

A New Decapod Crustacean, *Sympasiphaea*
imperialis, n. sp.

By

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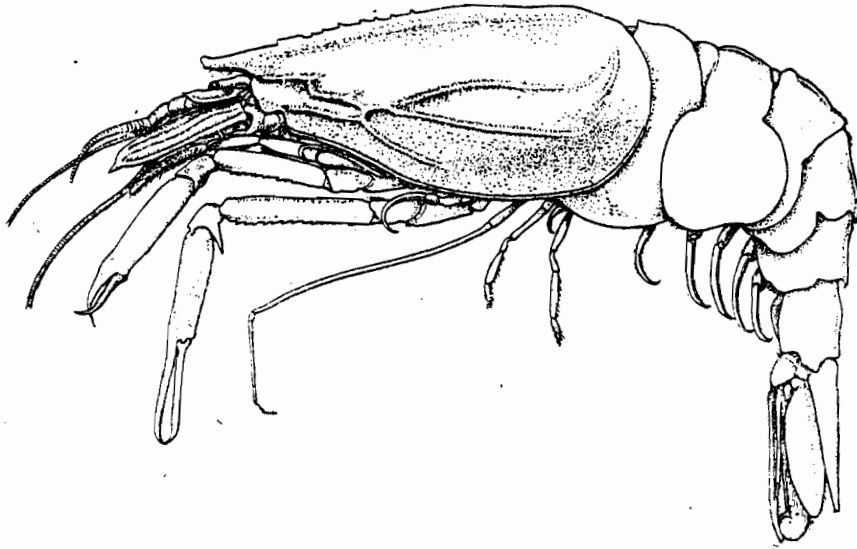
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With 1 Text-figure.

While staying at his villa at Numadzu, Prov. Suruga, in the spring of 1918, H.I.H. the Crown Prince had on the morrow of a violent stormy night an opportunity to discover a decapod crustacean amidst the debris driven ashore by the waves. This specimen came shortly afterwards under my examination through the courtesy of Dr. H. Hattori who was then one of the tutors of the Prince. It was preserved in formalin in an excellently good condition; the body presented so vividly a uniform scarlet red colour as might have been considered fresh from sea. On closer examination it was found referable to the genus *Sympasiphaea* but not to be identified with the only one species of that genus, *S. annectens* Alcock. It is with honour, therefore, I dedicate the species to the Crown Prince, and name it *Sympasiphaea imperialis*, n. sp., to commemorate his first discovery of this hitherto unknown crustacean from the seas of Japan. Since then, a much mutilated specimen picked up by Mr. K. Nagakura on sea-shore near Numadzu and a good one purchased by Mr. S. Ishii at the market of Uchiura, Prov. Idzu have come under my examination. The both two tally completely with the specimen of the Prince in the specific characteristics. The following description is based on the specimen brought to Tokyo by Mr. Ishii.

Sympasiphaea imperialis, n. sp.

Rostrum thin, compressed, ascendant, projecting beyond the eyes, armed with a single spinule near the tip of the ventral surface, produced



Sympasiphaea imperialis, n. sp. $\times 2/3$.

to the posterior border of the carapace as a sharp carina, the gastric portion of which is armed with a fore-most truncate projection or incipient tooth and seven succeeding distinct teeth.

From the post-orbital spine a ridge runs backwards, after an initial sinuous course passes across the branchial region, and bends upwards near the posterior border of the carapace.

From the post-antennal spine another ridge runs backwards and after giving off a short branch that joins the post-orbital ridge, sweeps down and for a short distance runs nearly parallel with the lower border of the carapace.

From its middle the post-orbital ridge emits backwards an ill-defined branch which, after obliquely ascending for a short distance, runs nearly parallel with the post-orbital ridge itself.

Intermediate between the terminating portions of the both post-orbital ridge and its branch a very faint ridge is seen running almost transversely.

Pubescent on the ventral surface of the rostrum, less pubescent just behind the antennal peduncle and along the ventral border of the carapace. Elsewhere the carapace is quite hairless.

