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## Galatheids, chirostylids and porcellanids (Crustacea, Decapoda, Anomura) from the Eocene and Oligocene of Vicenza (northern Italy)

Antonio De Angeli, Alessandro Garassino

Associazione Amici del Museo "G. Zannato", Piazza Marconi, 15, I-36075 Montecchio Maggiore (Vicenza), Italy.  
Dipartimento di Paleontologia degli Invertebrati, Museo civico di Storia naturale. C.so Venezia 55, I-20121 Milano, Italy.

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### Abstract

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At Monte Magrè a series of calcarenites of Ypresian and Lutetian age is exposed. The anomuran faunas were collected from the lower strata in this succession, along the road from Monte Magrè to Monte di Malo. These levels, indurated and white in color, contain nummulitid foraminifera, nodules and fragments of coralligenous algae, and moulds of corals, molluscs and other decapod crustaceans (e.g. *Cyamocarcinus angustifrons* Bittner, 1883).

### Introduction

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Cenozoic strata in the Vicenza area have yielded rich assemblages of fossil decapod crustaceans for over two centuries. Numerous scientists have contributed to our knowledge of this group of animals, which is characterized by good preservation and a high diversity. A recent systematic update of fossil decapod crustaceans of the province of Vicenza by de [Angeli & Beschin \(2001\)](#) includes a checklist of all species known to date, as well as a brief synthesis of the main Cenozoic outcrops that yield decapod crustaceans, recording 144 species in total. [De Angeli & Garassino \(2002\)](#) have recently described a rich anomuran assemblage of representatives of the families [Galatheidae](#) → Samouelle, 1819, Chirostylidae Ortmann, 1892, and Porcellanidae Haworth, 1825, from Eocene and Oligocene deposits in this area (Ypresian coralligenous calcarenites of Monte Magrè, Priabonian of S. Feliciano Hill and Alonte quarry and Lower Oligocene of Valmarana and Creazzo).

### Localities

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San Feliciano Hill is located about two kilometers south of Alonte quarry; its section shows a sequence of levels similar to that at Alonte quarry. From San Feliciano Hill, [Fabiani \(1910\)](#) described *Phlyctenodes dalpiazii* Fabiani, 1910.

At Alonte quarry levels dated as late Middle Eocene (Bartonian) and Priabonian are exposed. The lower levels comprise biocalcarenites, characterized by the presence of numerous inner moulds of molluscs and corals, fragmentary specimens of *Prototherium*, and some crustaceans [*Italialbunea lutetiana* (Beschin & De Angeli, 1984), *Hepaticus poverelli* Via, 1959, and *Eopalicus imbricatus* de Angeli & Beschin, 2000 (see [de Angeli, 1998](#); [de Angeli & Beschin, 1999, 2000](#))]. The middle and upper levels at the quarry, consisting of marly limestone, contain bryozoans, bivalves, echinoderms, and an association of calcareous nannofossils assignable to the lower part of the Priabonian. The top of the quarry, comprising limestones, contains fragments of algae, corals, and decapod crustaceans, as described by [de Angeli & Garassino \(2002\)](#).

Valmarana is situated on the northern edge of Monti Berici. The decapod crustacean-yielding levels here (*Micromaia* sp., *Galathea weinfurteri* Bachmayer, 1950; see [Beschin et al., 1985](#); [Vicariotto & Beschin, 1994](#)) comprise nodular limestones, containing corals, algae, rhodophytes, miliolids and small nummulitids. These strata, of Early Oligocene age, correspond to the Level 1 in the stratigraphic series surveyed by [Fabiani \(1915\)](#).

