapsus planifrons</i>					X		
	<i>Pachygrapsus plicatus</i>					X		
	<i>Parasesarma leptosoma</i>				X			
	<i>Perisesarma guttatum</i>				X			
	<i>Pseudograpsus albus</i>					X	X	
	<i>Pseudohelice subquadrata</i>		X	X				
	<i>Ptychognathus barbatus</i>	X						
	<i>Ptychognathus johannae</i>	X						
	<i>Ptychognathus pusillus</i>	X						
	<i>Scylla serrata</i>				X		x	x
	<i>Sesarmops impressus</i>		X	X				
	<i>Thalassograpsus harpax</i>					X		
	<i>Uca annulipes</i>				X			
	<i>Uca chlorophthalmus</i>				X			
	<i>Uca hesperiae</i>				X		X	
	<i>Uca inversa</i>				X			
	<i>Uca tetragonon</i>						X	
	<i>Uca urvillei</i>				X			
<i>Varuna litterata</i>	X				X		x	
<i>Venitus latreillei</i>							X	

This dominance of mangrove species in table 2 can be explained by two visits made at Malamani mangrove, one during KUW fieldwork (St. 13) and one during a previous sampling event made in 2008-2009 by the first author of this study with his results (Bouchard, 2009) included in this study. Figure 41 gives a schematic spatial distribution of the crabs species collected in Malamani mangrove. Crabs such as *Cardisoma carnifex*, *Neosarmatium meinerti*, *Pseudohelice subquadrata*, and *Sesarmops impressus* are found on the land side in cultivated areas and/or muddy soils planted with trees like *Erythrina fusca*, *Heritiera littoralis* and *Avicennia marina*. *Chiromantes ortmanni*, *Neosarmatium smithii*, *Parasesarma leptosoma*, *Perisesarma guttatum*, and *Scylla serrata* are found in the middle of the mangrove, associated with trees like *Ceriops tagal* and *Rhizophora mucronata*. Two bare mudflats were colonized by *Uca spp.* and *Macrophthalmus depressus*. Three *Uca* species, *U. annulipes*, *U. chlorophthalmus*, and *U. inversa* were also collected in the upper part of the mangrove, associated with *Avicennia marina*, *Ceriops tagal*, or *Heritiera littoralis* trees. In her thesis on bioremediation ability of Malamani mangrove for pre-treated domestic wastewaters, Herteman (2010) indicates a maximum density of the crabs in the mangrove of 13.9 individuals/m² under *Ceriops tagal* trees and 16.5 individuals/m² on open mudflats. She also indicates that they play a major ecological role in biogeochemical processes.

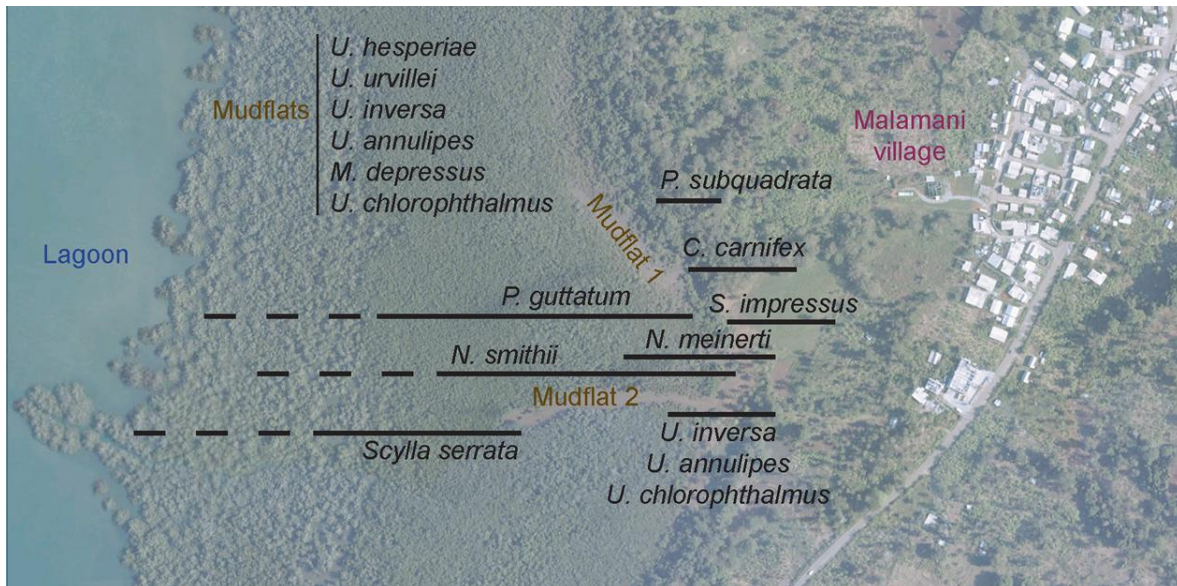


Figure 41. Schematic distribution of the crabs collected at Malamani mangrove. Adapted from Bouchard (2009) and KUW fieldwork data (St. 13). Dashed lines indicate places that were not sampled.

BIOGEOGRAPHY

All the species reported in this work are widespread in the IWP although several of them are rarely reported because of discrete nocturnal behavior. Nonetheless, this first inventory of Mayotte region reports 25 new records for the area, indicated in bold in table 2.

