

A RARE PARASITIC CRAB NEW TO PANGASINAN
PROVINCE, LUZON

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ONE PLATE

A. White (1846) described the genus *Xanthasia* to accommodate a female specimen of a single species of crab, *X. murigera*, of the family Pinnotheridæ. The origin of the material now deposited in the British Museum was vaguely given by White as "Philippine Islands." It was not until 1888 that de Man described the same species (two males and one female from *Tridacna*) from the material collected by Semper from Bohol and Burias Islands.

While working on the meat content of seventeen specimens of *Tridacna squamosa* Lamarck, collected from Lucap market, Alaminos, Pangasinan Province, September 23, 1938, the junior author obtained three gravid females and one male of *X. murigera* from the gills of these bivalves. Ninety-three years after the discovery of this species by White it is of geographical interest to note the new locality of this parasitic crab as being Luzon, Pangasinan Province, Alaminos.

Genus XANTHASIA White

XANTHASIA MURIGERA White. Plate 1, figs. 1 to 4.

WHITE, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. 18 (1846) 176, pl. 2, fig. 3; DANA, U. S. Explor. Exped. Crust. 13 (1852) 384, pl. 24, fig. 6; DE MAN, Journ. Linn. Soc. London 22 (1888); BÜRGER, O. Zool. Jahrb. Syst. 8 (1895) 386, pl. 10, fig. 33; ESTAMPADOR, Philip. Journ. Sci. 62 (1937) 547.

Carapace with rough and irregular surface; margin, except frontal region, raised into an elevated ridge, curled around behind lateral knob on front of carapace. An elevated tubercle with lateral sharp edges and rough upper surface on middle of back of carapace. Two parallel longitudinal elevated keels between elevated tubercle and frontal region. Front of carapace projecting on each side, outside eyes; knobs present, making anterior part of carapace angular. Gravid female with extreme

bulging tail with prominent rounded keel down middle. Ambulatory legs short, cylindrical; claws inick, hooked, sharply pointed. Chela equal, small. Whitish in alcohol. The measurements and number of eggs of female specimens are given in Table 1.

TABLE 1.—*Measurements and number of eggs of female specimens.*

Specimen.	Carapace.		Number of eggs.
	Length.	Width.	
	<i>mm.</i>	<i>mm.</i>	
1	14	15	2,188
2	11	13	1,378
3	12	15	1,344

ILLUSTRATION

PLATE 1. XANTHASIA MURIGERA WHITE

[The graphic scale represents 1 inch.]

- FIG. 1. Female, dorsal view.
2. Female, ventral view.
3. Male, dorsal view.
4. Male, ventral view.

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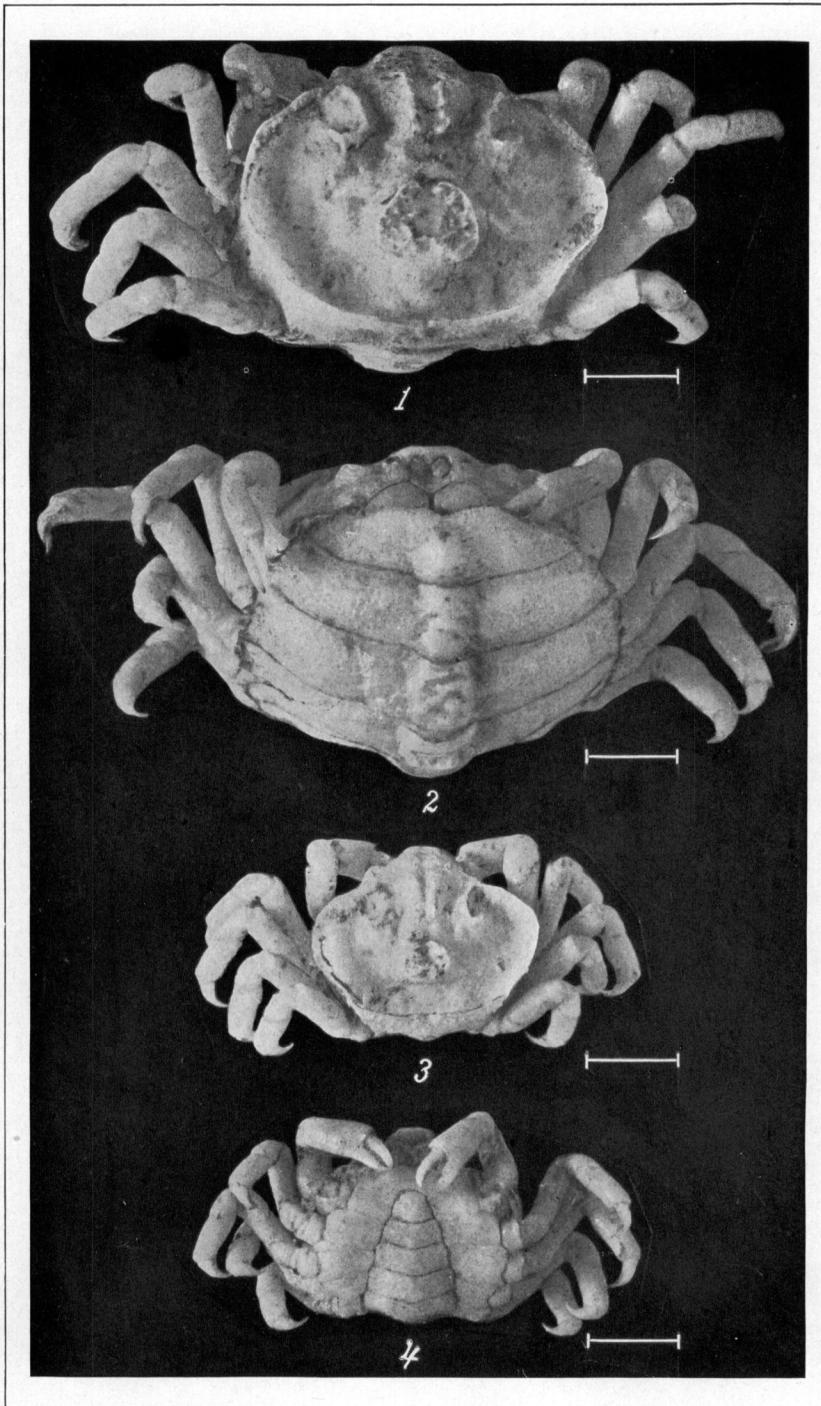


PLATE. 1. XANTHASIA MURIGERA WHITE.