



A new species of *Raphidopus* Stimpson, 1858, from the Persian Gulf (Crustacea: Decapoda: Anomura: Porcellanidae)

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Abstract

A new species of porcellanid crab, *Raphidopus persicus*, is described from Iran and Iraq in the Persian Gulf. The species is distinguished from its congeners, *R. ciliatus* Stimpson, 1858, *R. indicus* Henderson, 1893, and *R. johnsoni* Ng & Nakasone, 1994, by a combination of carapace features, structure of the third maxilliped and thoracic sternum, cheliped armature, and proportions of the ambulatory legs.

Key words: Decapoda, Crustacea, Anomura, Porcellanidae, *Raphidopus*, new species, Persian Gulf

Introduction

The porcellanid genus *Raphidopus* Stimpson, 1858, currently contains three species, all from the Indo-West Pacific region: *R. ciliatus* Stimpson, 1858 (type species), *R. indicus* Henderson, 1893, and *R. johnsoni* Ng & Nakasone, 1994 (Osawa & McLaughlin 2010: 115). Ng & Nakasone (1994) reviewed the genus, providing diagnoses of the three species. We here report a fourth species from the Persian Gulf, *Raphidopus persicus* **new species**.

Measurements, in millimetres, are of the carapace width and length respectively. Material examined is deposited in the Zoological Museum of Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran (ZMSB); and Zoological Reference Collection of the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore (ZRC).

Taxonomic account

Family Porcellanidae Haworth, 1825

Raphidopus Stimpson, 1858

Raphidopus persicus new species

(Figs. 1, 2)

Raphidopus indicus—Haig 1966: 62, fig. 6; Apel 2001: 43 (not *Raphidopus indicus* Henderson, 1893).

Raphidopus ciliatus—Tirmizi & Ghani 1994: 71 (part), fig. 1J; Siddiqui & Kazmi 2003: 88 (part) (not *Raphidopus ciliatus* Stimpson, 1858).

Material examined. Holotype: male (8.5 × 6.8 mm) (ZMSB), west of Hormozgan, Qeshm Island, Iran, Persian Gulf, 27°01'N 56°08'E - 27°01'N 56°12' E, 17–19m depth, coll. shrimp bottom trawl, M. Safaei, 20 December