A total of 44 species (78 %) have an IWP distribution and are reported between the eastern coast of Africa to French Polynesia and Hawaii. Although none of them reach the American coasts, three are reported in the eastern Pacific in Clipperton atoll and/or Revillagigedo Islands (*Ocypode ceratophthalmus*, *Pachygrapsus minutus*, *P. planifrons*). The 14 remaining species, highlighted in grey in Table 2, are only reported in the WIO. There is perhaps one endemic species for Mayotte region, *Ptychognathus johannae*, but this must be confirmed with an upcoming taxonomic revision for this genus by Ng. N.-K. The small-sized sentinel crab *Chaenostoma lisae* (Poupin & Bouchard, 2010) described from specimens collected during this fieldwork has been recently recognized in New-Caledonia (R. Naderloo pers. com. with forthcoming publication; see under *C. lisae* and Fig. 29 D).

It is particularly interesting to compare this inventory for Mayotte region with inventories made previously in the Seychelles. The western islands of this archipelago (Aldabra, Assumption, Cosmoledo, and Astove Islands; see Fig. 2) are situated at about 350 km in the North East of Mayotte, and the distance between the Glorioso and Astove Island is only 160 km. Comparative data for the Seychelles have been obtained in Fransen (1994), Marquet & Keith (2008), and Keith *et al.* (2006) for freshwater shrimps, and Haig (1984) for land hermit crabs and crabs, supplemented by a few additional studies for intertidal species such as *Metopograpsus* and *Pachygrapsus*.

The number of species for combined Comoros Is., Mayotte, Glorioso, and Seychelles is 66. Thirty four (52 %) are common between the two regions, 22 (33 %) are reported only in Mayotte region, and 10 (15 %) are reported only in the Seychelles (Fig. 42). Detailed comparison between the two regions is presented in appendix 2, table 3, with a short synthesis here.

Out of 12 shrimps, 8 are common between the two regions (Appendix 2, table 3.1). *Macrobrachium idae* (Heller, 1862) is still not recorded in Mayotte region. Because of its IWP distribution and records already reported in Madagascar and the Seychelles it could perhaps be found in the rivers of Mayotte region in the future. *Macrobrachium lepidactylus* (Hilgendorf, 1879) is confined to WIO with eastern limit to Mayotte, Madagascar, Réunion and Mauritius and, apparently, has not colonized the Seychelles. One species, *Caridina similis* Bouvier, 1904, is considered as endemic to the Seychelles (see Marquet & Keith, 2008).

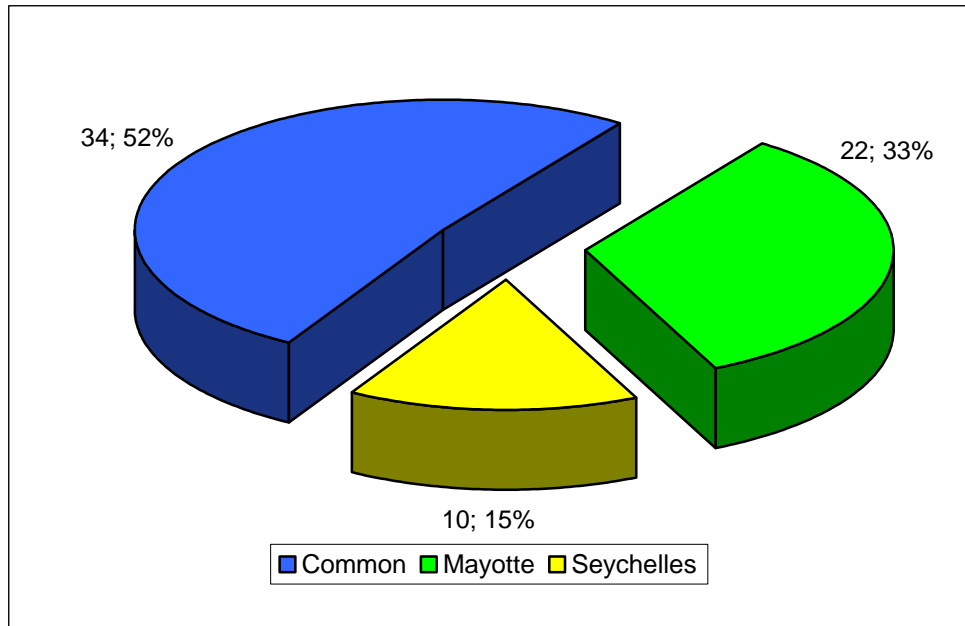


Figure 42. Comparison between land, freshwater and mangrove decapods in Mayotte region (Mayotte) and the Seychelles. The total number of species is 66. In blue, species common between the two regions (34); in green, species reported only in Mayotte region (22); in yellow, species from Seychelles only (10).

The coenobitids of this inventory are widespread in the IWP and are therefore logically present in both regions (Appendix 2, table 3.2). The present of the coconut crab is confirmed for this study in the Glorioso Islands and also in the Mozambique channel at Juan de Nova (see under *Birgus latro*) but this species is probably extinct in eastern Africa and perhaps also in Madagascar.

