



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3717.3.3>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:4DB3307E-C9F2-4C43-AED3-B4BDBE1D2F82>

## Freshwater decapods of Puerto Rico: a checklist and reports of new localities

OMAR PÉREZ-REYES<sup>1,5</sup>, TODD A. CROWL<sup>1</sup>, PABLO J. HERNÁNDEZ-GARCÍA<sup>2</sup>,  
RICARDO LEDESMA-FUSTÉ<sup>2</sup>, FERNANDO A. VILLAR-FORNES<sup>3</sup> & ALAN P. COVICH<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Watershed Sciences and The Ecology Center, 5210 Old Main Hill, NR 210, Utah State University, Old Main Hill, Logan Utah 84321 U.S.A. E-mail: [macrobrachium@gmail.com](mailto:macrobrachium@gmail.com); [facrowl@gmail.com](mailto:facrowl@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, P.O. Box 23360, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00931- 3360 U.S.A.  
E-mail: [pabloj82@yahoo.com](mailto:pabloj82@yahoo.com); [ricardojledesma@yahoo.com](mailto:ricardojledesma@yahoo.com)

<sup>3</sup>Department of Animal Sciences, The University of Arizona, Shantz 205 P.O. Box 210038, Tucson, Arizona, 85721-0038 U.S.A.  
E-mail: [fido1493@yahoo.es](mailto:fido1493@yahoo.es)

<sup>4</sup>Institute of Ecology, Odum School of Ecology, 140 E. Green St., The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602-2202 U.S.A.  
E-mail: [alanc@uga.edu](mailto:alanc@uga.edu)

<sup>5</sup>Corresponding author

### Abstract

An updated checklist of the freshwater decapod species of Puerto Rico is presented based on records of shrimp and crab species whose presence has been confirmed in Puerto Rico as a result of extensive field collections, examination of carcinological collections, literature review, and personal communications from researchers. The freshwater decapods fauna of Puerto Rico consists of 18 species of shrimps belonging to eight genera and three families, and one species of crab belonging to the family Pseudothelphusidae.

**Key words:** *Atya*, *Macrobrachium*, *Micratya*, *Jonga*, *Potimirim*, *Xiphocaris*, *Epilobocera*, Puerto Rico, Caribbean, taxonomic key, distribution

### Resumen

Una lista actualizada de los decápodos de agua dulce de Puerto Rico se presenta con base en los registros de camarones y cangrejos cuya presencia ha sido confirmada en Puerto Rico como resultado de extensas colecciones de campo, examen de las colecciones carcinológicas en museos, revisión de literatura y comunicaciones personales con investigadores. La diversidad de decápodos de agua dulce de Puerto Rico se compone de 18 especies de camarones pertenecientes a ocho géneros y tres familias; y una especie de cangrejo que pertenecen a la familia de Pseudothelphusidae.

**Palabras claves:** *Atya*, *Macrobrachium*, *Micratya*, *Jonga*, *Potimirim*, *Xiphocaris*, *Epilobocera*, Puerto Rico, Caribe, clave taxonómica, distribución

### Introduction

The freshwater decapod fauna of Puerto Rico is relatively well known for their role in the ecological process as shredders and for nutrient cycling (Crowl *et al.* 2001). However, relatively little work has been done on shrimp and crab diversity, distributions and inventories in a systematic way in Puerto Rico.

Juan Gundlach (1887) reported many species of decapods on the island; but Schmitt (1935) in the Scientific Survey of Porto Rico and the Virgin Island was the first to report the presence of freshwater decapods. *Macrobrachium acanthurus* (Weigmann), *M. carcinus* as “*Periclimenes portoricencis*” (Linnaeus 1758), and *M. faustinum* (De Saussure), *Xiphocaris elongata* (Guérin-Méneville), *Atya scabra* (Leach, 1815), *A. innocuous* (Herbst) and *Micratya poeyi* (Guérin-Méneville) were reported by Schmitt. In 1954, Chace reported the first