



## Hermit crabs from Brazil. Family Paguridae (Crustacea: Decapoda: Paguroidea): Genus *Pagurus*

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### Abstract

In Brazil, the hermit crab family Paguridae is represented by 11 genera, of which the genus *Pagurus* is the most speciose, with seven species that occur from the intertidal zone to shallow waters and one from deeper regions. In this paper we present the diagnosis, distribution and some remarks on each species of the genus *Pagurus* known from Brazil.

**Key words:** Hermit crabs, Paguridae, *Pagurus*, Brazil

### Introduction

The family Paguridae is currently represented by at least 69 genera (McLaughlin 2003) widely distributed in all oceans of the world. In Brazil the family Paguridae is represented by 11 genera: *Agaricochirus* McLaughlin, 1981, *Anisopagurus* McLaughlin, 1981, *Catapagurus* A. Milne-Edwards, 1880, *Iridopagurus* Saint Laurent-Dechancé, 1966, *Nematopaguroides* Forest & Saint Laurent, 1968, *Pagurus* Fabricius, 1775, *Phimochirus* McLaughlin, 1981, *Propagurus* McLaughlin & Saint Laurent, 1998, *Pylopagurus* A. Milne-Edwards & Bouvier, 1893, *Rhodochirus* McLaughlin, 1981 and *Tomopagurus* A. Milne-Edwards & Bouvier, 1893. The genus *Agaricochirus* was recently recorded in Brazil by Nucci & Melo (unpublished), and, like the genus *Anisopagurus*, is represented by only one species.

Among the genera of Paguridae, *Pagurus* is the most speciose in Brazil, with eight species. Melo (1999) recorded seven species of the genus *Pagurus* from Brazil; Nucci & Melo (2003) recently added an eighth to the list.

We list herein the eight species belonging to the genus *Pagurus* from Brazil, with the diagnosis, distribution and some remarks on each one. The measurement of the shield length (mm) has been taken for each specimen examined, from the tip of the rostrum to the midpoint of the posterior margin of the shield.

### Taxonomy

#### Family Paguridae Latreille, 1802

#### Genus *Pagurus* Fabricius, 1775

#### *Cancer* Linnaeus, 1758: 625 [part.].

*Pagurus* Fabricius, 1775: 410 [part.].— Provenzano, 1959: 393.— Williams, 1965: 125.— Forest & Saint Laurent, 1968: 116.— Coelho & Ramos-Porto, 1986: 39.— Rieger, 1998: 413.— Melo, 1999: 100.— Forest *et al.*, 2000: 189.— McLaughlin, 2003: 125.— Nucci & Melo, 2003: 351.