

# NOTES AND NEWS

DECAPOD CRUSTACEANS NEW TO THE FAUNA OF THE AEGEAN SEA

BY

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Koukouras et al. (1992) listed 231 decapod species (74 Natantia, 23 Macrura Reptantia, 35 Anomura, 99 Brachyura) known from the Aegean Sea. Since then, a number of publications (D'Udekem d'Acoz, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996; Kevrekidis & Kevrekidis, 1996; Koukouras & Türkay, 1996; Koukouras, 1998; Koukouras et al., 1998, 1999) have increased the number of decapods known from this area.

Recent additional sampling (fig. 1), both in the northern and southern part of the Aegean Sea, revealed the presence of the following decapod species that have not been recorded before as elements of the Aegean fauna.

## **Pandalina profunda** Holthuis, 1946

1 ♂; sta. 3, off Iraklion, Crete, depth 500 m, silty substratum, 12.vi.1992; Cl = 7 mm.

The known distribution of the species covers the eastern Atlantic (from Barents Sea and Norway to Senegal) and the Mediterranean (Zariquey Alvarez, 1968; Lagardère 1970, 1971; Crosnier & Forest, 1973). In the Mediterranean, it has been known only from Rosas and the Barcelona coast (Zariquey Alvarez, 1968) and Alboran Island in the western basin (García Raso, 1985), as well as from Pomo in the central part of the Adriatic (Froglio, 1979). Its discovery in the Aegean significantly extends its known distribution in the Mediterranean.

## **Lysmata nilita** Dohrn & Holthuis, 1950

2 ♂♂; sta. 7, Olymbiada at Chalkidiki Peninsula, depth 0.9 m, among algae, 20.ix.1998; Cl = 2.5 and 4.0 mm.

This Atlanto-Mediterranean species is reported for the first time from the eastern Mediterranean (Levantine basin and Aegean Sea). It is known from the eastern

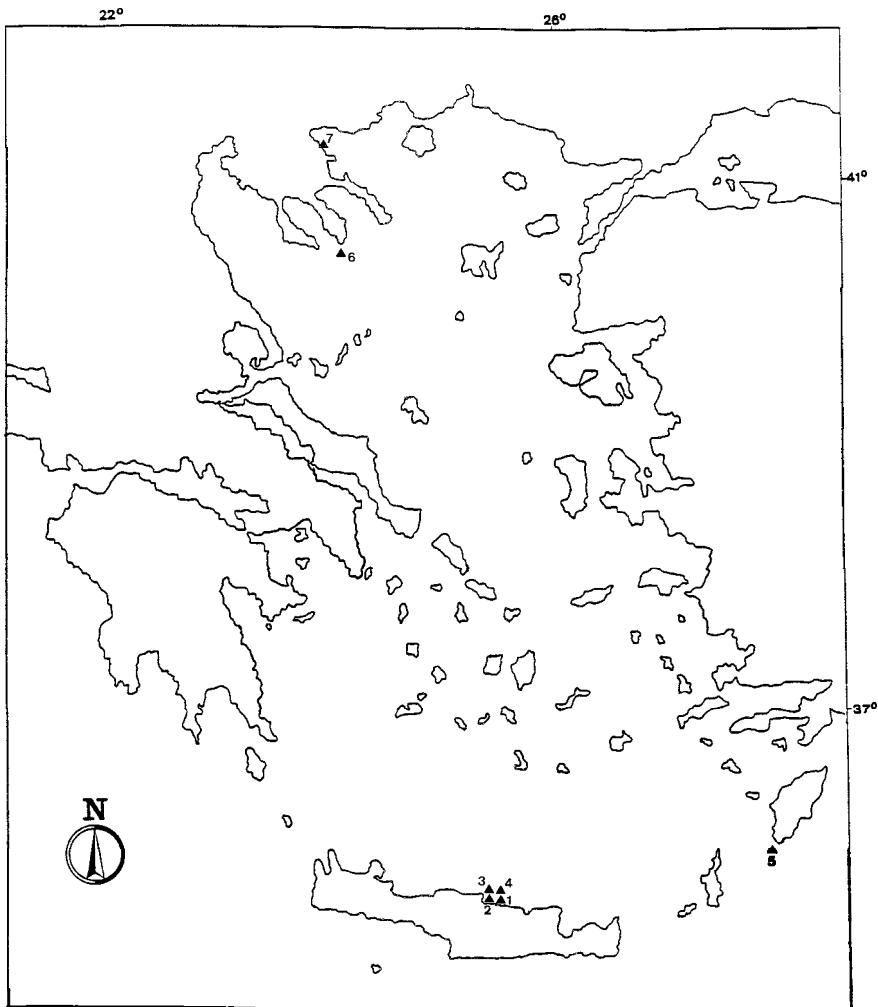


Fig. 1. Map of the Aegean Sea indicating the sampling stations.

central Atlantic, Canary Islands (Moreno & Fernández-Palacios, 1981). In the Mediterranean it was known from the Bay of Naples (Dohrn & Holthuis, 1950), Quarnazo, northern Adriatic (Foglia, 1979) and Giglio Island in the Tuscany Archipelago (Grippo, 1991).

#### **Lysmata olavoi** Fransen, 1991

2 ♂♂; sta. 1, off Iraklion, Crete, depth 70 m, silty substratum, 11.vi.1992; CI = 4.7 and 5.0 mm.

