

Correspondence



First records of *Thryaplax* Castro, 2007 and *Calocarcinus* Calman, 1909 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura) from the Kermadec Islands, New Zealand

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Among the Brachyura from the Kermadec Islands in the invertebrate collection of the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, Wellington, New Zealand (NIWA), are two specimens representing two deep-water species previously not known from the region. Both specimens were collected at the same station, together with the paratypes of the parthenopid crab, *Garthambrus tani* Ahyong, 2008. The new records are reported below to formally document their occurrence at the Kermadec Islands, New Zealand; both also represent the first records of their respective genera from New Zealand waters. Measurements of specimens, in millimetres, refer to carapace length (cl) and carapace width (cw).

TAXONOMY

GONEPLACIDAE MacLeay, 1838

Thryaplax truncata Castro, 2007 (Fig. 1A–C)

Thryaplax truncata Castro, 2007: 683-685, figs 25, 26 [type locality: Lau submarine ridge, Fiji, 441-506 m].

Material examined. NIWA 41724, 1 female (cl 9.0 mm, cw 12.0 mm), off Curtis Island, Kermadec Islands, 30°17.59'S, 178°25.30'W, 398–412 m, stn K840, 28 Jul 1974.

Remarks. Thyraplax truncata was described from New Caledonia on the basis of five male specimens (Castro 2007). Thus, the present specimen is the first known female of the species, in addition to representing the first record of the genus and species from New Zealand waters. The Kermadec Islands female agrees closely with the type description, and the female gonopores, having a simple rounded vulvar cover (Fig. 1B), accord well with the original generic concept of Thyraplax Castro, 2007. Of the goneplacids presently known from New Zealand waters, Thyraplax truncata is most similar to species of Pycnoplax Castro, 2007, but is easily distinguished by the presence of one instead of two anterolateral carapace spines.

Distribution. Fiji, New Caledonia and now from the Kermadec Islands, New Zealand; 398–506 m.

TRAPEZIIDAE Miers, 1886

Calocarcinus africanus Calman, 1909 (Fig. 1D)

Calocarcinus africanus Calman, 1909: 31, unnumbered figure [type locality: between Aden and Zanzibar, 1098 m].

Material examined. NIWA 41723, 1 juvenile female (cl 3.8 mm, cw 4.9 mm), off Curtis Island, Kermadec Islands, 30°17.59'S, 178°25.30'W, 398–412 m, stn K840, 28 Jul 1974.

Remarks. The specimen is a juvenile female, having a narrow male-like abdomen with a functioning abdominal locking mechanism, and rudimentary gonopores. Although only a juvenile, the specimen is identified with *C. africanus*