The 2nd, 3rd and 6th abdominal terga are faintly carinate, the 4th and 5th are sharply carinate up to a sharp spine in the middle of the posterior border of each. Telson with a spinulous tip, slightly shorter than the endopodite of the tail-fan, which again is considerably shorter than the exopodite of the same. Eyes brown; a small papilla on the inner side of eyestalk.

The antennular peduncle reaches about two-thirds of the way along the antennal scale; its basal joint is the longest and its middle joint the shortest; its scale, which is nearly as long as the basal joint, ends in a very acute spine.

The antennal scale is about two-fifths as long as the carapace proper; in addition to a mid-rib, its outer edge also is thickened and ends in a long spine. There is a very strong declivous spine on the ventral border of the 2nd joint of the antennal peduncle, and a tubercle on the ventral side of the 1st joint.

The third maxillipeds reach a little behind the tip of the antennal scale; they are stouter than any of the last three pairs of legs, and the outer border of their 2nd joint (basis-ischium-merus) is produced distally to a sharp and strong spine.

The 1st two pairs of legs are similar in form, being much the stoutest and longest of all, the 2nd pair which are the longer, are about two-thirds the length of the body including the rostrum and tail-fan. In the first pair there is an obtuse spine or tubercle on the ventral border of the basis and ten spines along the ventral border of the merus, and the fingers are about half the length of the palm, the total hand forming about two-fifths the total length of these appendages. In the second

pair there is a minute spinule on the ventral surface of the ischium and also at the tip of the ventral border of the basis, and 13 spines along the ventral border of the merus, the ventral border of the carpus is produced distally to a very large spine, and the fingers are nearly as long as the palm, the whole hand forming more than two-fifths the total length of these appendages.

The 3rd pair of legs are filiform, nearly as long as the 1st pair. The 4th pair are a little shorter than the 5th pair, but the both two are nearly alike, their length is about two-fifths that of the carapace proper and their terminal joint is coarse and setose.

The length of carapace including rostrum is 80 millimeters (the rostrum contributing a little more than 10 millim.) and the length from the tip of the rostrum to the farthest end of the tail-fan amounts to 185 millim.

The holotype, a female, is preserved in the Museum of the Imperial Fisheries Institute, Tokyo.

Note.—It may be mentioned that the holotype is provided with an additional smaller spine in front of the ordinary post-antennal one on the *right* side of the carapace only. This superfluous spine can not be regarded as having a specific value, since it is quite absent on either side of the carapace of the paratype obtained by Mr. Nagakura. Moreover, this paratype, which is also a female, differs from the holotype in having 1) 8 spines along the ventral border of the merus of the first pair of legs, 2) 10 spines along the ventral border of the merus of the second pair of legs, and 3) the minute spinule on both the ventral surface of the ischium and at the tip of the ventral border of the basis of the second pair of legs very feebly developed.

From *Sympasiphaea annectens* the present species so far defined is distinguished, amongst others, by the following characteristics:—1) the dorsal carina of the carapace has one fore-most truncate projection and seven succeeding teeth; 2) 3rd maxillipeds reach more than three-fourths of the way along the antennal scale; 3) the outer border of the 2nd joint

(basis-ischium-merus) of the 3rd mixillipeds is produced to a large sharp spine ; 4) the fingers of the first pair of legs are about half the length of the palm ; 5) 2nd pair of legs are about two-thirds the length of the body including the rostrum and tail-fan ; 6) the 5th pair of legs are a little longer than the fourth.

The last mentioned character that the fifth pair of legs are longer than the fourth is one of five points by which *Parapasiphaea* is distinguished from *Sympasiphaea*. Therefore, by including the present species the genus *Sympasiphaea* is more closely allied to the genus *Parapasiphaea* than when the former was created by Alcock. Yet, I think it is convenient to recognize it as a distinct genus in spite of Alcock's opinion that "Perhaps it should be regarded as a subgenus of *Parapasiphaea*."