On a total of 31 grapsoid crabs (Appendix 2, table 3.3), 14 are widespread in the IWP and found in both regions. Four still recorded only in the Seychelles have a wide IWP geographic distribution and could therefore be potentially present in Mayotte region: *Discoplax rotunda* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1824), *Geograpsus stormi* De Man, 1895, *Parasesarma plicatum* (Latreille, 1803), and *Sesarmoides longipes* (Krauss, 1843). In contrast, seven IWP species from Mayotte region still not reported in the Seychelles could be potentially present there (see in table 3.3 as ‘Potential for Seychelles’). The freshwater crab *Ptychognathus johanna*e Rathbun, 1914 is perhaps endemic to the Comoros Islands while *Seychellum alluaudi* (A. Milne-Edwards & Bouvier, 1893) is endemic to the Seychelles (see Ng *et al.*, 1995).

For the crabs Ocypodoidea comparison between the two regions (Appendix 2, table 3.4) shows that *Macrophthalmus (Macrophthalmus) parvimanus* Guérin, 1834, widely distributed in the IWP, including eastern Africa, Madagascar, Réunion, Seychelles, is potentially also present in Mayotte region. On the opposite, 8 additional species could be reported in the Seychelles in the future (see in table 3.4 as ‘Potential for Seychelles’).

In conclusion this comparison with the Seychelles Islands shows that at least 6 additional IWP species, probably still not reported in Mayotte region because of the vagaries of collections, could be added to the regional fauna in the future: *Discoplax rotunda*, *Geograpsus stormi*, *Macrobrachium idae*, *Macrophthalmus parvimanus*, *Parasesarma plicatum*, and *Sesarmoides longipes*.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Financial support for this study has been obtained from the Direction de l'Agriculture et de la Forêt of Mayotte (DAF) and Total Foundation. Supplementary assistance for this research has been given by the Institut de Recherche de l'École Navale, Brest (IRENav) and the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN). A few photographs have been obtained through the courtesy of collaborators: Matthias Deuss, François Fromard, Philippe Keith, Jean Hivert, Erwan Lagadec, Karen McCoy, Jean-Benoit Nicet, Ngan Kee Ng, and Georges Pérez. The draft manuscript has been improved by suggestions and literature kindly transmitted by Peter K. L. Ng and Michael Türkay.

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APPENDIXES

1. STATION LIST

A total of 35 stations, some of them visited several times, have been made during the KUW 2009 fieldwork. Only 16 were dedicated to land, coastal or mangrove fauna, indicated by bold numbers in this list. The other stations are for the marine fauna that will be published separately. For each stations the following sequence is used: Station number; Date; Time; Place; Latitude (S); Longitude (E); Depth (m); Collector(s); Technique; Remarks. A map of these stations is given in figure 3 with a 'Google Map' also available on Internet [1].

- 1; 01/11/2009; 21h-22h; Trévani Beach; 12°43'50.45"S; 45°11'39.66"E; 0 m; J. Dumas, J. Poupin, R. Cleva; Littoral investigation; Low tide, sandy-muddy bottoms.
- 2; 02/11/2009; 09h-11h; Littoral, from Trévani to Kangani Mangrove; 12°43'40.97"S; 45°11'19.93"E; 0 m; J. Poupin, R. Cleva; Littoral investigation; Low tide, sandy-muddy coast, mangrove, river mouth.
- 3a; 02/11/2009; 09h-11h; Trévani fringing reef; 12°43'43.19"S; 45°11'43.97"E; 1-8 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut; Snorkeling and scuba diving; Coral grounds with sandy-muddy flats.
- 3b; 02/11/2009; 19h-21h; Trévani fringing reef at night; 12°43'43.19"S; 45°11'43.97"E; 1-8 m; J. Dumas; Snorkeling and scuba diving; Coral grounds at night.
- 4; 02/11/2009; 14h-16h; La Prévoyante reef; 12°41'33.84"S; 45°10'0.24"E; 6-10 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut; Scuba diving; Corals and blocks of dead corals.
- 5; 03/11/2009; 10h-13h; Great north east reef, seagrass bed; 12°41'58.01"S; 45°14'4.31"E; 1 m; J.-M. Bouchard, R. Cleva, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut, J. Poupin; Snorkeling and small dredge; Seagrass beds, small coral blocks.
- 6**; 04/11/2009; 11h-14h; Petite Terre, Badamiers spillway; 12°46'58.65"S; 45°15'44.67"E; 0-3 m; J.-M. Bouchard, R. Cleva, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut, J. Poupin; Snorkeling and littoral; Mangrove area, with mudflats and coral slabs.
- 7; 3-4/11/09; 0-24h; Kongo cardinal buoy; 12°43'57.33"S; 45°13'44.62"E; 32 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut; Traps; Bottom under the buoy, coral boulders and mudflats.
- 8; 04/11/2009; 15h30-17h30; Lagoon close to Great north-eastern reef; 12°41'58.41"S; 45°13'11.47"E; 6-8 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Sandy bottom, coral boulders.
- 9; 05/11/2009; 10h30-13h; S shaped pass; 12°51'14.06"S; 45°15'56.05"E; 0-20 m; J.-M. Bouchard, R. Cleva, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut, J. Poupin; Snorkeling and littoral; submerged seagrass beds.

