



New Eocene Brachyura (Crustacea: Decapoda) from Egypt

Rodney M. Feldmann, Carrie E. Schweitzer, Olga Bennett, Ovidiu D. Franțescu,
Nick Resar, and Ashley Trudeau

With 15 figures and 5 tables

FELDMANN, R.M., SCHWEITZER, C.E., BENNETT, O., FRANȚESCU, O.D., RESAR, N. & TRUDEAU, A. (2011): New Eocene Brachyura (Crustacea: Decapoda) from Egypt. – N. Jb. Geol. Paläont. Abh., **262**: 323–353; Stuttgart.

Abstract: Examination of E. LÖRENTHEY's decapod material in the Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, as well as other museums, has resulted in several new genera and species from the Eocene of Egypt. The Eocene Egyptian decapod fauna was robust, unsurprising given the diverse Eocene faunas known from Italy, Spain, and North America. The revision of *Palaeocarpilius* is included. New genera include *Bryocarpilius*, *Hemsut*, *Laticarpilius*, and *Tumidomaia*; new species include *Bryocarpilus aspidorsalis*, *Laticarpilius aegypticus*, *Lophoranina cinquecrista*, *Ocalina delicata*, *Planobranchia egyptensis*, and *Tumidomaia mokattamensis*. There are numerous new combinations for *Hemsut*, *Liopsalis*, *Paraocalina*, *Harpactocarcinus*, *Laticarpilius*, and *Bryocarpilius*.

Key words: Eocene, Decapoda, Brachyura, Raninoidea, Eubrachyura, Egypt, Tethys.

1. Introduction

The decapod crustacean fauna of Egypt, in the vicinity of Cairo, attracted a great deal of interest in the latter half of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Numerous authors studied and described new species from Eocene localities collectively referred to as Gebel Mokattam. During that period, 19 taxa were recognized. LÖRENTHEY (1909) summarized all these works and provided excellent illustrations of decapod fauna of the region. Subsequent to that work, only two new species have been added to the list (VAN STRAELEN 1929[1930]; ANDERSON & FELDMANN 1995). However, subsequent to the work of LÖRENTHEY, considerable work has been done on the systematics and classification of decapod crustaceans that bears on the identity of this fauna resulting in the recognition of new taxonomic combinations, definition of new

genera, and identification of new species (Table 1). Thus, it is the purpose of this work to reinvestigate the crab fauna of the Mokattam Eocene in light of the advances that have occurred since that early work. This re-examination has also permitted more careful comparison with congeneric taxa throughout the Tethyan region which has resulted in reassignment of some species lying outside Egyptian borders. Because the original and subsequent locality data was sketchy, little has been done to update the stratigraphic and geographic occurrence data.

Where possible, material documenting the fauna has been studied, primarily in museums in Europe; however, a single specimen of interest was also discovered in the collections of the United States National Museum of Natural History. Species for which the actual specimens are missing or could not be located have been studied using original and