

A new stygiobiont species of *Macrobrachium* (Crustacea: Decapoda: Caridea: Palaemonidae) from an anchialine cave on Miyako Island, Ryukyu Islands

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Abstract

A new stygiobiont species of the caridean genus *Macrobrachium* Bate, 1864 is described on the basis of two male specimens from an anchialine cave on Miyako Island, southern Ryukyu Islands. The new species, *M. miyakoense*, is compared with other five stygiobiont species of the genus characterized by a reduced eye, i.e. *M. cavernicola* (Kemp, 1924), *M. villalobosi* Hobbs, 1973, *M. acherontium* Holthuis, 1977, *M. microps* Holthuis, 1978, and *M. poeti* Holthuis, 1984. It is the first representative of stygiobiont species of *Macrobrachium* from East Asian waters.

Key words: Crustacea, Decapoda, Caridea, Palaemonidae, *Macrobrachium*, new species, anchialine cave, Miyako Island, Ryukyu Islands

Introduction

There are few stygiobiont species of the palaemonid genus *Macrobrachium* Bate, 1864 in the world, although the genus is one of the most speciose caridean genera, abundant in tropical fresh waters (Chace & Bruce, 1993). Holthuis (1986) listed six stygiobiont species of *Macrobrachium*, together with additional 12 stygiophile or stygoxene species. The six stygiobiont species are: *M. cavernicola* (Kemp, 1924) from Siju Cave in Assam, India (Kemp, 1924); *M. villalobosi* Hobbs, 1973 from caves in Oaxaca, Mexico (Hobbs, 1973; Hobbs et al., 1977); *M. lucifugum* Holthuis, 1974 from caves or sinkholes in Cuba, Jamaica, and Curaçao (Holthuis, 1974), and the Dominican Republic (Chace, 1975, as *M. crybelum* Chace, 1975); *M. acherontium* Holthuis, 1977 from caves in Tabasco, Mexico (Holthuis, 1977); *M. microps* Holthuis, 1978 from Danmin Cave, New Ireland (Holthuis,