



A review of the genus *Engystenopus* (Crustacea: Decapoda: Stenopodidea) *Juxtastenopus*, gen. nov. , a new combination for *E. spinulatus* Holthuis, 1946, and transfer of *E. palmipes* Alcock & Anderson, 1894 to the family Spongicolidae Schram, 1986*

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* In: De Grave, S. & Fransen, C.H.J.M. (2010) Contributions to shrimp taxonomy. *Zootaxa*, 2372, 1–414.

Abstract

A review of the genus *Engystenopus* is presented. A new genus, *Juxtastenopus*, is created for the rare deepwater stenopodid shrimp, *Engystenopus spinulatus* based on a series of specimens from the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and the Philippines. The genus *Engystenopus* is now restricted to *E. palmipes*, its range is extended to Australian, Indonesian, and Madagascan waters, a new diagnosis of the genus is presented, and the genus is transferred to the family Spongicolidae.

Key words: Red Sea, Philippine, Indonesian, Madagascan, Australian deepwater fauna, Stenopodidae, Spongicolidae, *Engystenopus*, *Juxtastenopus* gen. nov.

Introduction

The genus *Engystenopus* was described on the basis of one specimen collected off Trincomallee, Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean in depths of 365–640 m (Alcock & Anderson 1894). The diagnosis was only two sentences stating the genus was “as *Stenopus*, but with simple claw-like dactyli to the fourth and fifth pairs of trunk legs, which also have all their joints simple and unsegmented; and with the third pair of trunk legs remarkably slender as far as the propodus. The external maxillipeds are of the ordinary pediform shape.” From this the authors derived the genus name from the Greek “engy” meaning near, combined with *Stenopus*, which they thought was closely related. At the time only 11 species of stenopodidean shrimps were known, mostly inadequately described and some even in the wrong genera. Also, at this time all stenopodideans were placed in a single family, Stenopodidae Claus, 1872. Schram (1986) split the then 25 species into two families, Stenopodidae and Spongicolidae. This was further refined by Holthuis (1993) who still placed *Engystenopus* within the Stenopodidae.

The rare stenopodid species *Engystenopus spinulatus* was described by Holthuis (1946) on the basis of the mutilated holotype taken in Lobetoli Strait, east of Flores, Lesser Sunda Islands, Indonesia. Three additional specimens of this species were recorded from the Red Sea (Bals 1914, 1915, 1929 [as *Stenopus spinosus*]; Lewinsohn & Holthuis 1978; Goy 1986). The four specimens all lacked several appendages, including the third pereopods. Holthuis (1946) questionably placed the species in the genus *Engystenopus* and the three Red Sea specimens did not provide any additional information that would place them in another genus.

The third pereopod of the type species for the genus *Engystenopus*, *E. palmipes* Alcock & Anderson, 1894, has a very distinct morphology. Through the courtesy of the late Dr. M. de Saint Laurent, a specimen of *E. spinulatus* taken from the stomach contents of a golden threadfin bream found in the Hong Kong fish market was made available for examination. Even though the specimen was severely damaged, the third