



## ***Neorhynchoplax yaeyamaensis*, a new false spider crab (Decapoda: Brachyura: Hymenosomatidae) from the Yaeyama Group, the Ryukyu Islands, Japan**

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### **Abstract**

A new false spider crab, *Neorhynchoplax yaeyamaensis* (Decapoda: Brachyura: Hymenosomatidae) is described from the Yaeyama Group, the Ryukyu Islands, Japan. *Neorhynchoplax yaeyamaensis* is morphologically close to *N. exigua* and *N. aspinifera*, however, *N. yaeyamaensis* is easily differentiated from the latter two species by the dentition of the ambulatory dactyli, and the shapes of the carapace, male abdomen, and G1. *Neorhynchoplax okinawaensis*, also found in the Ryukyu Islands, differs from *N. yaeyamaensis* by the presence of a posterior lateral tooth, and the shape of the carapace, male abdomen, and G1.

**Key words:** *Neorhynchoplax yaeyamaensis*, new species, Hymenosomatidae, *Neorhynchoplax okinawaensis*, taxonomy

### **Introduction**

Among hymenosomatid crabs, *Neorhynchoplax* species are common in brackish to fresh-water environments; but in the Ryukyu Islands the genus has been represented by only a single species, *Neorhynchoplax okinawaensis* (Nakasone & Takeda, 1994). Recently the authors discovered an undescribed species of *Neorhynchoplax* from Ishigaki and Iriomote Islands, which is here described and compared with its congeners.