

New Report of Two Xanthid Crabs (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura) from Korea

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ABSTRACT

Two species of xanthids, *Actaea polyacantha* (Heller, 1861) and *Actaeodes hirsutissimus* (Rüppell, 1830) collected from Jeju Island, are newly recorded from Korean waters. Korean Xanthidae now consists of 22 species belonging to twenty genera.

Keywords: new record, *Actaea polyacantha*, *Actaeodes hirsutissimus*, Decapoda, Korea

INTRODUCTION

The family Xanthidae MacLeay, 1838 is one of the largest groups in the suborder Brachyura. Though its members are found in a variety of habitats from the intertidal to moderately deep water, they are most abundant in shallow water and coastal reef environments (Davie, 2002).

Until now, 20 species of Xanthidae have been recorded from Korean waters: *Actaea semblatae* Guinot, 1976, *Atergatis floridus* (Linnaeus, 1767), *Atergatis reticulatus* De Haan, 1833, *Atergatopsis germaini* A. Milne Edwards, 1865, *Bana-reia subglobosa* (Stimpson, 1858), *Calvactaea tumida* Ward, 1933, *Cycloxanthops tuncatus* (De Haan, 1837), *Forestia depressa* (White, 1847), *Gaillardiellus orientalis* (Odner, 1925), *Leptodius exaratus* (H. Milne Edwards, 1834), *Lybia caestifera* (Alcock, 1898), *Macromedaeus distinguendus* (De Haan, 1835), *Medaeops granulosus* (Haswell, 1882), *Microcassiope orientalis* Takeda and Miyake, 1969, *Nanocassiope alcoki* (Rathbun, 1902), *Neoliomera insularis* (Adams and White, 1849), *Novactaea pulchella* (A. Milne Edwards, 1865), *Palapedia integra* (De Haan, 1835), *Pilodius nigrocrinitus* Stimpson, 1858, *Platypodia tomentosa* (De Man, 1902) (Kim and Kim, 1997; Ko and Takeda, 1999, 2000; Lee and Ko, 2008; Lee, Kim and Kim, 2008). The continuous taxonomic study on the brachyuran species collected from Korean waters revealed that two crabs, *Actaea polyacantha* (Heller, 1861) and *Actaeodes hirsutissimus* (Rüppell, 1830), are new to Korean fauna. The genus *Actaeodes* Dana, 1851 is reported for the first time in Korea. Now Korean Xanthidae consists of 22 species belonging to 20

genera.

The abbreviations “cl” and “cw” refer to the carapace length from the front to the posterior dorsal margin of the carapace and to the width of the carapace measured at the widest part, respectively. The abbreviated terminology used for carapace regions mostly follows those of Serène (1984). Materials examined in this study are deposited in the Marine Arthropod Depository Bank of Korea (MADBK), Seoul National University.

SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNTS

Superfamily Xanthoidea MacLeay, 1938

Family Xanthidae MacLeay, 1838

Subfamily Actaeinae Alcock, 1898

Genus *Actaea* De Haan, 1833

¹**Actaea polyacantha* (Heller, 1861) (Fig. 1)

Chlorodius polyacantha Heller, 1861a, p. 11; 1861b, p. 339, pl. 3, fig. 21.

Actaeodes polyacanthus: Miers, 1884, p. 206.

Actaea polyacantha: Rathbun, 1911, p. 222, pl. 18, figs. 5-6; Odner, 1925, p. 57; Ward, 1933, p. 247; Holthuis, 1953, p. 11; Sakai, 1965, p. 146, pl. 73, fig. 4; McNeill, 1968, p. 72; Guinot, 1971, p. 1071; 1976, p. 236, fig. 40B, pl. 13, fig. 6; Sakai, 1976, p. 443, fig. 234; Serène, 1984, p. 109 (key), p. 112 (key), p. 114, fig. 67, pl. 14E; Dai and Yang, 1991, p. 309, fig. 160A; Muraoka, 1998, p. 41.

Actaea spinosissima: Ward, 1942, p. 87.

