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***Ctenocheloides boucheti* n. sp., a new ghost shrimp from Papua New Guinea (Decapoda, Axiidea, Ctenochelidae)**

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Abstract

Ctenocheloides boucheti, the third species in this widespread but rare genus, is described from Papua New Guinea. It differs from the others in having more acute distal lobe on the eyestalk, more prominent distal bifid tooth on the cheliped ischium, longer cheliped fingers, shorter telson and the antennular and antennal peduncles reaching similar lengths.

Key words: Crustacea, Decapoda, Axiidea, *Ctenocheloides*, new species, Papua New Guinea

Introduction

The callianassid subfamily Ctenochelinae Manning & Felder, 1991 was elevated to family rank by Sakai (2005). Sakai & Sawada (2006), Sakai (2011) and Dworschak *et al.* (2012) treated it at this level, the last in their major review of Axiidea and Gebiidea. They cited evidence that Gourretiidae Sakai, 1999 may be a junior synonym. The family includes *Ctenocheles* Kishinouye, 1926, with six described species, *Ctenocheloides* Anker, 2010, with two species, and monotypic *Kiictenocheloides* Sakai, 2013, plus potentially almost 20 species currently in Gourretiidae. Much remains to be done to resolve callianassoid taxonomy.

Ctenocheloides was the second genus placed in Ctenochelidae (s.s.) but was shortly thereafter placed in its own family Ctenocheloidae by Sakai (2011). His family diagnosis is virtually the generic diagnosis of Anker (2010) presented without a strong argument for why family status was preferred over genus status for its single species. *Ctenocheloides* is treated here as a member of Ctenochelidae. *Ctenocheloides* comprises two species, *C. attenboroughi* Anker, 2010 from Madagascar (type species) and *C. almeidai* Anker & Pachel, 2013 from Brazil. A third, *C. nomurai* Komai, 2013, was removed to a new genus *Kiictenocheloides* by Sakai (2013) on the basis of it having dissimilar rather than similar chelipeds. Members of both genera are immediately recognisable at first glance in a collection of callianassoids by the first and second pleomeres being more swollen than more posterior ones of the abdomen.

Three individuals of a new species of *Ctenocheloides* were discovered among more than 30 species of callianassids collected during the ‘La Planète Revisitée’ expedition to the Madang lagoon, Papua New Guinea, organised by the Muséum nationale d’Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN). Material is deposited in the MNHN. Representative setae are illustrated to show lengths and others indicated by small basal ovals. The mandible, maxillule, maxilla and maxilliped 1 and 2 that differ little between species and are barely informative at the generic level, were dissected but not illustrated.

Family Ctenochelidae Manning & Felder, 1991

***Ctenocheloides* Anker, 2010**

Ctenocheloides Anker, 2010: 1790–1791.

489, fig. 2g) reported and illustrated a small lobe that they were unable to identify—its shape conforms with one half of the lower lip that sits in a shallow cavity on the posterior face of the mandible.

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