The Aegean specimens are very similar to specimens from the type-locality (fig. 2), the Azores and the Salvage Islands in the Atlantic. The only minor

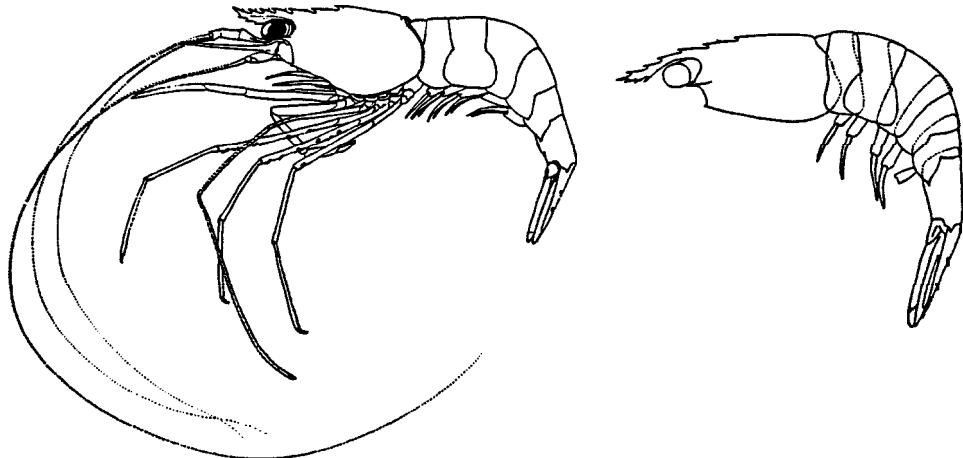


Fig. 2. *Lysmata olavoi* Fransen, 1991. On the left, male allotype ( $Cl = 9.2$  mm) (after Fransen, 1991); on the right, male from the Aegean Sea ( $Cl = 5.0$  mm).

difference observed concerns the number of fused antennular segments, which in the Aegean specimens are 14, while in *L. olavoi* there are at least 27. However, this character is correlated with the size of the specimens (Fransen, 1991) and the Aegean specimens are much smaller.

This species has been known only from its type-localities in the Atlantic (Fransen, 1991). The discovery of *L. olavoi* in the Aegean Sea significantly extends its known distributional area, while the number of species of the genus *Lysmata* known from the Mediterranean rises to three. The other species, *L. seticaudata* (Risso, 1816) and *L. nilita* Dohrn & Holthuis, 1950, are inhabitants of shallow waters (Dohrn, 1950; Dohrn & Holthuis, 1950), whereas *L. olavoi* seems to inhabit greater depths: the type-material was collected at 135–360 m (Fransen, 1991); our material from the Aegean, at 70 m depth.

#### **Odontozona minoica** Dounas & Koukouras, 1989

1 ♂; sta. 2, off Iraklion, Crete, depth 125 m, silty substratum, 15.vi.1991;  $Cl$  (excluding rostrum) = 4.5 mm.

This endemic Mediterranean species has been known only from its type-locality (holotype, 1 ovigerous ♀) on the northwestern coast of Crete (Dounas & Koukouras, 1989). This new record refers to the first ♂ specimen, that is very similar to the female holotype. Pretus (1990) described *O. addaia*, the second Mediterranean *Odontozona*, and compared it with *O. minoica*.

**Eryoneicus puritanii** Lo Bianco, 1903

2 ♂♂; sta. 6, off south coast of Sithonia Peninsula (Chalkidiki), depth 750 m (collected with mid-water trawl), 20.vii.1993; Cl = 5.0 and 10.0 mm.

Bate (1888), who established the genus *Eryoneicus*, suggested for the first time that *Eryoneicus* specimens resemble the “young and immature form of some species allied to *Polycheles* . . . , but there are certain features that seem to be opposed to this supposition”. Lo Bianco (1903), accepting the view of Faxon (1895), that the *Eryoneicus* are individual forms, described *E. puritanii*. The old hypothesis of Bate (1888) was once strongly contradicted by Bouvier (1915), but Bernard (1953) presented sufficient arguments that the *Eryoneicus* are pelagic larvae of *Polycheles* and related genera.

Thus, our specimens, bearing a simple, strong rostrum, belong to *E. puritanii*, which is a larval stage of a species of the genus *Polycheles*. Taking into account that only *Polycheles typhlops typhlops* Heller, 1862 is known from the Mediterranean, we can accept that these specimens are larvae of this species.

*E. puritanii* was known in the Mediterranean only from the island of Capri (Lo Bianco, 1903). It is known from several localities in the Atlantic (Lo Bianco, 1903; Selbie, 1914; Bouvier, 1917; García Raso, 1996).

**Galathea machadoi** Barrois, 1888

1 ♂; sta. 4, off Iraklion, Crete, depth 130 m, coralligenous substratum, 10.v.1990; Cl = 5.0 mm. 1 ovig. ♀; sta. 2, off Iraklion, Crete, depth 130 m, coralligenous substratum, 7.iv.1989; Cl = 6.0 mm, carrying about 70 eggs, with a mean diameter of 0.4 mm. 1 ♂; sta. 5, off southwestern coast of Rhodos Island, depth 130-140 m, coralligenous substratum, 14.vi.1990; Cl = 5.0 mm.

These records of *G. machadoi* are the first from the Mediterranean. This Atlanto-Mediterranean species was known only from its type-locality, east of Pico Island, Azores (Barrois, 1888; Milne-Edwards & Bouvier, 1894) and from various sites around the Azores, Cape Verde Islands, and northern Bay of Biscay (De Saint-Laurent, 1971).

The above collections, combined with recent data from other authors, significantly increase the number of decapod species known from the Aegean Sea. Also, the known Mediterranean fauna is enriched by 2 more species (*Lysmata olavoi*, *Galathea machadoi*). The new information obtained on the decapod fauna should be attributed mainly to the increased sampling efforts in specific habitats, and at greater depths. On the other hand, these new data make the homogeneity of the decapod fauna from all over the Atlanto-Mediterranean zoogeographical subregion more obvious, especially both inside and outside the Mediterranean basin.

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