Materials examined. 1 ovig. ♀ (cl 11 mm, cw 16 mm), Beomseom (Jeju Is.), 26 Aug. 2007, coll. S.K. Lee; 1 ♀ (cl 8 mm, cw 13 mm), Munseom (Jeju Is.), 3 Mar. 2009,

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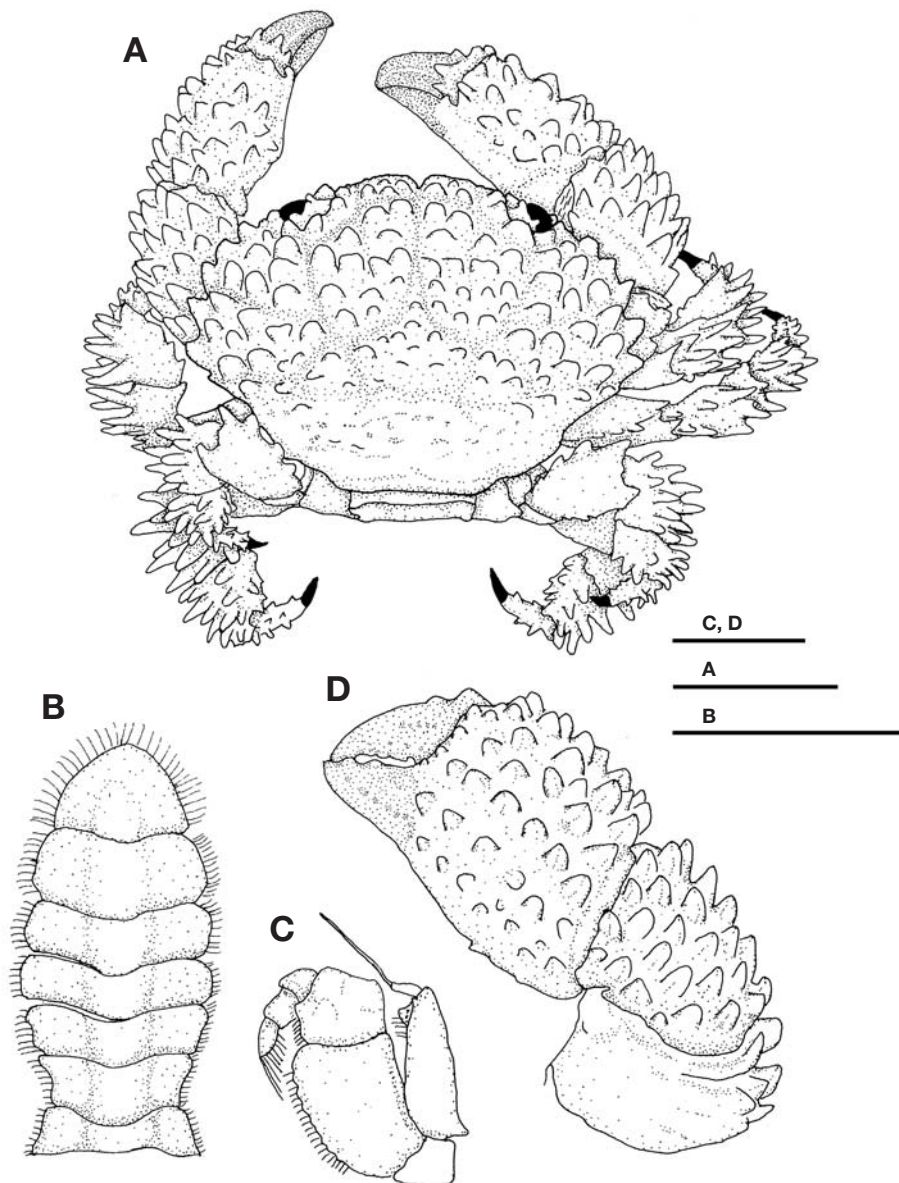


Fig. 1. *Actaea polyacantha* (Heller, 1861), female. A, whole animal, dorsal view; B, abdomen of female; C, left third maxilliped; D, left cheliped, outer view. Scale bars=2 mm (C), 3 mm (D), 5 mm (A, B).

coll. T.S. Park.

Description. Carapace (Fig. 1A) naked, oval; dorsal surface covered with flat-topped black brown tubercles, of which those on 3M, 4M, 2R, 3R, 1P, and 2P somewhat obscure, while those near lateral margins erect and distinct; regions ill-defined except for 2M and 3M well demarcated by deep intervening grooves; frontal border rather obscurely bilobated with broad v-shaped median notch; antero-lateral borders with six sharp and slightly curved tubercles including external orbital angle; postero-lateral borders shorter than antero-lateral borders and deeply concave. Supraorbit

composed of five tubercles. Eye-stalks short, thick, bearing four to five tubercles. Basal antennal joint entered inner orbital hiatus, but not so deeply. Third maxilliped (Fig. 1C) flattened; ischium longer than broad; merus produced at antero-external angle.

