



## The resurrection of the pontoniine genus *Urocaris* Stimpson, 1860, (Crustacea: Decapoda: Palaemonidae)

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### Abstract

The genus *Urocaris* Stimpson, 1860, has been re-assessed and separated from the genus *Periclimenes* Costa, 1844.

**Key words:** *Urocaris* Stimpson, 1860, Crustacea, Decapoda, Pontoniinae, genus resurrected

### Introduction

In 1917, in his revision of the Pontoniinae, Lancelot A. Borradaile reported, with some doubt, on the occurrence of *Urocaris longicaudata* Stimpson, 1860, in the Maldive and Amirante Islands. In the course of studies towards a revision of the genus *Periclimenes* Costa, the identification of Borradaile's specimens needed to be re-assessed. These studies led to further studies of Stimpson's species, with the conclusion that they were possibly similar to the Indo-West Pacific genus *Paraclimenes* Bruce, 1994. *Urocaris longicaudata* is the type species of the genus *Urocaris* Stimpson, 1860. This report now resurrects the genus *Urocaris* Stimpson, which includes only a single Atlantic species.

The whereabouts of the type material of *U. longicaudata* was unknown to Holthuis (1951) when reporting on this species in his monograph of the American Pontoniinae. The major part of Stimpson's collections was destroyed during the 1871 Chicago fire and most of his type material was deemed lost. Fortunately some syntypes of several species had been deposited in the British Museum of Natural History. These included a single specimen of *U. longicaudata* (Evans, 1967).

Abbreviations. AMNH, American Museum of Natural History, New York; BMNH, the Natural History Museum, London; CL, post-orbital carapace length (mms); OUMNH, Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Oxford.

### Systematics

#### Crustacea Decapoda

#### Family Palaemonidae Rafinesque, 1815

#### Sub-family Pontoniinae Kingsley, 1878

#### Genus *Urocaris* Stimpson, 1860

*Urocaris* Stimpson, 1860: 39.—Kingsley, 1880: 380. —Rathbun, 1902: 126. —Borradaile, 1917: 353. —Holthuis, 1993: 164.