- 10**; 05/11/2009; 14H30-15H30; islet Quatre Frères (Vatou), east; 12°46'25.71"S; 45°15'36.35"E; 0 m; J.-M. Bouchard, R. Cleva, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut, J. Poupin; Littoral investigation at rising tide.
- 11; 05/11/2009; 16h-16h30; Kongo portside buoy, east; 12°43'42.12"S; 45°14'8.07"E; 1-4 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Brushing on the chain under the buoy.
- 12a; 06/11/2009; 10h-12h30; La Prévoyante reef; 12°41'34.70"S; 45° 9'59.99"E; 6-11 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving, sediment suction pump; *Acropora* coral grounds
- 12b; 06/11/2009; 19h-22h; La Prévoyante reef at night; 12°41'34.70"S; 45° 9'59.99"E; 6-12 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Coral grounds at night
- 12c; 10/11/2009; 20h30-22h30; La Prévoyante reef at night; 12°41'34.70"S; 45° 9'59.99"E; 6-12 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Coral grounds at night.
- 13**; 07/11/2009; 11-14h30; Malamani mangrove; 12°55'22.08"S; 45° 9'22.08"E; 0 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Poupin, R. Cleva, J. Dumas; Mangrove investigation, hand and nets; Mangrove mudflats
- 14; 09/11/2009; 10h-12h; La Prudente bank; 12°38'50.68"S; 44°58'41.93"E; 15-17 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving, sediment suction pump; Sandy bottom, coral boulders.
- 15; 09/11/2009; 10h-12h; islet Mtsamboro, beach of the north-eastern tip; 12°38'47.34"S; 45° 2'23.70"E; 0-3 m; J. Poupin, R. Cleva; Snorkeling and littoral; Reef flat and shallow waters with sand bottoms.
- 16**; 8-9/11/09; 0-24h; Longoni Bay; 12°43'12.85"S; 45° 8'10.42"E; 2 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut; Traps; Muddy grounds in front of Mangrove.
- 17; 10/11/2009; 11h-14h; North reef; 12°34'49.93"S; 45° 5'52.62"E; 22 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving, sediment suction pump; Outer reef, sandy bottoms, coral boulders.
- 18; 11/11/2009; 10h-12h; Off S shaped pass, 50 m terrace; 12°52'37.08"S; 45°16'55.26"E; 62 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Edge of 50/60 m terrace, with gorgonians.
- 19; 11/11/2009; 15h-17h; islet Handrema, north; 12°40'21.00"S; 45° 6'49.92"E; 6-10 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving, sediment suction pump; Fringing reef and outer slope, coral grounds.
- 20a**; 12/11/2009; 9h-12h; islet M'tzamboro, north-eastern beach; 12°39'6.76"S; 45°1'45.87"E; 0-1 m; J. Poupin, R. Cleva, Brice; Littoral investigation; Low tide, fringing reef and shallow waters.
- 20b; 12/11/2009; 9h-12h; islet M'tzamboro, west reef flat; 12°39'30.18"S; 45° 0'42.76"E; 10-15 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Collapsed edge reef, sandy slope pronounced.

- 21a**; 12/11/2009; 14h-15h30; islet Choizil, east, Malandzamiayatsini; 12°40'34.46"S; 45°3'34.91"E; 0 m; J. Poupin, R. Cleva, Brice; Littoral investigation; Littoral at high tide.
- 21b; 12/11/2009; 14h-15h30; islet Choizil, east, Malandzamiayatsini; 12°40'22.74"S; 45°3'47.46"E; 15-20 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Fringing reef and outer slope.
- 22; 12-13/11/2009; 0-24h; islet Choizil, west, Malandzamiayajou; 12°40'14.34"S; 45°2'42.66"E; 30-35 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut; Traps; 300 m far from Choizil islet, sand and coral boulders.
- 23; 13/11/09; 11h-13h; Choizil pass "Patate à Teddy"; 12°40'56.91"S; 44°57'51.63"E; 15-30 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Collapsed edge reef.
- 24; 13/11/09; 21h-22h30; islet Handrema, north; 12°40'18.93"S; 45°6'47.22"E; 6-12 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Fringing reef and coral slope along channel.
- 25; 14/11/09; 10h-11h30; islet M'tzamboro, southern tip; 12°39'30.18"S; 45°1'38.65"E; 15-20 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Coral slope with boulders.
- 26**; 16/11/09; 10h-11h30; Mutsumbatsou reef flat; 12°45'15.60"S; 45°2'49.86"E; 0 m; J.-M. Bouchard, R. Cleva, J. Dumas, V. Dinhut, J. Poupin; Littoral investigation; Low tide, reef flat and seagrass beds
- 27; 17/11/09; 10h-12h; islet Mbouzi, coral boulder, south-eastern; 12°48'55.86"S; 45°14'23.21"E; 4-20 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Silted coral pinnacles.
- 28; 17/11/09; 14h-15h30; islet Mbouini, east; 13°0'27.42"S; 45°8'16.96"E; 3-20 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; High tide, fringing reef and slope.
- 29**; 18/11/09; 11h-12h30; Ngouja hotel, Mboianatsa beach; 12°57'42.60"S; 45°5'1.30"E; 0 m; J.-M. Bouchard, J. Dumas; Littoral investigation; Low tide, beach and rocky shores.
- 30; 18/11/09; 14h30-16h; Rani reef, double barrier; 12°56'34.23"S; 45°3'20.75"E; 3-15 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving, traps; Outer slope of reef.
- 31**; 19/11/09; 11h-13h; Brandélé 'Musical beach'; 12°55'1.60"S; 45°11'12.43"E; 0 m; J. Poupin, R. Cleva; Littoral investigation; Littoral at low tide.
- 32; 19/11/09; 10h30-12h00; islet M'tzamboro, north-eastern; 12°38'9.54"S; 45°2'27.12"E; 6-21 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; *Acropora* coral boulders.
- 33; 19/11/09; 14H30-16H30; Seaside of Longoni pass; 12°36'50.76"S; 45°8'58.25"E; 25 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Outer reef, gentle slope.
- 34; 20/11/09; 14h-15h30; "Préfet" beach; 12°39'47.28"S; 45°5'25.02"E; 2-8 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Reef flat.

