Macrobrachium pentazona, a new freshwater palaemonid prawn (Decapoda: Caridea: Palaemonidae) from Guangdong Province, China

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Abstract

Macrobrachium pentazona, a new freshwater palaemonid prawn is described and is illustrated on the base of three specimens collected from a Beijiang river, near Qingyuan City, Guangdong Province, southern China. It can be distinguished from its congeners by a combination of characters that include the rostral formula; the segmental ratios and spination, the arrangement of teeth on the cutting edge of the fingers of the second pereiopod; the segmental ratios of third pereiopod; the wide scaphocerite; the small uropodal diaeresis spine; and with a regular striking colour pattern.

Key words: Decapoda, Palaemonidae, Macrobrachium, Guangdong Province, China

Introduction

The genus Macrobrachium from Guangdong Province includes 11 species that have been reported: Macrobrachium asperulum (Von Martens, 1868), M. equidens (Dana, 1852), M. fukienense Liang & Yan, 1980, M. hainanense (Parisi, 1919), M. nipponense (De Haan, 1849), and M. superbum (Heller, 1862) (see Holthuis, 1950; Liu, 1957; Liu et al., 1990; Zhang & Sun, 1981; Li et al., 2007). Guo & He (2008) recently reported another new species, M. heterorhynchos and four new record species, M. formosense Bate, 1868, M. inflatum Liang & Yan, 1985, M. maculatum Liang & Yan, 1980 and M. meridionalis Liang & Yan, 1983 from Guangdong Province.

A small collection of the genus Macrobrachium was made from Guangdong Province. When checking this collection, we found one new species of Macrobrachium, which is described and illustrated in the present paper. The relationship between the new species and closely related species is discussed. With the addition of this new species, it brings the total number of species from the genus Macrobrachium known in Guangdong Province to 12.

Material and methods

The specimens examined in the present study were collected by hutch net (mesh size 0.8 mm) and then preserved in 75% alcohol before dissection. The drawings were made with the aid of drawing tube mounted on an Olympus BX–41 compound microscope.

The following abbreviations are used throughout the text: tl, total length of body (measured from the