

NEW AND RARELY REPORTED SPECIES OF DECAPOD  
CRUSTACEA FROM THE ADRIATIC SEA

Zdravko ŠTEVČIĆ

Center for Marine Research, "Rudjer Bošković" Institute,  
52210 Rovinj, Yugoslavia

*Résumé.* Signalisation de l'espèce *Callinax lobata* (Thalassinidea) pour la première fois en Adriatique, et considérations sur 7 autres espèces rares de Crustacés Décapodes de même provenance.

Knowledge of the species and distribution of decapods in the Adriatic Sea continue to increase. Following the last check list (Števcic, 1969) and its revision (Števcic, 1972) one species new to the area has been found and some rare species recorded again. It refers to the following species:

- *Callinax lobata* (de Gaillande et Lagardère, 1966). A very damaged specimen of this species was found between Katarina Island and Rovinj (old town) at a 20 m depth. The identification was confirmed by M. de Saint Laurent (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris). It is the first record for the Adriatic, and the second one of the species in general.

- Certain species have been only sporadically reported from the Adriatic. In particular, the edible crab *Cancer pagurus* Linnaeus, 1758 was frequently recorded in the earlier literature, but not in the post-war era. Marchesetti (1882) expressed a doubt about its occurrence presuming that the specimens had been imported from the North Sea. However, in March 1982 a fisherman captured a male specimen near Banjole Island (Rovinj). It was a large crab; the carapace was 16 cm broad and 9.57 cm long. This finding appears to confirm that this species occurs, though very rarely, in the Adriatic. Nevertheless, a little doubt remains because these crabs are again imported from the Atlantic for the Italian market.

The following species were reported only once or a few times in the literature:

- *Anamathia rissoana* (Roux, 1828). This crab was first reported by the "Pola" expedition (Adensamer, 1898). The next finding was one male and two female specimens sampled in 1982 by A. Šimunović (Split) during the MV "Pipeta" cruises in the Middle Adriatic (station 1<sub>5</sub>) at a depth of about 400 m.

- *Monodaeus couchi* (Bell in Couch, 1851). This species was also recorded by Adensamer (1898) from the "Pola" expedition at several localities. Thereafter it was sampled on the same station as the above mentioned species.

- *Philocheras monacanthus* (Holthuis, 1961). This species was first reported for the Adriatic by Froglija (1976). During an investigation of the meiofauna by J. Vidaković (Rovinj Institute) several specimens were found at different localities in the Rovinj area. This confirms the suspicion that this species is not very rare despite the paucity of references in the literature.

- *Gourretia minor* (Gourret, 1887) has also been rarely reported from the Adriatic, but continual investigations in the northern Adriatic show that it is not, in fact, very rare. It was found several times on the western coast of Istria, especially near Poreč and in Limski kanal.

- *Upogebia typica* (Nardo, 1869). This species has been earlier confused with other species of *Upogebia*, but current investigations show that it occurs on the western coast of Istria (e.g. Limski kanal), where it is not very rare.

- *Inachus communissimus* Rizza, 1839. This species has been previously confused with the closely related *I. dorsetensis* (Pennant, 1777) and its distribution was uncertain. During current investigations of decapods in Saline Bay near Rovinj it was taken several times. It was also found on Krk Island.

It is obvious from these considerations that a complete fauna of the decapod Crustacea in the Adriatic Sea has yet to be established and continuing investigations will prove profitable.

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