35; 20/11/09; 10h-12h; Surprise reef, Longoni pass; 12°38'29.95"S; 45° 7'45.99"E; 4-25 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut, J. Dumas; Scuba diving; Outer reef slope.

Few additional stations, listed below, were sampled before the KUW 2009 fieldwork, most of them by first author of this paper in 2007-2009.

1b; 01/07/09; Daytime; Trévani Beach; 12°43'50.45"S; 45°11'39.66"E; 1 m; J.-M. Bouchard; Littoral investigation; Sandy-muddy bottom.

9b; 01/07/09; Daytime; S shaped pass; 12°51'14.06"S; 45°15'56.05"E; 1 m; J.-M. Bouchard; Littoral investigation; Reef flat.

13b; 08/10/08; 8h00/15h00; Malamani mangrove; 12°55'22.08"S; 45° 9'22.08"E; 0 m; J.-M. Bouchard; Mangrove investigation; under mangrove trees and on mudflats.

13c; 01/07/09; Daytime; Malamani mangrove; 12°55'22.08"S; 45° 9'22.08"E; 0 m; J.-M. Bouchard; Mangrove investigation; Mudflats.

26b; 01/07/09; Daytime; Mutsumbatsou reef flat; 12°45'15.60"S; 45° 2'49.86"E; 0 m; V. Dinhut; Littoral investigation, snorkeling; Seagrass bed.

26c; 03/08/08; 10h00-12h30; Mutsumbatsou reef flat; 12°45'15.60"S; 45° 2'49.86"E; 0 m; J.-M. Bouchard; Littoral investigation; Reef flat.

36; 11/11/08; 14h; Salizé south buoy; 12°59'54.60"; 45°11'49.20"E; 2 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut; Scuba diving; Under a buoy, on its chain.

37; 10/09/07; 10h30; islet Mbouzi, south-eastern boulder; 12°49'9.57"S; 45°14'32.54"E; 3 m; J.-M. Bouchard; Scuba diving; On coral *Antipathes dicotoma*.

38; 24/07/08; 10h00-11h30; Chiconi/Sada bay, south-western; 12°50'25.62"S; 45° 6'39.87"E; 0 m; J.-M. Bouchard, V. Dinhut; Littoral investigation; Low tide, beach and rocky tip.

39; 01/07/09; Daytime; Sohoa beach; 12°49'1.84"S; 45° 6'18.26"E; 0-1 m; V. Dinhut; Littoral investigation; Sandy-muddy beach.

2. COMPARISON WITH THE SEYCHELLES

Table 3.1 – Comparison of land, mangrove and freshwater decapods in Mayotte region (Mayotte, Comoros, Glorioso) and the Seychelles. Shrimps and hermit crabs species. Presence of the species is indicated by a 'X'. Species in both region are in the first column (Common). WIO, Western Indian Ocean; IWP, Indo-West Pacific. Data for Mayotte region are from this study; those from Seychelles are from Fransen (1994), Marquet & Keith (2008) and Keith *et al.* (2006).

Shrimps species	Common	Mayotte	Seychelles	Total	Distribution - Remarks
<i>Atyoida serrata</i> (Bate, 1888)	X				WIO
<i>Caridina brachydactyla</i> De Man, 1908		X			IWP
<i>Caridina longirostris</i> H. Milne Edwards, 1837	X				IWP
<i>Caridina serratiostris</i> De Man, 1892	X				IWP
<i>Caridina similis</i> Bouvier, 1904			X		Seychelles endemic (cf. Marquet & Keith, 2008)
<i>Caridina typus</i> H. Milne Edwards, 1837	X				IWP
<i>Macrobrachium australe</i> (Guérin-Méneville, 1838)		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Macrobrachium equidens</i> (Dana, 1852)	X				IWP
<i>Macrobrachium idae</i> (Heller, 1862)			X		IWP, including Madagascar but not Africa. Potential for Mayotte
<i>Macrobrachium lar</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	X				IWP
<i>Macrobrachium lepidactylus</i> (Hilgendorf, 1879)		X			WIO but not Seychelles
<i>Palaemon concinnus</i> Dana, 1852	X				IWP
<i>Palaemon debilis</i> Dana, 1852	X				IWP
Total Shrimps	8	3	2	13	

Table 3.2 – Same. Hermit crabs. Seychelles records are from Haig (1984).

