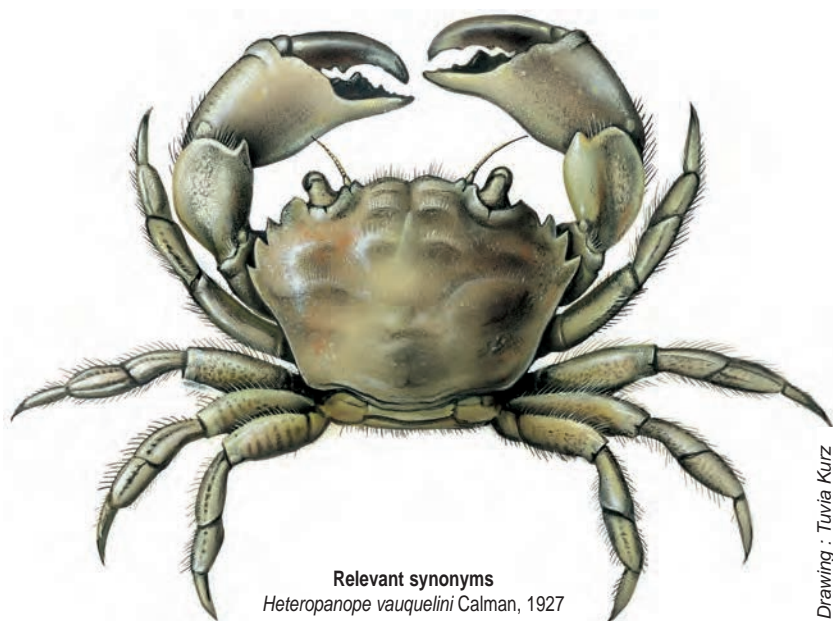


Pilumnopus vauquelini (Audouin, 1826)



Short description

Carapace oval, convex, smooth, mostly glabrous, hairs only on transverse granulate lines marking carapace regions. Front wide, with two broad median lobes separated from supra-orbital margin. Antero-lateral margins with four teeth. Chelipeds markedly unequal, dorsal margin of merus with acute teeth distally, surface of larger chela smooth, but for granules on upper margin. Walking legs laterally compressed, sparsely setose.

color: unrecorded.

size: CL 1 cm.

Distinguishing characteristics

Carapace nearly smooth with few transverse granulate, setose lines; four teeth on antero-lateral margin; male abdomen with segments 3-5 articulate.

Biology / Ecology

Ovigerous females October-December, egg diameter 0.35 mm.

habitat: 0-3 m, sandy mud, mixed with gravel and stones, or among *Halophila*, *Sargassum*, and rich vegetation.

Distribution

Worldwide: Red Sea and Persian Gulf. **Mediterranean:** recorded first from Egypt as *Heteropanope vauquelini* (Calman, 1927 [1924]). Successively recorded from Israel (Holthuis, 1956) and southern Turkey (Kocatas, 1981a).

Mode of introduction

Via the Suez Canal (Krukenberg, 1888).

Establishment

Rare.

Importance to humans

None.



1st Mediterranean record
Egypt, 1927 [1924].

Key references

- Bouvier E. L., 1940. Décapodes marcheurs. *Faune de France*, 37: 1-403.
- Calman W.T., 1927. Report on the Crustacea Decapoda (Brachyura). Zoological Results of the Cambridge Expedition to the Suez Canal, 1924. XIII. *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London*, 22: 211-217.