

***Macrophthalmus (Macrophthalmus) microfylacas*, a new species of sentinel crab (Decapoda: Brachyura: Ocypodidae) from western Japan**

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Abstract

A new species of the *Macrophthalmus telescopicus* complex is described from Japan. The new species is closely allied to *M. telescopicus* (Owen, 1839), *M. milloti* Crosnier, 1965, and *M. serenei* Takeda & Komai, 1991. *Macrophthalmus microfylacas* sp. nov., however, is distinguished from these three species by the shape of the second and third anterolateral teeth, the shape of the gap between the first and second teeth, and a small body size. The new species can also be differentiated from *M. milloti* and *M. serenei* by the shape of the subproximal tooth of the male cheliped dactylus, while it differs from *M. telescopicus* by the shape of the G1.

Keywords: *Macrophthalmus microfylacas*, new species, Brachyura, Ocypodidae, taxonomy, Japan

Introduction

The sentinel crab genus *Macrophthalmus* Desmarest, 1823 is a relatively well-studied group which contains seven subgenera (Barnes, 1967; Komai *et al.*, 1995), 41 valid species, 3 fossil species (Barnes, 1977; Manning & Holthuis, 1981; Poupin, 1997; Wada & Sakai, 1989), and four subspecies (Barnes, 1977; Tai & Song, 1984) from littoral to sublittoral environments. The *M. telescopicus* complex, characterized by a long ocular peduncle, has also been revised by several authors (Tesch, 1915; Kemp, 1919; Tweedie, 1937, 1950; Sakai, 1939; Crosnier, 1965; Barnes, 1976; Serène, 1973; Barnes, 1977; Takeda & Komai, 1991).