Hermit crabs species	Common	Mayotte	Seychelles	Total	Distribution - Remarks
<i>Birgus latro</i> (Linnaeus, 1767)	X				IWP
<i>Coenobita brevipennis</i> Dana, 1852	X				IWP
<i>Coenobita cavipes</i> Stimpson, 1858	X				IWP
<i>Coenobita perlatus</i> H. Milne Edwards, 1837	X				IWP
<i>Coenobita rugosus</i> H. Milne Edwards, 1837	X				IWP
Total Hermit crabs	5			5	

Table 3.3 – Same. Crabs Grapsoidea. Seychelles records mostly from Haig (1984).

Crab species (Grapsoidea)	Common	Mayotte	Seychelles	Total	Distribution - Remarks
<i>Cardisoma carnifex</i> (Herbst, 1796)	X				IWP
<i>Chiromantes ortmanni</i> (Crosnier, 1965)		X			WIO - Eastern limit Mayotte and Madagascar.
<i>Discoplax rotunda</i> (Quoy & Gaimard, 1824)			X		IWP. Potential for Mayotte
<i>Geograpsus crinipes</i> (Dana, 1851)	X				IWP
<i>Geograpsus grayi</i> (H. Milne Edwards, 1853)	X				IWP
<i>Geograpsus stormi</i> De Man, 1895			X		IWP. Potential for Mayotte.
<i>Grapsus (Pachysoma) intermedius</i> De Haan, 1835			X		IWP but only Seychelles in Indian Ocean
<i>Grapsus fourmanoiri</i> Crosnier, 1965	X				WIO.
<i>Grapsus tenuicrustatus</i> (Herbst, 1783)	X				IWP
<i>Metasesarma obesum</i> (Dana, 1851)		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Metopograpsus messor</i> (Forskål, 1775)	X				IWP
<i>Metopograpsus thukuhar</i> (Owen, 1839)	X				IWP
<i>Neosarmatium laeve</i> (A. Milne-Edwards, 1869)			X		Indonesia, Philippines. Only Seychelles in WIO
<i>Neosarmatium meinerti</i> (De Man, 1887)	X				WIO, see footnote (5)
<i>Neosarmatium smithii</i> (H. Milne Edwards, 1853)	X				IWP
<i>Pachygrapsus minutus</i> A. Milne-Edwards, 1873		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Pachygrapsus planifrons</i> De Man, 1888	X				IWP
<i>Pachygrapsus plicatus</i> (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)	X				IWP
<i>Parasesarma leptosoma</i> (Hilgendorf, 1869)		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Parasesarma plicatum</i> (Latreille, 1803)			X		IWP. Potential for Mayotte
<i>Perisesarma guttatum</i> (A. Milne-Edwards, 1869)		X			WIO. Eastern limit Madagascar, Mayotte.
<i>Pseudohelice subquadrata</i> (Dana, 1851)	X				IWP
<i>Pseudograpsus albus</i> Stimpson, 1858		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Ptychognathus barbatus</i> (A. M.-Edwards, 1873)		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Ptychognathus johannae</i> Rathbun, 1914		X			Taxonomic status in review (Ng N.-K.). ?Endemic of Comoros
<i>Ptychognathus pusillus</i> Heller, 1865		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Sesarmops impressus</i> (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)	X				IWP
<i>Sesarmoides longipes</i> (Krauss, 1843)			X		WIO. Potential for Mayotte
<i>Seychellum alluaudi</i> (A. Milne-Edwards & Bouvier, 1893)			X		Seychelles endemic (rivers)
<i>Thalassograpsus harpax</i> (Hilgendorf, 1892)		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Varuna litterata</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	X				IWP
Total Grapsoidea	14	10	7	31	

⁵ Seychelles population of *Neosarmatium meinerti* is genetically distinct from African mainland; see Ragioneri *et al.* (2010), and previous comment under *Neosarmatium meinerti*.

Table 3.4 – Same. Crabs Ocypodoidea and others groups. Seychelles records mostly from Haig (1984).

Crab species (Ocypodoidea)	Common	Mayotte	Seychelles	Total	Distribution - Remarks
<i>Chaenostoma sinuspersici</i> (Naderloo & Türkay, 2010)		X			IWP - as <i>Macrophthalmus boscii</i> Audouin, 1826
<i>Chaenostoma lisae</i> (Poupin & Bouchard, 2010)		X			Mayotte and New Caledonia. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Dotilla fenestrata</i> Hilgendorf, 1869		X			WIO. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Macrophthalmus (Macrophthalmus) parvimanus</i> Guérin, 1834			X		IWP. Potential for Mayotte
<i>Macrophthalmus (Macrophthalmus) grandidieri</i> A. Milne-Edwards, 1867		X			WIO. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Macrophthalmus (Mareotis) depressus</i> Rüppel, 1830		X			WIO. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Ocypode ceratophthalmus</i> (Pallas, 1772)	X				IWP
<i>Ocypode cordimanus</i> Latreille, 1818	X				IWP
<i>Ocypode pauliani</i> Crosnier, 1965		X			Mayotte, Madagascar. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Uca (Cranuca) inversa</i> (Hoffmann, 1874)		X			WIO. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Uca (Gelasimus) tetragonon</i> (Herbst, 1790)	X				IWP
<i>Uca (Gelasimus) hesperiae</i> Crane, 1975		X			IWP. Potential for Seychelles
<i>Uca (Austruca) annulipes</i> (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)	X				IWP
<i>Uca (Paraleptuca) chlorophthalmus</i> (H. Milne Edwards, 1837)	X				WIO
<i>Uca (Tubuca) urvillei</i> (H. Milne Edwards, 1852)		X			WIO. Potential for Seychelles
Total Ocypodoidea	5	9	1	15	
Crab species (others)	Common	Mayotte	Seychelles	Total	Distribution - Remarks
<i>Epixanthus dentatus</i> (White, 1847)	X				IWP
<i>Scylla serrata</i> (Forskål, 1775)	X				IWP
Total others crabs	2	0	0	2	