Chelipeds (Fig. 1A, 1D) symmetrical, stout, covered with rather erect and distinct tubercles; outer surface of propodus and carpus bearing tubercles as those on carapace disposed in longitudinal series. Fingers black, stout, without gaping; cutting edges with 3 teeth.

Ambulatory legs (Fig. 1A) bearing long and spine-form

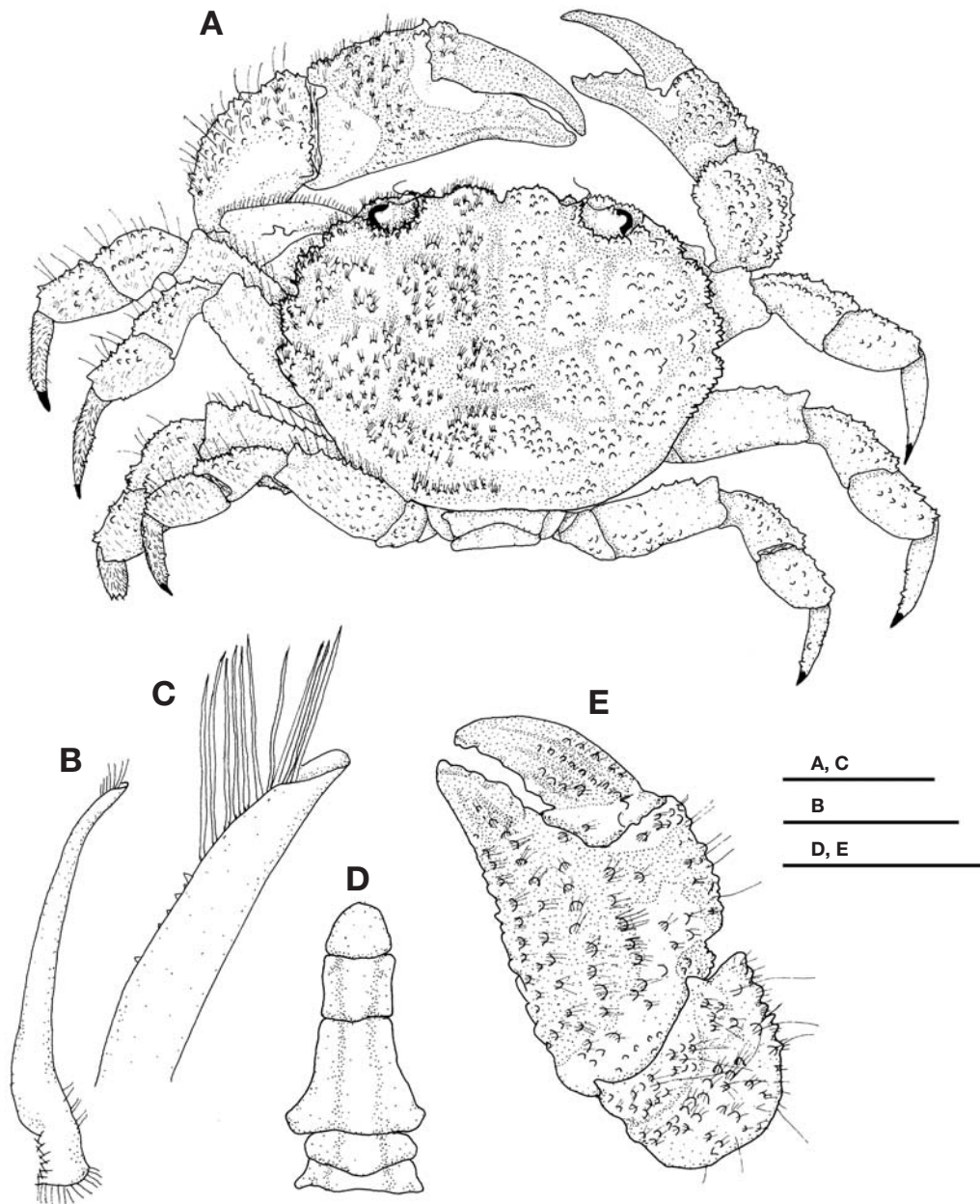


Fig. 2. *Actaeodes hirsutissimus* (Rüppell, 1830), male. A, whole animal, dorsal view; B, left first pleopod, ventral view; C, tip of left first pleopod; D, abdomen; left cheliped, outer view. Scale bars=0.5 mm (C), 2 mm (B), 5 mm (A, D, E). Note=Seta on the right part of whole animal are omitted.

tubercles colored black brown distantly along superior borders; merus smooth and glabrous on posterior surface, with 3 to 4 small tubercles on superior borders; dactylus slender, sharp at tip.

