RAFFLES BULLETIN OF ZOOLOGY 1993 **41**(2): 169-172

A NEW DEEP-SEA CRAB, GENUS *CHACEON*, FROM INDONESIA (CRUSTACEA: DECAPODA: GERYONIDAE)

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ABSTRACT - *Chaceon karubar*, the first species of the genus to be recorded from Indonesian waters, is described from a specimen collected off the Tanimbar Islands. This new species resembles *C. granulatus* (Sakai) from Japan and differs from all other species known from the central and western Pacific in having depressed dactyli on the walking legs. It differs from *C. granulatus* in having longer walking legs with a distal spine on the merus and in having an outer spine on the carpus of the chelipeds.

INTRODUCTION

The unique specimen of *C. karubar* available for study was collected during the joint French-Indonesian KARUBAR expedition in 1991. It is the only geryonid taken by the expedition.

Abbreviations used below include: cb, carapace width including anterolateral spines; cl, carapace length on midline; P5 is the fifth pereopod (fourth walking leg). All measurements are in millimetres (mm). The type has been deposited in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MP).

Chaceon karubar, new species
(Figs. 1, 2)

Material.- Holotype - 1 male (cl 170, cb 190), (MP), depth 552-549 metres, N.O. "Baruna Jaya 1" station CC56, off Tanimbar Islands, Indonesia, 8° 16'S, 131° 59'E, coll. KARUBAR expedition, 31.x.1991.

Diagnosis.- A very large *Chaceon*, cl 170mm, cb 190mm, with low but distinct frontal and anterolateral teeth on the carapace in adults and with dorsoventrally depressed dactyli on the walking legs. Carapace 1.12 times wider than long, moderately inflated, convex from front to back and side to side, much of surface coarsely tuberculate, fewer and lower tubercles on hepatic regions and behind front, tubercles larger and more numerous on branchial regions. Median

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pair of frontal teeth short but extending slightly beyond lateral frontal teeth. First, third and fifth anterolateral teeth spiniform, second and fourth teeth obsolete; distance from first to third tooth less than distance from third to fifth tooth. Orbit shallow, with posterior incision; suborbital tooth sharp but short, not extending to level of lateral frontal tooth; suborbital margin evenly curved, smooth. Third maxilliped lacking projecting outer lobe on merus. Cheliped: merus with sharp dorsal spine subdistally, lacking distal dorsal spine; carpus rough dorsally, with blunt, obtuse outer spine or projection, anterior margin with low tubercles, inner spine strong; propodus

