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***Cancer amoenus* Herbst, 1799, a junior subjective synonym of *Atelecyclus undecimdentatus* (Herbst, 1783) (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Atelecyclidae)**

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Schram & Ng (2012: 666) remarked that the name *Cancer amoenus* Herbst, 1799, “has been forgotten and the identity of the species unresolved for two centuries”, and commented briefly that this species is synonymous with *Atelecyclus undecimdentatus* (Herbst, 1783). We herein provide the necessary explanations for this synonymy.

Herbst (1799: 64, 65, pl. 49, fig. 3; reproduced as Fig. 1A) diagnosed *Cancer amoenus* as follows:

“In Ansehung der Gestalt ist diese Krabbe dem im ersten bande pag. 181. n. 73. ab. 10. Fig. 60 beschriebenen Canc[er] undecimdentatus sehr ähnlich. Er ist überall mit seinen rothen Punkten dicht bestreuet. Die Seiten des Brustschildes haben elf Zähne, die aber nicht so scharf zugespitzt sind, wie bey jenem, sondern fast abgerundet. Die Stirn ist nur dreymal gezahnt; der mittelste Zahn steht ein wenig vor; die Augenhöhlen haben am oberen Rande keinen dornähnlichen Zahn, den man bey C[ancer] undecimdentatus daselbst findet. Auch die Scheeren unterscheiden ihn; jener hat mehr zusammengedrückte oben fast zugeschrärfte Scheeren, bey diesem aber sind sie oben breiter, abgerundet, und durch erhöhete gekörnte Linien fast prismatisch. Die Finger sind nur an der Spitze ganz verloschen schwärzlich. Die Füße sind nicht breit, aber doch etwas platt, auch roth gesprenkelt; die Klauen sind pfriemenförmig, an der Spitze hornartig. Das Vaterland ist mir unbekannt; die Abbildung nach der Natur” [This species is very similar to that previously described as *Cancer undecimdentatus* in the first volume, on page 181, species 73, plate 10, figure 60. This species is densely covered in red spots. The sides of the carapace have eleven teeth that are pointed, but not as sharp as in the former [*Cancer undecimdentatus*], and are almost rounded. The frontal margin has three teeth, the middle tooth protrudes slightly; the orbits have no thorn-like tooth on the upper margin, unlike in *Cancer undecimdentatus*. The claws distinguish the two species: the latter [*Cancer undecimdentatus*] has claws that are more compressed dorsally, almost into sharpened ridges, while in the former [*Cancer amoenus*] the claws that are wider dorsally, rounded, and possess increasingly granulated lines. The fingers are of a faded black colour dorsally. The feet are not wide, but somewhat flat, and mottled red; the claws are awl [spike] -shaped, with horn-like projections on the dorsal surface. The origin of this species is unknown; the figure is drawn from life”.]

Smith (1887: 630) first discussed the identity of *Cancer amoenus* Herbst, 1799, believing it to be synonymous with *Cancer irroratus* Say, 1817: “*Cancer amoenus* Herbst, Krabben und Krebse, vol. iii, part 1, p. 64, pl. 49, fig. 3, 1799, is evidently this species, and the name should be substituted for the later name given by Say”. Connolly (1923: 337, figs. 1, 2, pls. 1–4) subsequently replaced the name *Cancer irroratus* Say, 1817, with *Cancer amoenus* Herbst, 1799. Smith’s (1887) interpretation was disputed by Rathbun (1929: 33) who commented: “*Cancer amoenus* Herbst is scarcely synonymous with *C. irroratus*; the shape of the carapace and of its lateral teeth allies it more closely with one of the Pacific species. The locality of *C. amoenus* is unknown and the type specimen not extant”. Rathbun (1930: 181) reiterated her opinion by listing “*Cancer amoenus* Connolly, Contrib. Canad. Biol., n.s., vol. 1, 1923, p. 337, text-figs. 1 and 2, pls. 1–4. Not *Cancer amoenus* Herbst, 1799” in the synonymy of *Cancer irroratus* Say, 1817, and decided that *Cancer amoenus* Herbst, 1799, was an “indeterminable species” (Rathbun 1930: 179).