

SELECTION AND DESCRIPTION OF A LECTOTYPE
FOR *MUNIDA PROXIMA* HENDERSON, 1885
(DECAPODA, GALATHEIDAE)

BY

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While working on the galatheid collection of the International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE), one specimen with short rostrum, was separated from a lot referable to *Munida scabra*. The single specimen was put aside as *Munida proxima*¹). Since the only available description was that of Henderson who described *M. proxima* as a new species (1885: 410), followed by a slightly more detailed description and illustration (1888: 135, pl. XIII fig. 2). The existing description and illustration are inadequate for the identification of the specimen at hand. On request, authorities of the British Museum (Natural History), London, very kindly sent the type material on loan. Since Henderson mentions an ovigerous female (1888: 136) I have selected this specimen as a lectotype, which is described below.

Measurements of the lectotype (♀ ovig.) in mm. — Carapace + rostral length 10.6; rostral length 2; carapace breadth 9; length detached cheliped 41; length chela 16.5; length finger 8; length palm 8.5.

The rostrum is spiniform, short and slightly up-turned near the tip. It

¹ This taxon is for the present taken as a variant of *Munida scabra* Henderson, 1885.

measures less than one-fourth the length of the carapace and nearly twice the length of the supraorbitals. The carapace is pubescent and covered with finely crenulated, broken striae or scales tipped with minute spinules. In addition to these the carapace is armed with a pair of fairly well developed spines situated behind the supraorbitals; two to three prominent spines can also be seen behind each bifurcation of the cervical groove as illustrated in fig. 1. The posterior margin of the carapace is beaded and bears a few small spinules.

The sculpture of the abdomen consists of fine granules, granulated striae, and spines of various sizes, the most prominent are a pair of submedian spines on each of the two striae present on the second as well as the third segment; on the fourth abdominal segment however, there are four spines on the anterior and a single mid-dorsal one on the posterior stria.

The pterygostomian flap is elongated, the anterodorsal margin is granulated and bears long setae. Moreover, its entire surface is beset with one long and several short striae all of which are setose, the setae are remarkably long anteriorly as illustrated in fig. 2.

Anterior margin of the third thoracic sternite has a V-shaped median notch, on either side of which it is slightly bulging and crenulated, the anterolateral angles are smooth and rounded (fig. 3).

The ocular peduncles are furnished with hairy scales, the 'lashes' are long and outreaching the outer margin of the cornea (fig. 1).

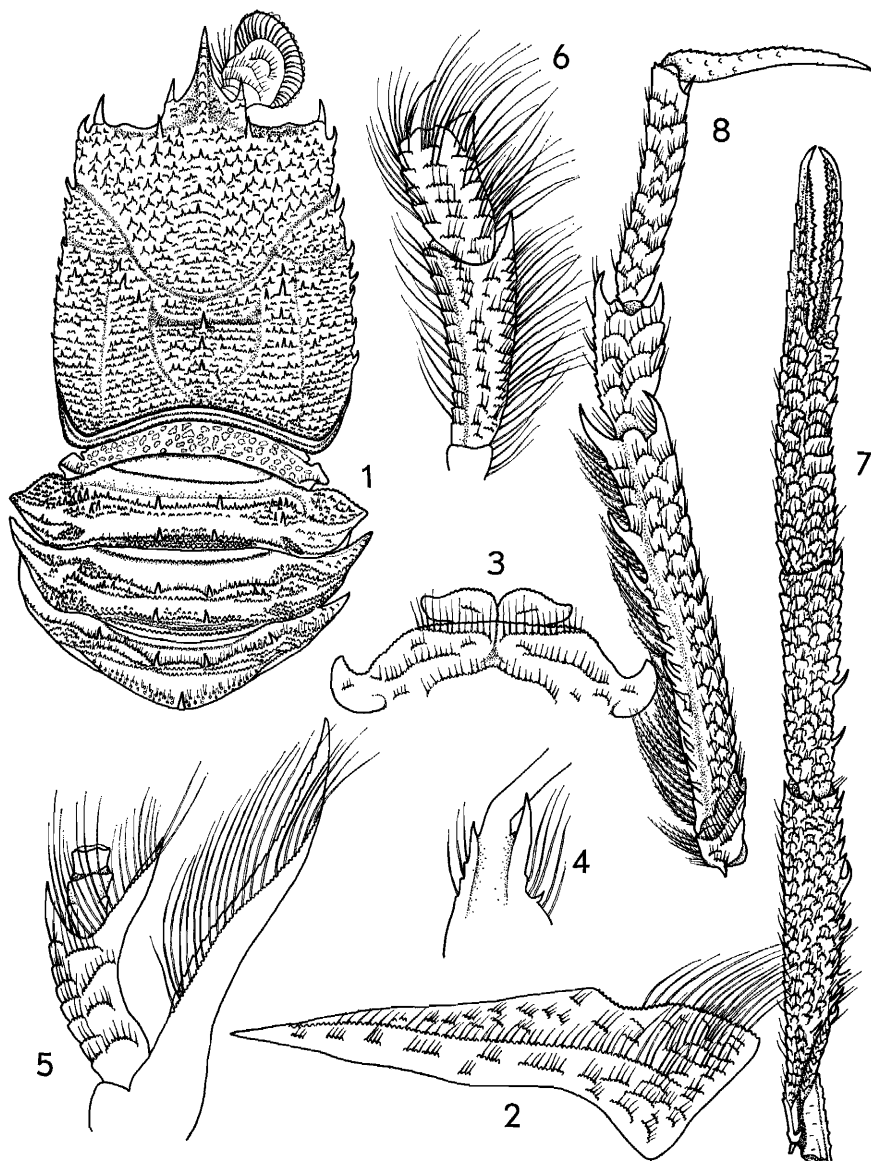
The proximal portion of the basal segment of the antennule is somewhat globular and with an elongated neck distally. The distal angles are each produced into a spine, that on the inner one being considerably smaller (fig. 4). The basal spine of the antennal peduncle (fig. 5) is large and far outreaching the distal margin of the basal segment of the antennule. The second segment is narrow and elongated, both the distomedian and distolateral spines are well developed, the median one is longer, extending beyond the ultimate segment.

The distolateral angle of the merus, as well as that of the ischium of the third maxilliped, is unarmed; whereas the disto-median angle of the ischium is produced into a strong spine, the merus is armed with a single spine on its inner margin (fig. 6).

Both chelipeds and all the walking legs are detached. The cheliped (fig. 7) is slender and covered with finely granulated setose scales, some are even tipped with spinules. Strong spines are present on the inner margin of the merus and carpus, one detached walking leg is illustrated in fig. 8; as can be seen, the scales are similar to those of the chelipeds, marginal spines and setae are, however, more strongly developed. Epipods are wanting on all the pereopods.

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Figs. 1-8. *Munida proxima* Henderson, 1885, lectotype, ovigerous female. 1, animal in dorsal view; 2, right pterygostomial flap; 3, anterior part of sternal segments; 4, anterior part of basal segment of right antennule, in dorsal view; 5, right antennal peduncle, in ventral view; 6, part of endopod of right third maxilliped, in ventral view; 7, left detached cheliped; 8, right detached walking leg.

LITERATURE CITED

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