

Redescription of *Callianassa jousseaumei* Nobili, 1904, a junior subjective synonym of *Callianassa indica* de Man, 1905 with description of a new species of *Neocallichirus* (Decapoda: Axiidea: Callianassidae)

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Abstract

Investigation of newly collected material from the Philippines during the Panglao Marine Biodiversity Project 2004, together with re-examination of the type material of *Callianassa jousseaumei* Nobili, 1904 and numerous specimens identified as *Neocallichirus indicus* (de Man, 1905), revealed that the latter is identical with the former and has to be considered a junior synonym of *Callianassa jousseaumei*. A redescription of this species is presented together with notes on its morphological variability and its ecology. A new species of *Neocallichirus*, *N. vaugelasi*, is described for specimens from Aqaba, previously attributed erroneously to *C.* (or *N.*) *jousseaumei*, and *N. natalensis* Barnard, 1947 is removed from the synonymy of the latter. This is the first record of this species for the Philippines and Thailand.

Key words: *Callianassa jousseaumei*, *Callianassa indica*, *Callianassa natalensis*, *Neocallichirus*, the Philippines, synonymisation

Introduction

Nobili (1904) briefly described *Callianassa jousseaumei* based on material from "mer Rouge", "Djibouti et Périm" (M. Jousseaume), "Djibouti" (M. Coutière) and "golfe de Tadjourah" (M. Faurot). Nobili (1906) was more specific, provided figures and also provided information on sex and numbers: Djibouti et Périm (M. Jousseaume) 10 males and 9 females; mer Rouge (M. Jousseaume) 2 females; Djibouti (M. Coutière) 4 males and 3 females; golfe de Tadjourah (M. Faurot) 1 male and 1 female.

De Man (1905) described *Callianassa indica* based on a single male from Kangeang, Indonesia, lacking the major cheliped. Later, Edmondson (1944) described *Callianassa variabilis* from Hawaii, which he considered very similar to *C. jousseaumei* and *C. indica*. Subsequent records of *C. indica* were from Mauritius (Kensley 1976) and Okinawa (Sakai 1987). De Saint Laurent & LeLoeuff (1979) placed both *C. jousseaumei* and *C. indica* in the genus *Callichirus* Stimpson, 1866.

In the 1980s, Jean de Vaugelas (Univ. Nice, France) studied the ecology of callianassids at Aqaba, Red Sea. He developed a method for collecting deep-burrowing shrimps, the "weighted line" method (de Vaugelas 1985). One species collected from subtidal sandy bottoms was new and described as *Callichirus* (currently *Glypturus*) *laurae* de Saint Laurent, 1984 (in de Vaugelas & de Saint Laurent 1984). The other species was tentatively identified as *Callichirus jousseaumei* Nobili, 1904 by M. de Saint Laurent. De Vaugelas (1984) used this name when describing the burrows. Later, de Vaugelas (1990) in an unpublished thesis mentioned that M. de Saint Laurent had doubt about the identity as *C. jousseaumei* after she had received additional material from Aqaba. She communicated to de Vaugelas that his material is a new species different from *C. jousseaumei*. Dworschak (1992), who had received one of the specimens collected by de Vaugelas uncritically attributed it to *C. jousseaumei* and provided some figures. Sakai (1999) based his account on the very same female specimen (NHMW 6980) and placed it into *Neocallichirus* Sakai, 1988. In the diagnosis, he mentioned that the male second pleopod lacks both appendix masculina and appendix interna, referring to fig. 22g, which is actually from SMF 4959, a specimen not listed under "Material examined" for *N. jousseaumei*, but for *N. indicus* (see Sakai 1999: 99). Sakai (1999) studied the holotype of *C. indica*, but not the type material of *C. jousseaumei*, which is stored in Paris and Turin. In addition, he synonymised