



***Samadinia longispina*, a new genus and species of deep-sea spider crab from the western Pacific, and a new species of *Rochinia* A. Milne-Edwards, 1875, from Papua New Guinea (Crustacea: Brachyura: Majoidea: Epialtidae)**

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Abstract

A new genus, *Samadinia* n. gen., and new species, *Samadinia longispina* n. sp., of deep-water epialtid spider crab is described from French Polynesia and New Caledonia. The new genus is superficially similar to *Rochinia* A. Milne-Edwards, 1875, but can be distinguished by having the dorsal surface of the carapace covered with small, rounded granules (versus with long spines or strong tubercles), well developed hepatic and lateral branchial spines (versus relatively shorter and weaker), a prominently constricted male thoracic sternite 4 (versus relatively broader with less prominent or without median constriction) and a proportionally broader male abdomen. A new species of *Rochinia*, *R. granulosa* n. sp., is also described from Papua New Guinea. It is easily distinguished from congeners its small adult size, the presence of numerous relatively large granules on the carapace and a relatively short hepatic spine.

Key words: taxonomy, Crustacea, Brachyura, Epialtidae, new genus, new species, *Rochinia*, West Pacific

Introduction

A 2009 French expedition, TARASOC, surveyed the Tarava Seamounts, a recently discovered chain situated south of the Society Islands in French Polynesia (Smith & Sandwell 1997; Clouard *et al.* 2003; Neall & Trevick 2008). The TARASOC cruise obtained an unusual new species of majoid crab characterised by an evenly granular carapace and two very long spines on each lateral border. Examination of this specimen and two similar ones from New Caledonia showed that it should be referred to a new genus and new species, allied to the epialtid *Rochinia* A. Milne-Edwards, 1875. A new species of *Rochinia*, superficially resembling the new genus and new species from the Tarava Seamounts, is also described from Papua New Guinea.

The classification of the Majoidea follows Ng *et al.* (2008). The terminology used essentially follows Griffin & Tranter (1986); the abbreviations G1 and G2 are used for the male first and second pleopods, respectively. Measurements (in millimeters) are of the carapace length followed by carapace width (measured at the base of spines). Specimens examined are deposited in the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN); Natural History Museum (NHM), London; and Zoological Reference Collection of the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research (ZRC), National University of Singapore.

Systematic account

Superfamily Majoidea Samouelle, 1819

Family Epialtidae MacLeay, 1838