

## A new genus and two new species of hymenosomatid crabs (Crustacea: Brachyura: Hymenosomatidae) from the southwestern Atlantic and eastern Australia

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### Abstract

A new genus, *Teramnonotus* n. gen., is erected for *Elamena gordonae* Monod, 1956. The new genus includes two new species, *T. johnlucasi* n. gen., n. sp. and *T. monodi* n. gen., n. sp., described herein from eastern Australia (Queensland) and the southwestern Atlantic (Brazil), respectively. *Teramnonotus* n. gen. superficially resembles *Elamena* H. Milne Edwards, 1837, and *Trigonoplax* H. Milne Edwards, 1853, of which it can be easily distinguished by a combination of characters: eyes and ocular peduncle, rostrum, carapace, thoracic sternite 8 and thoracic pleurite 8, and the inhalant water openings. The validity of the obscure species *Elamena mexicana* H. Milne Edwards, 1853, is not supported and it is synonymised with *Halicarcinus planatus* (Fabricius, 1775).

**Key words:** Australia, Brazil, biodiversity, false spider crab, *Elamena*, Decapoda, Eubrachyura

### Introduction

The family Hymenosomatidae consists of approximately 118 species in 19 genera, mostly Indo-West Pacific (Guinot 2011a). Many hymenosomatid species are conspicuously small and cryptic, and many are only known from their type material. Such is the case of *Elamena gordonae* Monod, 1956, to which Monod referred to as "... une très petite forme, qui risque de passer inaperçue" (Monod 1956: 472). It was originally described from two small females (one ovigerous) obtained in 1948 in the Atlantic coast of Africa and never again collected. Two ovigerous females collected in 1952 from eastern Australia (Queensland) were assigned to *E. gordonae* by Lucas (1980), but additional specimens have not been recorded from Australia ever since. Three ovigerous females were dredged in 1994 from Rio de Janeiro State (southeastern Brazil) by the first author. Additional specimens attributed to *E. gordonae* were obtained in 2002 and following years from northeastern Brazil (Almeida *et al.* 2007; Almeida & Coelho 2008; Coelho Filho & Coelho 2002; Coelho *et al.* 2008). The Atlantic and Australian specimens of *Elamena gordonae* are said to form a single species, but such status has not been conclusively established because the above-mentioned authors did not compare their specimens directly with West African ones. A direct comparison of the southwestern Atlantic and the Australian specimens with the type specimens of *E. gordonae* revealed that they actually belong to two undescribed species. These two new species are described herein.

A comparison between *Elamena gordonae* s. str. and representatives of the genus *Elamena* (including its type species) showed that *E. gordonae* cannot be retained in *Elamena* H. Milne Edwards, 1837. A new genus, *Teramnonotus* n. gen., is therefore proposed herein to receive *E. gordonae* Monod, 1956, along with the new species from the southwestern Atlantic and eastern Australia, namely *Teramnonotus monodi* n. gen., n. sp. and *Teramnonotus johnlucasi* n. gen., n. sp.

The descriptive terminology follows that used by Lucas (1980) with additions from Ng & Chuang (1996) and Guinot (2011a, b). Abbreviations: Mxp3, third maxilliped; P1, cheliped; P2–P5, second to fifth pereiopods; PI2–PI5, second to fifth pleopods; PIT, pleotelson; St 8, thoracic sternite 8. Measurements are expressed in

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