

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

NEW SPECIES OF CRABS FROM SAMOA.

BY MARY J. RATHBUN.

The species here described were found in a collection of crabs made in Samoa in 1902, by a party from the United States Fish Commission.

Libystes villosus, sp. nov.

Holotype.—Female, adult, Cat. No. 46378, United States National Museum. Apia, Samoa, at mouth of river; June.

Measurements.—Female holotype, length of carapace, 6.8 mm., width, 11.3 mm., distance across front and orbits, 6 mm.

Description.—Anterior and antero-lateral borders of carapace almost concealed by shaggy hair; also surface of chelipeds and above all the margins of the four pairs of legs. Carapace oblong-oval, postero-lateral borders moderately convergent backward; branchial regions higher than middle part of carapace. The fine granulation of the under part of the carapace is continued upon the antero-lateral part of the dorsum; marginal lines of granules incomplete. A ridge of fine granules leads forward from postero-lateral angles. Upper margin of orbit slants distinctly forward and outward, and in front view downward; outer end of orbit and of eye, and also the cornea, smaller than in *L. nitidus*.¹ Edge of front in dorsal and front views transverse, with a slight median emargination.

Larger cheliped (smaller one missing) very strong; fingers shorter than palm, crossing far from tips, leaving a triangular gape at base; largest tooth of immovable finger near its middle, of dactylus near its origin, but this basal tooth very little larger than the others.

Legs less slender than in *L. nitidus*; second leg twice as long as carapace; carpus and propodus of last leg widened, dactylus falcate.

All abdominal segments distinctly separate, lateral margins of third to sixth segments inclusive, taken together, slightly convex.

Sesarma (*Parasesarma*) *obliquifrons*, sp. nov.

Holotype.—Male, Cat. No. 45913, United States National Museum. Pago Pago, Samoa, fresh water; July 28.

Measurements.—Male holotype, length of carapace, 11.3 mm., width of

¹A. Milne Edwards, Ann. Soc. Entom. France, ser. 4, vol. 7, 1867, p. 285; Nouv. Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris, vol. 4, 1868, p. 83, pl. 20, figs. 5-7.

carapace at antero-lateral angles, 12.8 mm., at postero-lateral angles, 13.2 mm., width of front, 7 mm., length of propodus of cheliped below, 9 mm., length of same above, 4.4 mm., height of same 5.5 mm., length of merus of third leg, 9.5 mm., width of same, 3.7 mm.

Description.—Sides of carapace subparallel; regions deeply separated; meso-gastric region subdivided into three parts by transverse furrows; surface punctate, very rugose above postfrontal lobes; these are separated by deep V-shaped notches, median larger than lateral; lobes of middle pair slightly wider than those of outer pair; edges of all oblique, outer lobe forming a shallow V with inner one. The concave surface of the front, the sides of which diverge from above downward, has two transverse tuberculous ridges above and parallel to the lower margin, one on each side; also a tubercle below outer angle of inner lobe; lower edge convex in front view, sinuous in dorsal view.

Upper margin of arm without subdistal spine; inner margin with a triangular expansion which is denticulate on distal margin. Wrist without inner spine. Hands high; greater part of outer surface of palm nearly smooth, granules on upper and proximal half, a few granulated lines near articulation with wrist; lower margin denticulate as far as middle of finger; on upper surface two oblique pectinated ridges and one granulated ridge subparallel to posterior margin, all prolonged in convergent granulated lines toward wrist; inner surface rough with distant granules. Fingers stout, gaping at base, prehensile teeth irregular; immovable finger with lower margin partly concave, basal portion of finger swollen; basal half of dactylus swollen, upper margin ornamented with 6 or 7 oblique scaliform prominences, the anterior or distal slope of which is long and the posterior short.

Legs slender; meropodites narrowing toward either end and armed above with an acute tooth or spine; propodites longer than dactylopodites in second and third pairs, a little shorter in first and fourth pairs.

Abdomen narrow; posterior width of sixth segment less than twice as great as length.

Nearest to *S. moluccense* de Man² but differs in its squarer carapace, oblique postfrontal lobes, swollen immovable finger with concave lower margin, and different ornamentation of movable finger.

²*Sesarma melissa* var. *moluccensis* de Man, in Max Weber, Zool. Ergebnisse einer Reise nach Niederländisch Ostindien, vol. 2, 1892, p. 328. *Sesarma* (*Parasesarma*) *moluccensis* de Man, Zool. Jahrb., Syst., vol. 9, 1895, p. 202; vol. 10, 1898, pl. 31, fig. 36.



Rathbun, Mary Jane. 1924. "New species of crabs from Samoa." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 37, 127–128.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/107498>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/43783>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.