## Fauna

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[De Angeli & Garassino \(2002\)](#) described a sample of 194 specimens preserved in yellow calcarenites, housed at the Museo civico di Storia naturale di Milano and at the Museo civico “G. Zannato” at Montecchio Maggiore (Vicenza). This sample has yielded the following species of galatheids, chirostylids and porcellanids ([Fig. 1](#)):

*Acanthogalathea* Müller & Collins, 1991

*A. parva* (Müller & Collins, 1991)

*A. feldmanni* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*Galathea* Fabricius, 1793

*G. berica* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*G. valmaranensis* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*G. cf. weinfurteri* Bachmayer, 1950

*Lessinigalathea* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*L. regale* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*Palaeomunida* Lörenthey, 1901

*P. defecta* Lörenthey, 1901

*P. multicristata* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*Spathagalathea* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*S. minuta* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

Chirostylidae Ortmann, 1892

*Eumunida* Smith, 1883

*E. pentacantha* (Müller & Collins, 1991)

Porcellanidae Haworth, 1825

*Beripetrolisthes* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*B. mulleri* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*Eopetrolisthes* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*E. striatissimus* (Müller & Collins, 1991)

*Lobipetrolisthes* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*L. blowi* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*Longoporcellana* Müller & Collins, 1991

*L. lobata* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*Petrolisthes* Stimpson, 1858

*P. bittneri* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002

*P. vicetinus* Beschin, de Angeli & Checchi, 2001

*Pisidia* Leach, 1820

*P. dorsosinuosa* de Angeli & Garassino, 2002



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Fig. 1. Eocene and Oligocene galatheids, chirostylids and porcellanids from Vicenza (carapace reconstructions, line drawings): 1 – *Galathea berica*, 2 – *Lessinigalathea regale*, 3 – *Palaeomunida defecta*, 4 – *Galathea valmaranensis*, 5 – *Palaeomunida multicristata*, 6 – *Acanthogalathea parva*, 7 – *Galathea* cf. *weinfurteri*, 8 – *Spathagalathea minuta*, 9 – *Acanthogalathea feldmanni*, 10 – *Lobipetrolisthes blowi*, 11 – *Eumunida pentacantha*, 12 – *Beripetrolisthes mulleri*, 13 – *Eopetrolisthes striatissimus*, 14 – *Petrolisthes bittneri*, 15 – *Petrolisthes vicetinus*, 16 – *Longoporcellana lobata*, 17 – *Pisidia dorsosinuosa*.



← **Galatheidae** Samouelle, 1819

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These taxa are typical of coralligenous settings that characterize three main formations, the oldest of which is of Ypresian (Early Eocene) date, situated near Contrada Gecchelina of Monte di Malo and Monte Magrè. This has produced *Lessinigalathea regale*. The level with decapod crustaceans, associated with corals, and found on the southwestern edge of Monti Berici at Alonte quarry and S. Feliciano, is of Priabonian (Late Eocene) age. Here amongst the coralligenous branches occur *Galathea berica*, *Acanthogalathea parva*\*, *A. feldmanni*, *Palaeomunida defecta*\*, *P. multicristata*, *Spathagalathea minuta*, *Eumunida pentacantha*\*, *Beripetrolisthes mulleri*, *Eopetrolisthes striatissimus*\*, *Lobipetrolisthes blowi*, *Longoporcellana lobata*, *Petrolisthes bittneri* and *Pisidia dorsosinuosa*. Five of these (marked with \* above) have been described previously from the Priabonian of Hungary (Lörenthey, 1901; Lörenthey & Beurlen, 1929; Müller & Collins, 1991). Limestones with decapod crustaceans, associated with corals, situated on the northern slope of Monti Berici (Valmarana, Perarolo, plus surrounding Case Soghe area and S. Gottardo) and Monti Lessini Vicentini (Monte Grumi di Castelgomberto, plus surrounding area of Creazzo and Colle della Chiesa di Altavilla), are of Early Oligocene age. These have yielded *Galathea valmaranensis*, *G. cf. weinfurteri*, *Palaeomunida defecta* and *Petrolisthes vicetinus*. *Palaeomunida defecta* is a widely distributed species in Priabonian deposits at Alonte quarry and S. Feliciano, and in the Lower Oligocene at Valmarana.

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