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<i>brachydactyla</i>	9	<i>feriata</i> , <i>Charybdis</i>	15
<i>gracilipes</i>	8	<i>foresti</i> , <i>Thalamita</i>	15
<i>longirostris</i>	9	<i>fourmanoiri</i> , <i>Grapsus</i>	25
<i>serratirostris</i>	9	<i>frontalis</i> , <i>Epixanthus</i>	14
<i>sumatrensis</i>	8	GECARCINIDAE	17
<i>typus</i>	9	<i>Geograpsus</i>	
<i>carnifex</i> , <i>Cardisoma</i>	17	<i>crinipes</i>	25
<i>cavipes</i> , <i>Coenobita</i>	12	<i>grayi</i>	25
<i>ceratophthalmus</i> , <i>Ocypode</i>	39	<i>stormi</i>	53
<i>Chaenostoma</i>		<i>Geosesarma noduliferum</i>	24
<i>boscii</i>	36	<i>gracilipes</i> , <i>Caridina</i>	8
<i>lisae</i>	35	<i>grandidieri</i> , <i>Macrophthalmus</i>	37
<i>sinuspersici</i>	36	GRAPSIDAE.....	25
<i>Charybdis</i>		<i>Grapsus</i>	
<i>anisodon</i>	15	<i>fourmanoiri</i>	25
<i>feriata</i>	15	<i>tenuicrustatus</i>	25
<i>hellerii</i>	15	<i>grayi</i> , <i>Geograpsus</i>	25
<i>Chiromantes ortmanni</i>	18	<i>guttatum</i> , <i>Perisesarma</i>	23
<i>chlorophthalmus</i> , <i>Uca</i>	45	<i>harpax</i> , <i>Thalassograpsus</i>	32
<i>Clibanarius longitarsus</i>	11	<i>Helice leachii</i>	30
<i>Coenobita</i>		<i>hellerii</i> , <i>Charybdis</i>	15
<i>brevimanus</i>	12	<i>hesperiae</i> , <i>Uca</i>	43
<i>cavipes</i>	12	<i>idae</i> , <i>Macrobrachium</i>	53
<i>perlatus</i>	13	<i>impressus</i> , <i>Sesarmops</i>	24
<i>rugosus</i>	14	<i>inversa</i> , <i>Uca</i>	42
COENOBITIDAE	11	<i>jocelynae</i> , <i>Uca</i>	43
<i>concinus</i> , <i>Palaemon</i>	10	<i>johannae</i> , <i>Ptychognathus</i>	31
<i>cordimanus</i> , <i>Ocypode</i>	40	<i>kuhlii</i> , <i>Ocypode</i>	41
<i>corrosus</i> , <i>Epixanthus</i>	14	<i>lar</i> , <i>Macrobrachium</i>	10
<i>crassipes</i> , <i>Uca</i>	45		