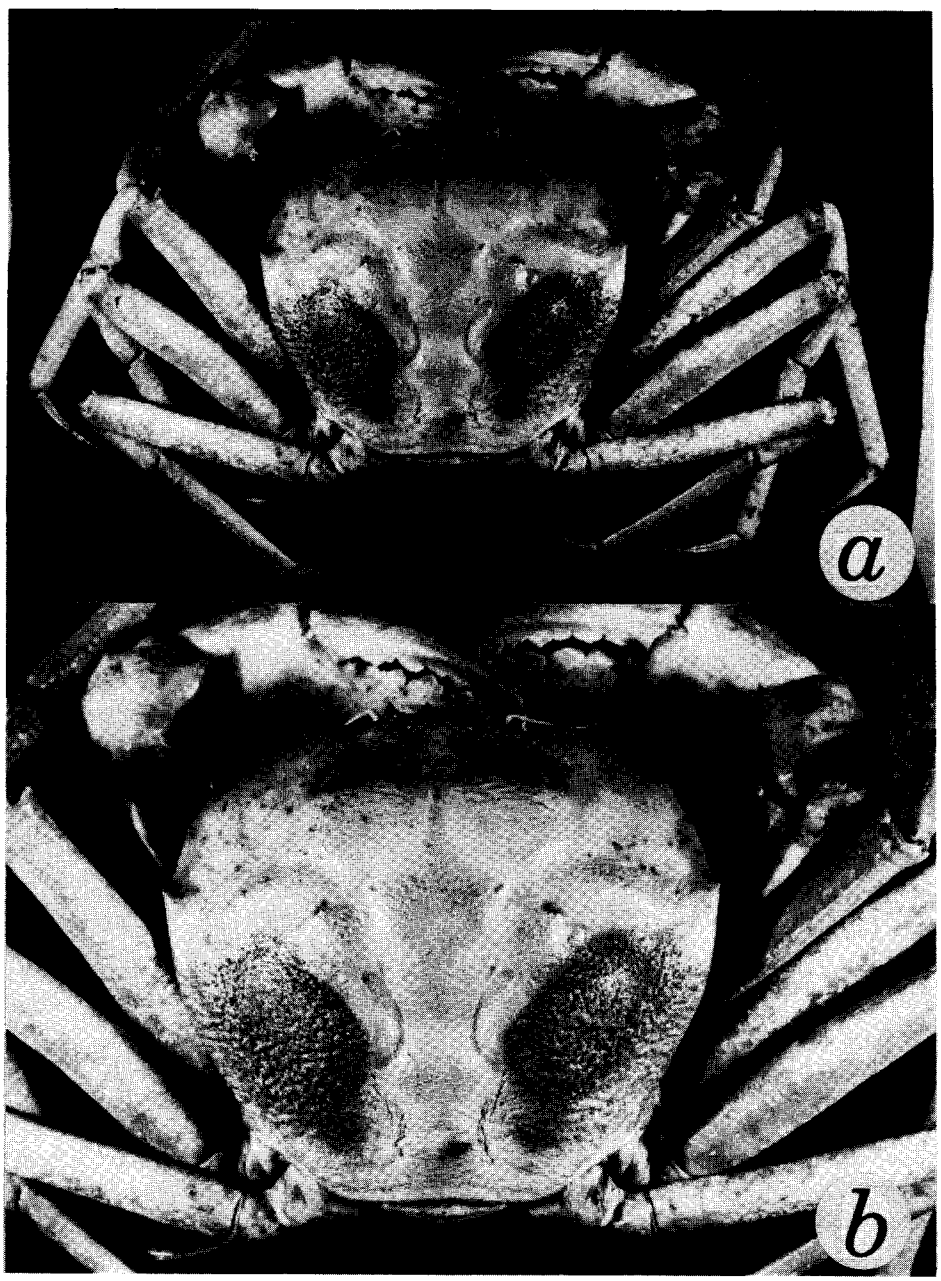

Fig. 1. *Chaceon karubar,* new species. Male holotype, cl 170mm: a, dorsal view; b, carapace.

pitted and eroded, lacking distal dorsal spine. Dactyli of walking legs dorsoventrally depressed, width at midlength greater than height. P5: merus 5.3 times longer than high, 0.67 times cb, with distal dorsal spine; carpus with line of tubercles dorsally, distal most erect; propodus 5.0 times longer than high. Abdomen of male with length 0.7 times width.

Size.- Unique male holotype, cl 170mm, cb 190mm. Other measurements of P5: merus, length 128.4, height 24.4; propodus, length 89.7, height 17.9; dactylus, length 73.2, height 4.6, width 6.1.

Colour.- Not indicated.

Remarks.- Five species of *Chaceon* are now recognized from localities in the central and western Pacific Ocean (Manning, 1992): *C. granulatus* (Sakai, 1978), from Japan; *C. bicolor* Manning & Holthuis, 1989, from, the Loyalty Islands, New Caledonia, and Australia; *C. yaldwyni* Manning, Dawson & Webber, 1990, from New Zealand; *C. imperialis* Manning, 1992, from the Emperor Seamount Chain; and *C. poupini* Manning, 1992, from the Marquesas Islands. *Chaceon karubar* resembles *C. granulatus* and differs from all of the other species in having dorsoventrally depressed dactyli on the walking legs, but it differs from *C. granulatus* in having longer legs, a distal dorsal spine on the merus of the walking legs, an outer spine or projection on the carpus of the chelipeds, and in having fewer granules on the carapace.

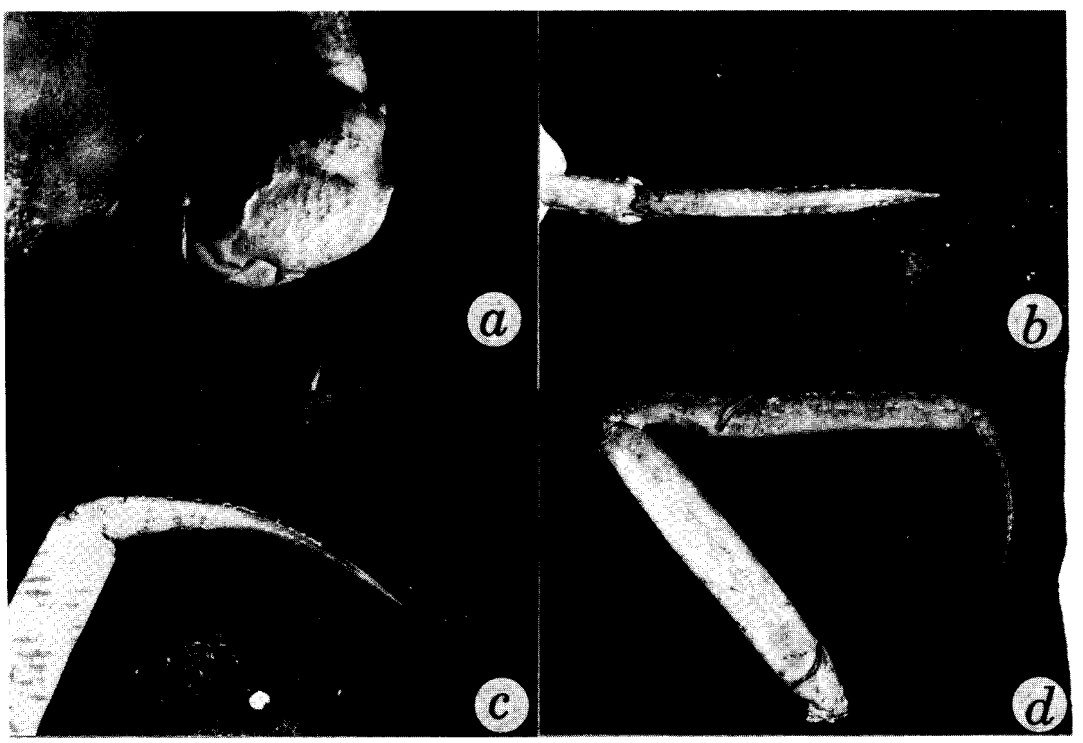

Fig. 2. *Chaceon karubar*, new species. Male holotype, c1 170mm: a, carpus of chela; b, P5 dactylus, dorsal view; c, P5 dactylus, lateral view; d, P5.

Name.- The name is based on the name of the expedition and is used as a noun in apposition.

Distribution.- Known only from the type locality.

Acknowledgements.- Alain Crosnier collected the holotype and made it available for study. Lilly King Manning prepared the illustrations for publication.

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