

*Myra subgranulata* Kossmann, 1877



Photo : Bella Gail

**Misidentification**

*Myra fugax*  
(Fabricius, 1798)  
(cf. Monod, 1930, et auct.)

Short description

Carapace subovate, prominently convex, finely granulate, regions ill-defined. Frontal region narrowed, upturned, bilobed. Orbits deep, eyes retractile. Hepatic region faceted, demarcated by row of granules dorsally and ventrally. Lateral margin of carapace finely beaded. Posterior margin with three long, granulate spines, median spine longest, distally upcurved. Chelipeds slender, elongate, varying in length with age and sex; merus granular; chelae cylindrical, fingers slender, long, gently curved inwards, interior margins finely denticulate. Walking legs slender, shorter than cheliped merus, dactyls lanceolate. Abdomen in male with segments 3-6 fused.

**color:** carapace orange brown, mottled. Chelipeds orange, fingers cream. Walking legs meri distally orange.

**size:** CL 4 cm.

Distinguishing characteristics

Three prominent spines on posterior margin of carapace, chelipeds as much as three times as long as carapace in adult males.

Biology / Ecology

Poorly known.

**habitat:** 8-150 m, on sandy, muddy bottoms.

Distribution

**Worldwide:** Western Indian Ocean, Red Sea to Madagascar. **Mediterranean:** recorded first from Palestine (Monod, 1930 [1929]); successively recorded from southern Turkey (Monod, 1930); Egypt (Balss, 1936) and Lebanon (Shiber, 1981).

Mode of introduction

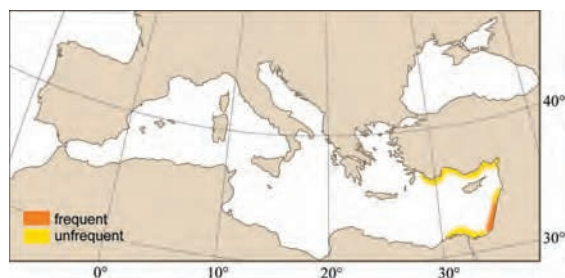
Via the Suez Canal (Calman, 1927).

Establishment

Abundant along the Israeli coast.

Importance to humans

None.



**1st Mediterranean record**  
Palestine, 1930 [1929]

**Key references**

- Galil B.S., 2001. A revision of *Myra* Leach, 1817 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Leucosioidea). *Zoologische Mededelingen*, Leiden, 75(24): 406-446.
- Monod Th., 1930. Über einige indo-pazifische Decapoden der Meeresfauna Syriens. *Zoologischer Anzeiger*, 92(5/6):135-141.