<i>latreillei</i>	
<i>Macrophthalmus</i>	38
<i>Venitus</i>	38
<i>latro</i> , <i>Birgus</i>	12
<i>leachii</i> , <i>Helice</i>	30
<i>lepidactylus</i> , <i>Macrobrachium</i>	10
<i>leptosoma</i> , <i>Parasesarma</i>	22
<i>lisae</i>	
<i>Chaenostoma</i>	35
<i>Macrophthalmus</i>	35
<i>litterata</i> , <i>Varuna</i>	32
<i>lividum</i> , <i>Perisesarma</i>	23
<i>longipes</i> , <i>Sesarmoides</i>	53
<i>longirostris</i> , <i>Caridina</i>	9
<i>longitarsus</i> , <i>Clibanarius</i>	11
<i>Macrobrachium</i>	
<i>australe</i>	9
<i>equidens</i>	9
<i>idae</i>	53
<i>lar</i> 10	
<i>lepidactylus</i>	10
Macrophthalmidae	35
<i>Macrophthalmus</i>	
<i>boscii</i>	36
<i>depressus</i>	38
<i>grandidieri</i>	37
<i>latreillei</i>	38
<i>lisae</i>	35
<i>parvimanus</i>	37, 53
<i>telescopicus</i>	37
<i>verreauxi</i>	37
<i>marioni</i> , <i>Uca</i>	43
<i>mayottensis</i> , <i>Palaemon</i>	10
<i>meinerti</i> , <i>Neosarmatium</i>	19
<i>messor</i> , <i>Metopograpsus</i>	27
<i>Metasesarma</i>	
<i>obesum</i>	19
<i>rousseauxi</i>	19
<i>Metopograpsus</i>	
<i>messor</i>	27
<i>thukuhar</i>	27
<i>minutus</i> , <i>Pachygrapsus</i>	28
<i>neocultrimana</i> , <i>Uca</i>	43
<i>Neosarmatium</i>	
<i>africanum</i>	20
<i>meinerti</i>	19
<i>smithii</i>	21
<i>noduliferum</i> , <i>Geosesarma</i>	24
<i>obesum</i> , <i>Metasesarma</i>	19
<i>Ocypode</i>	
<i>ceratophthalmus</i>	39
<i>cordimanus</i>	40
<i>kuhlii</i>	41
<i>pallidula</i>	40
<i>pauliani</i>	41
<i>saratan</i>	40
OCYPODIDAE	39
<i>ortmanni</i> , <i>Chiromantes</i>	18
OZIIDAE	14
<i>Pachygrapsus</i>	
<i>minutus</i>	28
<i>planifrons</i>	28
<i>plicatus</i>	29
<i>Palaemon</i>	
<i>concinus</i>	10
<i>debilis</i>	10
<i>mayottensis</i>	10
PALAEMONIDAE	9
<i>pallidula</i> , <i>Ocypode</i>	40
<i>Parasesarma</i>	
<i>leptosoma</i>	22
<i>plicatum</i>	22, 53
<i>parvimanus</i> , <i>Macrophthalmus</i>	37, 53
<i>pauliani</i> , <i>Ocypode</i>	41
<i>Perisesarma</i>	
<i>guttatum</i>	23
<i>lividum</i>	23
<i>perlatus</i> , <i>Coenobita</i>	13
<i>planifrons</i> , <i>Pachygrapsus</i>	28
<i>plicatum</i> , <i>Parasesarma</i>	22, 53
<i>plicatus</i> , <i>Pachygrapsus</i>	29
PORTUNIDAE	15
<i>Portunus sanguinolentus</i>	15
<i>prymna</i> , <i>Thalamita</i>	15
<i>Pseudograpsus</i>	
<i>albus</i>	29
<i>elongatus</i>	29
<i>Pseudohelice subquadrata</i>	29
<i>Ptychognathus</i>	
<i>barbatus</i>	30
<i>johannae</i>	31
<i>pusillus</i>	31
<i>pusillus</i> , <i>Ptychognathus</i>	31
<i>rotunda</i> , <i>Discoplax</i>	53
<i>rousseauxi</i> , <i>Metasesarma</i>	19
<i>rugosus</i> , <i>Coenobita</i>	14
<i>sanguinolentus</i> , <i>Portunus</i>	15
<i>saratan</i> , <i>Ocypode</i>	40
<i>Scylla serrata</i>	15
<i>serrata</i>	
<i>Atyoida</i>	8
<i>Scylla</i>	15
<i>serratiostris</i> , <i>Caridina</i>	9
SESARMIDAE	18
<i>Sesarmoides longipes</i>	53
<i>Sesarmops</i>	
<i>atorubens</i>	24
<i>impressus</i>	24
<i>sinuspersici</i> , <i>Chaenostoma</i>	36
<i>smithii</i> , <i>Neosarmatium</i>	21

<i>stormi</i> , <i>Geograpsus</i>	53	<i>crassipes</i>	45
<i>subquadrata</i> , <i>Pseudohelice</i>	29	<i>dampieri</i>	43
<i>sulcata</i> , <i>Dotilla</i>	34	<i>dussumieri</i>	46
<i>sumatrensis</i> , <i>Caridina</i>	8	<i>hesperiae</i>	43
<i>telescopicus</i> , <i>Macrophthalmus</i>	37	<i>inversa</i>	42
<i>tenuicrustatus</i> , <i>Grapsus</i>	25	<i>jocelynae</i>	43
<i>tetragonon</i> , <i>Uca</i>	44	<i>marioni</i>	43
<i>Thalamita</i>		<i>neocultrimana</i>	43
<i>crenata</i>	15	<i>tetragonon</i>	44
<i>foresti</i>	15	<i>urvillei</i>	46
<i>prymna</i>	15	<i>vocans</i>	43
<i>Thalassograpsus harpax</i>	32	<i>vomeris</i>	43
<i>thukuhar</i> , <i>Metopograpsus</i>	27	<i>urvillei</i> , <i>Uca</i>	46
<i>typus</i> , <i>Caridina</i>	9	<i>Varuna litterata</i>	32
<i>Uca</i>		VARUNIDAE	29
<i>albimana</i>	42	<i>Venitus latreillei</i>	38
<i>annulipes</i>	41	<i>verreauxi</i> , <i>Macrophthalmus</i>	37
<i>borealis</i>	43	<i>vocans</i> , <i>Uca</i>	43
<i>chlorophthalmus</i>	45	<i>vomeris</i> , <i>Uca</i>	43



Figure 43. *Neosarmatium meinerti*. Mayotte, KUW 2009 fieldwork, Malamani mangrove at high tide, *in situ* photographs of the crabs in mangrove trees *Avicennia marina*. Copyright F. Fromard.