



A new species of freshwater crab of the genus *Neostrengeria* Pretzmann, 1965, from Colombia (Crustacea: Decapoda: Pseudothelphusidae)

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Neostrengeria* Pretzmann, 1965, is described. The genus is endemic to Colombia and is distributed on the slopes and high plains of the Eastern Andes at elevations of 470 to 3000 m. The new species is distinguished from its congeners primarily by the morphology of the first male gonopod: shape of the mesial, lateral and accessory lobes, outline of the apex and the meso-caudal projection of the spermatic channel. The new species raises to 24 the number of species included in *Neostrengeria*.

Key words: Freshwater crabs, Pseudothelphusidae, *Neostrengeria*, new species, Colombia

Introduction

The genus *Neostrengeria* Pretzmann, 1965, comprises a group of pseudothelphusid crabs that inhabit mountain streams in the Eastern Andes. The genus is endemic to Colombia and is distributed on the slopes and high plains of the Eastern Andes at elevations of 470 to 3000 m. The systematics and biogeography of the genus were reviewed by Campos & Rodríguez (1985), Campos & Lemaitre (1998), Campos & Pedraza, 2008, and Campos (1992, 1994, 2000, 2004, 2005). The discovery of a new species of *Neostrengeria*, described herein, raises the number of species in the genus to 24. The new species was found at an elevation of 490 m on the eastern slope of the Eastern Andes.

The genus *Neostrengeria* includes the most species in the family Pseudothelphusidae. Most of these species constitute an important part of the diet for people living in various areas of Colombia. They also represent an important trade income, as in the case of *Neostrengeria macropa* (H. Milne Edwards, 1853), which occurs in lakes and pounds around Bogotá. This species was recently considered endangered due to indiscriminate catches (Campos, 2007).

The terminology used for the different processes of the gonopod is that established by Smalley (1964), Rodríguez (1982) and Campos (2005). The material is deposited in the Museo de Historia Natural, Instituto de Ciencias Naturales, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá (ICN-MHN). The abbreviations *cb* and *cl* indicate carapace breadth and carapace length respectively. The color nomenclature follows Smithe (1975).

Taxonomy

Family Pseudothelphusidae Rathbun, 1893

Tribe Hypolobocerini Pretzmann, 1971

Genus *Neostrengeria* Pretzmann, 1965