

A new crayfish of the genus *Cambarus* Erichson, 1846 (Decapoda: Cambaridae) from an under-sampled habitat type in central Tennessee, USA

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Abstract

A new crayfish, *Cambarus clivosus*, is described from the Caney Fork and Stones river drainages of central Tennessee and is placed in the subgenus *Jugicambarus*. The species occurs in small, high gradient, seep-fed creeks with substrates of chert, limestone, and shale. *Cambarus clivosus* differs from all other members of the subgenus *Jugicambarus* in possessing a single row of tubercles along the mesial margin of the palm of the chela, an obtuse suborbital angle, a central projection with a subapical notch, and strongly converging rostral margins.

Key words: *Cambarus*, new species, Tennessee

Introduction

The state of Tennessee may be one of the most sampled regions of the United States for aquatic organisms. Its diverse fauna of freshwater fishes (Etnier and Starnes 1993) and mussels (Parmalee and Bogan 1998) have attracted the attention of aquatic biologists for more than a century. Ancillary collections of Tennessee crayfishes made by these biologists over the past 100 years are common in museum collections and have stimulated the additional field efforts of astacologists (e.g. Bouchard 1972, Ortmann 1931). The work of these authors and numerous others (see Hobbs 1989) has resulted in the description of over 75 species known to occur within the state, ranking it only behind Alabama, USA, as the most diverse state or province in the world for freshwater crayfishes. A recent collection of crayfishes by a junior author (ELO) revealed the