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A re-description of *Accalathura crenulata* (Richardson, 1901) from type material and the description of two new *Accalathura* species (Crustacea: Isopoda: Cymothoida)

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Abstract

Two new species of leptanthurid isopods in the genus *Accalathura* are described: *A. schotteae*, from collections off Panama and *A. kensleyi* from Belize (material previously identified as *A. crenulata* in the collections of the National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C.). The type species of the genus, *Calathura crenulata* Richardson, 1901, is redescribed from type material and a key to the species of *Accalathura* in the Caribbean and an adjacent region is given.

Key words: Cymothoida, Anthuroidea, Leptanthuridae, *Accalathura*, Caribbean, *A. schotteae*, *A. kensleyi*, *A. crenulata*

Introduction

The genus *Accalathura* Barnard, 1925 contains 28 species, mostly distributed within the Indo-Pacific (Poore & Lew Ton, 1990), but with two known species (*A. crenulata* (Richardson, 1901) and *A. setosa* Kensley, 1984) in the Caribbean and adjacent region (northwestern Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico) and one (*A. gigantissima* Kussakin, 1967) in the Antarctic (Poore, 1981, 2001). *Accalathura* species are easily distinguished from other anthuroid genera by the long, multiarticulate flagellum present on both antennae.

The type species of *Accalathura*, *A. crenulata*, is a commonly recorded species that has been frequently identified from the northwestern Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean since its original description by Richardson (1901) from the Bahamas (Barnard, 1925; Menzies & Glynn, 1968; Müller, 1991; Poore, 2001).

Richardson's (1901) description of the species is considered inadequate by modern standards, yet no subsequent authors have fully redescribed the species based on type specimens or collections from across its distribution. Barnard (1925) gave a brief account of the species based on specimens from various Caribbean localities; Menzies & Glynn (1968) presented a diagnosis using Puerto Rico specimens and provided new illustrations; Menzies & Kruczynski (1983) noted male characteristics, such as the setation of the antennae and the shape of the appendix masculina on pleopod 2, from Gulf of Mexico specimens; Müller (1991) described a male and immature specimens from Martinique. Within these widespread identifications of *A. crenulata*, distinct morphological differences were noted. Barnard (1925) described major differences in anterior pereopod morphology between geographically separated populations that no one subsequently noted; Barnard (1925) and later Menzies & Kruczynski (1983) illustrated an appendix masculina of the male that is distinctly different from the one drawn by Kensley (1984) and by Müller (1991).

Clearly, a complete description of the type of *A. crenulata* is needed and is provided here from the existing type material. An examination of geographically widespread specimens was also deemed necessary to understand the differences in morphology that have been noted historically. Fresh material from the Pacific coast of

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