



Caridina* H. Milne Edwards, 1837 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Caridea: Atyoidea: Atyidae) – freshwater shrimps from eastern and southern Africa

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Abstract

Since the study of Richard and Clark (2009), additional material of *Caridina africana* Kingsley, 1882 has been examined and as a consequence *C. nilotica* var. *paucipara* Weber, 1897 is considered to be a junior synonym of *C. africana*. Material of *Caridina serratiostris* De Man, 1892, *C. angulata* Bouvier, 1905, *C. brachydactyla* De Man, 1908 and *C. moeri* Woltereck, 1984 is reported, and redescribed. *Caridina serratiostris* and *C. angulata* are reported for the first time from the African mainland, both species being previously known from Madagascar. The first record of *C. brachydactyla* from the African continent is also noted. Furthermore, *Caridina nilotica* var. *natalensis* De Man, 1908 and *Caridina nilotica* var. *brevidactyla* J. Roux, 1920 are considered to be junior synonyms of *C. brachydactyla*. Part of the type series of *C. brachydactyla* was examined for the present study and this material together with the description and figures of the rostrum illustrated by De Man (1892) as *Caridina wyckii* appear to be three different species: *C. brachydactyla* s. str. and probably two new species. These are not described due to lack of additional material available for study. However, two new African species are described and an identification key is provided.

Key words: Crustacea, Atyidae, *Caridina*, *C. africana*, *C. serratiostris*, *C. angulata*, *C. brachydactyla*, *C. moeri*, redescriptions, new species, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar

Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to report and provide additional taxonomic information on five species of *Caridina* H. Milne Edwards (1837) from east and southern Africa, namely *C. africana* Kingsley, 1882, *C. serratiostris* De Man, 1892, *C. angulata* Bouvier, 1905, *C. brachydactyla* De Man, 1908 and *C. moeri* Woltereck, 1984; describe two new African *Caridina* species and provide a key to identify these African freshwater shrimps.

Material and Methods

Measurements. Total length: adults were measured from the anterior tip of the rostrum to the posterior margin of the telson. Carapace length: measured from the post-orbital margin to the posterior margin of the carapace. Rostrum length: measured from post-orbital margin to tip. Measurements of the palm of first and second pereopods were taken along the dorsal margin of the propodus. The length of the dactylus of third and fifth pereopod did not include the terminal claw.

Terminology. Rostral formula in this study is modified to save additional use of lines and is cited for example as (3–4) 11–20 + 1/9–17. In this instant (3–4) = post-orbital teeth; 11–20 = teeth on dorsal margin of rostrum including the post-orbital teeth; +1 = tooth present on unarmed distal dorsal margin; /9–17 = teeth on