



***Solenotheres prolixus*, a new genus and new species of pinnotherid crab
(Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura) associated with the razor clam,
Solen corneus Lamarck, 1818 (Solenidae) in Vietnam**

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Abstract

A new genus and new species of pinnotherid crab, *Solenotheres prolixus*, is described from the razor clam, *Solen corneus* (Solenidae), in Vietnam. The new genus is characterised by its broad and subquadrate carapace, a spatuliform third maxilliped dactylus that is inserted near the base of the propodus, and asymmetrical third ambulatory legs.

Key words: Decapoda, Crustacea, Brachyura, Pinnotheridae, new genus, new species, Vietnam

Introduction

While pinnotherid crabs have been found in many groups of bivalves, only one species is so far known from razor clams (Solenidae), *Viridotheres gracilis* (Bürger, 1895) (Bürger, 1895; Schmitt *et al.* 1973; Ahyong & Ng 2007a). A pinnotherid specimen that was collected in early 2010 from *Solen corneus* Lamarck, 1818, from southwestern Vietnam could not be identified with any known genus or species. It is here described as a new genus and new species.

The holotype is deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC) of the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore. The following abbreviations are used: cl = carapace length; cw = carapace width; MXP3 = third maxilliped; P2–5 = pereopods 2–5, respectively. Morphological terminology generally follows Manning (1993).

Taxonomic account

Family Pinnotheridae De Haan, 1833

***Solenotheres*, new genus**

Type species. *Solenotheres prolixus*, **new species**, by present designation.

Diagnosis (female). Carapace very broad, subquadrate, width 1.5 times length; weakly calcified; dorsal surface smooth, glabrous; regions poorly defined; anterior part gently raised medially but without distinct ridge; anterolateral margin rounded. Eyes small, cornea pigmented; not visible in dorsal view. MXP3 with ischium, merus completely fused, no trace of suture; palp 3 segmented; carpus shorter than propodus;