



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3652.2.4>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:02E6C74A-4381-42F5-87F5-75ECEBFE2EC9>

## *Thampramon tonvuthi*, a new genus and new species of cavernicolous crab (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Potamidae) from Thailand

PETER K. L. NG<sup>1,3</sup> & CHAVALIT VIDTHAYANON<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, Faculty of Science, National University of Singapore, 14 Science Drive 4, 117543 Republic of Singapore

<sup>2</sup>Environment Programme, Mekong River Commission Secretariat, Fa Ngum Road, Ban Sithan Noua, Vientian 01000, Laos.

E-mail: [chavalit@mrcmekong.org](mailto:chavalit@mrcmekong.org)

<sup>3</sup>Corresponding author. E-mail: [peterng@nus.edu.sg](mailto:peterng@nus.edu.sg)

### Abstract

A new genus and species of potamid cavernicolous crab, *Thampramon tonvuthi* **sp. nov.**, is described from Thailand. While superficially similar to *Tiwaripotamon* Bott, 1970, *Phaibulamon* Ng, 1992, and *Nemoron* Ng, 1996, the new genus possesses a unique combination of morphological characters including a distinctive carapace form, possession of a relatively long third maxilliped exopod, long ambulatory legs and a unique male first gonopod.

**Key words:** Crustacea, Brachyura, Potamidae, taxonomy, cavernicoles, new genus, new species, Thailand

### Introduction

The freshwater crabs of the families Potamidae Ortmann, 1893, and Gecarcinucidae Rathbun, 1904, are extremely diverse in Thailand and more than 100 species have been recorded so far (updated from Yeo & Ng 1999, 2007). This is the highest in Indochina, which has an estimated 200 known species (see Yeo & Ng 1999; Cumberlidge *et al.* 2009). Despite this diversity, very few species are known from caves. For gecarcinucids, only *Phricotelphusa deharvengi* Ng, 1988 (southern Thailand), has been reported as a cavernicole, although it is unlikely to be an obligate troglobite. Only three species of potamids are known only from caves so far: *Phaibulamon stilipes* Ng, 1992 (northwestern Thailand), *Erebusa calobates* Yeo & Ng, 199 (southern Laos), and *Tiwaripotamon edostilus* Ng & Yeo, 2001 (northern Vietnam). One species, *Nemoron nomas* Ng, 1996, has been found in caves in central Vietnam but it also occurs in the adjacent forests.

We here describe a new genus and new species of a cavernicolous potamid, *Thampramon tonvuthi* **gen. et. sp. nov.** from Thailand. While superficially resembling *Phaibulamon stilipes*, it has a suite of characters that indicate it should be placed in its own genus. In the general form of the carapace, mouthparts and male gonopods, *Thampramon tonvuthi* **gen. et. sp. nov.** appears to be closest to *Nemoron nomas* from Vietnam. Specimens examined are deposited in the National Inland Fisheries Institute (NIFI), Thai Department of Fisheries, Bangkok, Thailand; and Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC) of the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore. The abbreviations G1 and G2 are used for the male first and second gonopods, respectively. Measurements provided (in millimetres) are of the carapace width and length, respectively.

### Systematic account

#### Family Potamidae Ortmann, 1896

#### *Thampramon* **gen. nov.**

**Diagnosis.** Carapace subquadrate, surfaces relatively smooth; anterolateral margin distinctly convex, serrated