



***Metadynomene tuamotu*, a new species of dynomenid crab from French Polynesia (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura)**

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Abstract

A large dynomenid specimen from the Tuamotu Archipelago previously thought to belong to *Metadynomene tanensis* (Yokoya, 1933) is shown to be a new species, *M. tuamotu* **sp. nov.** *Metadynomene tanensis* is a widespread Western Pacific species occurring from Japan to New Zealand; while *M. tuamotu* **sp. nov.** joins *M. devaneyi* (Takeda, 1977) as the second species of this genus known from French Polynesia. A key to the genus is provided.

Key words: Decapoda, Crustacea, Brachyura, Dynomenidae, new species, taxonomy

Introduction

The Indo-West Pacific dynomenid genus *Metadynomene* McLay, 1999, currently contains three species, viz. *M. devaneyi* (Takeda, 1977) (type species), *M. tanensis* (Yokoya, 1933), and *M. crosnieri* McLay, 1999. However, in their treatment of a collection of dromiids and dynomenids from the Philippines, McLay & Ng (2005: 25) commented “McLay (1999: 522) reported a large male specimen (29.1 × 27.6 mm) from Tuamotu, French Polynesia as being *M. tanensis*, but it now appears this specimen belongs to a new species. The anterolateral teeth are much smaller than in the present specimens and are arranged differently”. We have since re-examined this specimen and there is no doubt that it is different from *M. tanensis*. It is here named *Metadynomene tuamotu* **sp. nov.**

The material used in this study is deposited in the Philippine National Museum (NMCR), Manila; Zoological Reference Collection of the Raffles Museum, National University of Singapore (ZRC); and Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN). The comparative material of *M. tanensis* used is not listed; and the reader is requested to refer to McLay (1999), McLay & Ng (2005), Guinot (2008) and Ahyong *et al.* (2008) for details. Measurements, in millimetres, provided are of the carapace width and length, respectively. The abbreviations P2–P4 are used for pereopods 2–4 (ambulatory legs 1–3), respectively.

Taxonomic account

Family Dynomenidae Ortmann, 1892

Subfamily Metadynomeninae Guinot, 2008

Metadynomene tuamotu* **sp. nov.*

(Figs. 1A; 2A, C, E; 3A, C; 4A)

Metadynomene tanensis — McLay 1999: 521 (part) (not *Dynomene tanensis* Yokoya, 1933).