



## Two new species of deep-water xanthid crabs of the genera *Euryxanthops* Garth & Kim, 1983, and *Medaeops* Guinot, 1967 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Xanthidae) from New Zealand

PETER K. L. NG<sup>1</sup> & COLIN L. MCLAY<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, Kent Ridge, Singapore 119260, Republic of Singapore.  
E-mail: dbsngkl@nus.edu.sg

<sup>2</sup>School of Biological Sciences, University of Canterbury, PB4800, Christchurch, New Zealand.  
E-mail: colin.mclay@canterbury.ac.nz

### Abstract

Two new species of deep-water xanthid crabs, *Euryxanthops chiltoni*, new species, and *Medaeops serenei*, new species, are described from the Kermadec Islands, New Zealand. This is the first time these genera are reported from New Zealand. Keys for the identification of all species of *Euryxanthops* and *Medaeops* are provided. The two new species bring the total number of species of xanthids from the Kermadec Is. to 17, and the known species of *Euryxanthops* and *Medaeops* to five and six respectively;. Although caught in the vicinity of hydrothermal vents, there is no evidence that these species are directly dependent upon the vent community.

**Key words:** Crustacea, Brachyura, Xanthidae, Kermadec Islands, *Euryxanthops*, *Medaeops*, new species

### Introduction

Recent collections from the vicinity of the Kermadec Islands north of New Zealand resulted in the collection of four specimens belonging to two genera not previously known from New Zealand waters. The specimens belong to two new species of *Euryxanthops* Garth & Kim, 1983, and *Medaeops* Guinot, 1967. They are added to the 15 species reported from the Kermadec Is. by Chilton (1911) and Takeda & Webber (2006).

The specimens were collected by geologists using a dredge to collect rock samples from the McCauley Caldera near the Kermadec Is. Although the specimens were collected in the vicinity of active underwater volcanoes there is no evidence that they are part of the fauna dependent on vent communities.

The general terminology and nomenclature for the carapace regions used essentially follows that in Serène (1984). Specimens examined are deposited in the National Institute of Water and Atmosphere of New Zealand (NIWA). The carapace measurements, in millimeters, are of the carapace width (CW) and length (CL) respectively. The abbreviations G1 and G2 are used for male first and second pleopods respectively. The revised keys to these genera are modified from those of Serène (1984) and Davie (1997).