Female abdomen (Fig. 1B) composed of seven segments; telson coniform, longer than broad.

Remarks. According to the descriptions by Rathbun (1911), Serène (1984), and Dai and Yang (1991), *Actaea polyacantha*

(Heller, 1861) has the following characteristics: dorsal surface of carapace covered with flat-topped tubercles; posterior or dorsal region without tubercles; median sinus of front narrow; ambulatory legs with long spines on the superior borders (particularly on carpus and propodus). The present specimens agree well with these descriptions but show that the tubercles on 2R, 3R, 1P, and 2P are very small or irregular in shape, and the median sinus of the front margin is

not narrow.

Habitat. Crevices of rocks at low-tide mark.

Distribution. Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Japan, South China Sea, Australia, Fiji, Korea (new record).

¹*Genus *Actaeodes* Dana, 1851

²**Actaeodes hirsutissimus* (Rüppell, 1830) (Fig. 2)

Xantho hirsutissimus Rüppell, 1830, p. 26, pl. 5, fig. 6.

Actaea hirsutissimus: Odhner, 1925, p. 69, pl. 4, fig. 13; Forest and Guinot, 1961, p.78.

Actaeodes hirsutissimus: Guinot, 1971, p. 1072; Sakai, 1976, p. 488, pl. 159, fig. 3.

Materials examined. 1♂ (cl 9 mm, cw 14 mm), Beomseom (Jejudo Is.), 2 Oct. 1995, coll. J. Lee; 1♂ (cl 8 mm, cw 12 mm), 7 June 2001, coll. S.H. Kim.

Description. Carapace (Fig. 2A) 1.5 to 1.6 times broader than long, furnished with short and stiff setae implanted only on beaded granules; surface convex in anterior half and depressed in posterior half; regions separated into lobules by deep and smooth grooves; 2M entirely divided longitudinally into two parts; each external branch of 2M with only outline of division on anterior margin; 3M tripartite; anterior lobe of 3M long, narrow, hardly developed; frontal border slightly produced and deflected, separated into 2 bluntly round lobes by broad V-shaped notch; antero-lateral borders composed of 4 shallow lobes with tubercles: first to third broadened, last subequal to first; postero-lateral borders very concave, shorter than antero-lateral borders.

Cheliped (Fig. 2E) asymmetrical; merus triquetrous, covered with granules; black pigmentation on fixed finger entirely encircled palm; dactylus black, with triangular teeth on cutting edges; tip of fingers sharp.

Ambulatory legs (Fig. 2A) flat, covered with granules and short hairs on posterior surface; carpus bearing longitudinal groove in median of superior surface; dactylus short, armed with short claw.

First pleopod (Fig. 2B, 2C) slender and long, with distal portion slightly curved laterally and with tip bluntly spoon-shaped.

Male abdomen (Fig. 2D) narrow and long; third to fifth segments fused; sixth segment longer than broad; telson elongated triangle.

Remarks. The areolas on the regions of the carapace of *Actaeodes hirsutissimus* (Rüppell, 1830) are very similar to those of *A. consobrinus* (A. Milne Edwards, 1873). The external branch of 2M of *A. hirsutissimus* has only an outline of division on anterior margin, whereas that of *A. consobrinus* is whole. The examined specimens have indistinct

division of anterior margin on the external branch of 2M. The chelipeds of *A. hirsutissimus* are symmetrical (Serène, 1984; Dai and Yang, 1991) but those of the illustrated specimen in the present study are asymmetrical. However, the characteristics such as the shape of the first pleopod, the black pigmentation on the palm, and the carapace furnished with short and stiff setae implanted only on beaded granules in the present specimens agree well with characteristics of *A. hirsutissimus*.

Habitat. Shallow waters on coral reefs.

Distribution. China, Japan, Samoa Is., Australia, Philippine, Red Sea, Korea (new record).

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