



A new species of *Chirostylus* Ortmann, 1892 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Anomura: Chirostylidae) from the Ryukyu Islands, southwestern Japan, with a supplemental description of *Chirostylus ortmanni* Miyake & Baba, 1968

MASAYUKI OSAWA

Department of Marine and Environmental Sciences, University of the Ryukyus, 1 Senbaru, Nishihara-cho, Okinawa 903-0213, Japan.
E-mail: h063116@sci.u-ryukyu.ac.jp

Abstract

A new chirostylid crustacean, *Chirostylus stellaris*, is described from the Ryukyu Islands, southwestern Japan. The new species is morphologically close to *C. ortmanni* Miyake & Baba, 1968, but distinguishable by the armature of the meri of the male first pereopods and the proportion of lengths relative to the heights of the propodi of the second to fourth pereopods. The live coloration of the pereopods is also clearly different in the two species. *Chirostylus ortmanni* is described on the basis of specimens from various localities in Japan, to complement the original account of the species.

Key Words: Crustacea, Decapoda, Chirostylidae, *Chirostylus*, Ryukyu Islands, Japan

Introduction

The genus *Chirostylus* Ortmann, 1892, currently contains five species, all from the Indo-West Pacific: *C. dolichopus* Ortmann, 1892 (type species), *C. micheleae* Tirmizi & Khan, 1979, *C. novaecaledoniae* Baba, 1991, *C. ortmanni* Miyake & Baba, 1968, and *C. rostratus* Osawa & Nishikiori, 1998 (see Osawa & Nishikiori 1998). These species are characterized by very long and slender “straw-like” pereopods and short rostral base. *Chirostylus ortmanni* is the best known species in shallow waters around Japan, reported to live on soft and black corals (Minemizu 2000, 2002; Kato & Okuno 2001), where its beauty attracts underwater photographers.

In their guidebooks on the Japanese marine crustaceans, Minemizu (2000, 2002) and Kawamoto & Okuno (2003) introduced an unidentified species of *Chirostylus* from the Ryukyu Islands, with photographs of live specimens, and they pointed out that the photographed specimens are different from *C. ortmanni* in coloration. Specimens from several islands of the Ryukyus, which agree well with the unidentified species in color pattern, were made available for study through the courtesy of the authors of the guidebooks and Y. Fujita who obtained larvae of this species. Examination of the specimens has revealed that they are closely allied to *C. ortmanni*, which is found from Honshu to southern Kyushu, but distinguished by several constant morphological characters. The Ryukyus species is herein described as new to science.

Chirostylus ortmanni was described by Miyake & Baba (1968) based on a female specimen from Okinoshima, northern Kyushu in Japan. In order to clarify intraspecific variation and complement the original account, *C. ortmanni* is described on the basis of specimens from various localities in Japan.

The general terminology followed is that used by Baba (2004, 2005). Abbreviations used in the text include P1 for first pereopod (cheliped) and P2–4 for second to fourth pereopods (ambulatory legs). The measurements given in millimeters (mm) under “Material examined” indicate postorbital carapace length (cl), the