



Crinoid-associated pontoniine shrimps of the genus *Laomenes* Clark, 1919 (Decapoda, Caridea, Palaemonidae) from PANGLAO 2004 and KUMEJIMA 2009 Expeditions, with description of two new species

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* In: Naruse, T., Chan, T.-Y., Tan, H.H., Ahyong, S.T. & Reimer, J.D. (2012) Results of the Marine Biodiversity Expedition — KUMEJIMA 2009. *Zootaxa*, 3367, 1–280.

Abstract

Four species of the crinoid-associated pontoniine shrimps of the “*Laomenes amboinensis* (De Man, 1888)” species group were collected in the Philippines PANGLAO 2004 and Ryukyu KUMEJIMA 2009 Expeditions. Two of them, *L. pestrushka* n. sp. from the Ryukyus and *L. gyrophthalmus* n. sp. from the Philippines, are new to science. The two others, *L. cornutus* (Borradaile, 1915) and *L. holthuisi* Marin & Okuno, 2010, are rarely collected species.

Key words: Crustacea, Decapoda, Pontoniinae, *Laomenes*, new species, Crinoidea, Ryukyu Islands, Philippines

Introduction

Pontoniine shrimps of the genus *Laomenes* Clark, 1919 are obligatory associated with tropical shallow water feather stars (Crinoidea, Comatulida) in the Indo-West Pacific. To date, nine valid species are known in this genus and they show a wide diversity of morphological features such as shape of cornea and eyestalk, chelipeds and dactyli of ambulatory pereopods, colouration and host specificity (see review in Marin 2009; Marin & Okuno 2010). Although many underwater photographs of these colourful shrimps are available in guide books (e.g. Debelius 1999; Humann & Deloach 2010), magazines and internet, there are rather few taxonomic reports on the species of this genus and most species only have limited confirmed geographical records. Moreover, it is highly likely that more species are present in *Laomenes* (Marin 2009).

Examination on the material collected from the recent Philippines PANGLAO 2004 and Ryukyu KUMEJIMA 2009 Expeditions reveals two undescribed species belonging to the “*Laomenes amboinensis* (De Man, 1888)” species group (for definition see Marin 2009, and Remarks under *L. pestrushka* n. sp.). Moreover, two other species belonging to this species group; namely *L. cornutus* (Borradaile, 1915) and *L. holthuisi* Marin & Okuno, 2010, were also collected in these two expeditions and both were previously known only from few records (Borradaile 1915; Marin 2009; Marin & Okuno 2010; Tchesunov *et al.* 1989).

The measurement provided is postorbital carapace length (pcl., in mm), measured from the posterior margin of the orbit to the posterodorsal margin of the carapace. Only primary synonyms are given in each species account. The material examined is deposited in the Ryukyu University Museum, Fujukan, Okinawa (RUMF), the Philippines National Museum, Manila (NMCR) and the National Taiwan Ocean University (NTOU), Keelung.