



Article

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A new species of the genus *Philarius* (Crustacea: Decapoda: Palaemonidae) from Ryukyu Islands, Japan

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Abstract

A new species of scleractinian coral associating pontoniine shrimp, *Philarius rufulus* **sp. nov.** is described and illustrated based on a single ovigerous female from Ryukyu Islands.

Key words: Pontoniinae, *Philarius rufulus* **sp. nov.**, coral associate shrimp

Introduction

A pontoniine shrimp living in a scleractinian coral of the genus *Acropora* was photographed and collected by R. Minemizu who is in the course of making a guidebook of marine crustaceans in Japan. The specimen has been referred to the genus *Philarius* that was recently revised by Marin and Anker (2011) and Marin (2012) containing eight named species from the depressed body form, absence of the hepatic spine and palp of mandible, and presence of broad triangular median process on fourth thoracic sternite. From the characteristic colour pattern and the morphology, the specimen was identified as the ninth species of the genus and herein described and illustrated as a new species.

The single holotype specimen is deposited in the University Museum of Ryukyus (RUMF). Abbreviations are used for the carapace length (CL, dorsally from the postorbital margin to the posterior border of the carapace) and body length (BL, dorsally from the postorbital margin to the end of the telson) as standard measurements. For the drawings of the mouthparts, dissected parts were stained with methylene blue solution to increase contrast.

Taxonomic accounts

Family Palaemonidae Rafinesque, 1815

Subfamily Pontoniinae Kingsley, 1878

Genus *Philarius* Holthuis, 1952

Philarius rufulus **sp. nov.**

(figs. 1–4)

Material examined. Holotype ovigerous female (CL 4.5mm, BL 13.1mm), Cape Maeda, Okinawa Island, Japan, 5 m depth, from *Acropora* sp., coll. R. Minemizu, 11 Oct. 2011, RUMF-ZC-1896.

Etymology. From the Latin *rufulus* (reddish), referring to the characteristic brownish colour in the living specimen. **Common name.** Suo-midori-ishi-ebi (new Japanese name).

Description. A small-sized pontoniine shrimp with depressed body form (figs. 1A, 4).