



Article

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Establishment of a new genus for *Cyclograpsus lophopus* Nobili, 1905, within Sesarmidae Dana, 1851 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura)

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Abstract

The examination of the type series of the poorly known *Cyclograpsus lophopus* Nobili, 1905, which was originally placed in the varunid genus, *Cyclograpsus* H. Milne Edwards, 1837, has revealed that it belongs instead to the family Sesarmidae Dana, 1851. A new genus is also described for *C. lophopus* because of its very distinct morphological characters, e.g. entire and nearly circular contour of the carapace with trigonal ocular peduncles, and short and flattened ambulatory legs.

Key words: *Cyclograpsus lophopus* Nobili, 1905, *Cyclorma* gen. nov., Sesarmidae, Varunidae, taxonomy

Introduction

Cyclograpsus H. Milne Edwards, 1837, had long been placed in the family Sesarmidae Dana, 1851. Recent larval studies and molecular phylogenetic researches suggested, however, that *Cyclograpsus* and its allied genera are phylogenetically closer to the family Varunidae H. Milne Edwards, 1853 (see Schubart & Cuesta 1998; Schubart *et al.* 2000, 2002, 2006; Kitaura *et al.* 2002; Davie 2002). Davie (2002) resurrected Cyclograpsacea H. Milne Edwards, 1853, as a subfamily within Varunidae to accommodate *Cyclograpsus* H. Milne Edwards, 1837, *Chasmagnathus* De Haan, 1833, *Helicana* K. Sakai & Yatsuzuka, 1980, *Helice* De Haan, 1833, *Helograpsus* Campbell & Griffin, 1966, *Metaplax* H. Milne Edwards, 1852, and *Paragrapsus* H. Milne Edwards, 1853. This arrangement was followed in the lists of Ng *et al.* (2008) and De Grave *et al.* (2009).

Cyclograpsus lophopus Nobili, 1905 (Figs. 1–3), has been one of the least studied among the 21 known species of *Cyclograpsus*. Although Nobili (1905, 1906) described and photographed the type specimens, the material is not known to have been subsequently studied. Work at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN) provided an opportunity to examine the type specimens of this species, which resulted in the revision of its placement as a new genus in the family Sesarmidae Dana, 1851.

Measurements refer to carapace length × carapace width (in mm). The material examined is deposited in the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN).

Taxonomy

Family Sesarmidae Dana, 1851

Cyclorma gen. nov.

Type species. *Cyclograpsus lophopus* Nobili, 1905, by monotypy.