

A REVIEW OF THE HERMIT-CRAB (DECAPODA: ANOMURA: PAGURIDEA) FAUNA OF SOUTHERN THAILAND, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE ANDAMAN SEA, AND DESCRIPTIONS OF THREE NEW SPECIES

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ABSTRACT

The hermit-crab fauna of Thailand has received very little systematic attention, and what has been done, has dealt primarily with shallow-water species. As one element of the Workshop on Biodiversity of Crustacea in the Andaman Sea, an examination of the hermit-crab fauna collected by the Phuket Marine Biological Center during its BIOSHELF Program was undertaken. These collections were supplemented by additional sampling during the Workshop and by materials available through other institutions. As a result, species diversity has been substantially augmented. Four of the five families of the Paguridea are presently recognized from Thai environs. Through a nomenclatorial correction, three, rather than four species of the semiterrestrial genus *Coenobita* have been identified. The family Diogenidae now accounts for 39 species, 12 each in the genera *Clibanarius* and *Diogenes*, seven in the genus *Dardanus*, and five in *Calcinus*, while the genus *Paguristes*, with three species, was recorded in the area only recently. The Paguridae is currently represented by eight genera, seven of which are new records for Thailand. These include *Alainopaguroides*, *Catapaguroides*, *Nematopagurus*, and *Pylopaguropsis* each with one species, *Catapagurus* and *Spiropagurus* each represented by two species, and *Pagurus* by three species. The species of *Alainopaguroides* and one species each of *Catapagurus* and *Pagurus* are being described for the first time. The genus *Pagurixus* also just recently reported may be represented by one or possibly two species. Additionally, the occurrence of one species of the genus *Oncopagurus*, family Parapaguridae, is documented.