ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW GENUS OF
FRESHWATER CRAB, HUANANPOTAMON
(CRUSTACEA: DECAPODA: BRACHYURA: POTAMIDAE)
FROM SOUTHERN CHINA

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ABSTRACT. A new genus of potamid freshwater crab, Huananpotamon, is established
for four species - Nanhaipotamon angulatum et al., 1979, N. obtusum Dai & Chen, 1979,
China. These species differ from species in Nanhaipotamon Bott, 1968, s. str. in having a
flatter, less swollen carapace with more cristate anterolateral margins, a more slender third
maxilliped ischium, proportionately broader male abdomen, a more slender and elongate
male first pleopod and a different female genital pore structure.

INTRODUCTION

While involved in a revision of the potamid freshwater crab genus Nanhaipotamon Bott,
1968 (type species, Geothelphusa formosanum Parisi, 1916, by original designation), the
authors re-assessed the taxonomic positions of all the species which had previously been
classified in it. Of the six species currently recognised as belonging to Nanhaipotamon (Dai
& Chen, 1987; Ng & Dudgeon, 1992), four species, N. angulatum et al., 1979, N. obtusum
possess several diagnostic characters which suggested that they should be classified in a
separate genus.

We subsequently examined a series of specimens allied to N. angulatum from the Wuyi
Mountains in Jiangxi Province, China, which reinforced our suspicions that the above
mentioned four species did not belong to Nanhaipotamon s. str. (fide Ng & Dudgeon, 1992).
There was also a distinct discontinuity in the distribution of the two groups of Nanhaipotamon.
On the basis of these observations, the authors propose that a new genus, Huananpotamon,
be established for N. angulatum, N. obtusum, N. planopodum and N. ramipodum.
MATERIAL AND METHODS

We have examined all the original material of *N. angulatum*, *N. obtusum*, *N. planopodum* and *N. ramipodum*, as well as topotypic material of *N. formosense* and *N. hongkongense*. Topotypic specimens of *N. yaeyamense* Minei, 1973, and *N. balssi* Bott, 1968 (both species were assigned to *Nanhaipotamon* by Bott, 1970; Minei, 1973) have also been examined. Specimens examined are currently deposited in the Academia Sinica, Beijing, China; and the Zoological Reference Collection, Department of Zoology, National University of Singapore.


TAXONOMY

FAMILY POTAMIDAE ORTMANN, 1896

**Huananpotamon, new genus**

**Diagnosis.** - Carapāx slightly convex fore and aft, dorsal surface with fine rugae on epibranchial regions; branchial regions not distinctly swollen. Anterolateral border cristate, lined with distinct granules. Ischium of third maxilliped rectangular; exopod with short flagellum. Male abdomen relatively narrow, acutely triangular in shape. Male first pleopod relatively long, slender, distal part of subterminal segment slender, neck-like, terminal segment relatively elongated, distinctly longer than subterminal segment, dorsal fold with distal part expanded to form lobe, flap or similar projection. Distal segment of male second pleopod subequal to length of basal segment. Outer lateral border of female genital pore arched.

**Etymology.** - The name is derived from the Chinese for “southern China” in combination with the name “Potamon”. Gender neuter.

**Type species.** - *Nanhaipotamon angulatum* Dai, Chen, Song, Fan, Lin & Zeng, 1979, by present designation (see Dai et al., 1979: 122-124, Pl. 1: 1, Fig. 1). The species was published as “*Nanhaipotamon angulatum* “Dai et Lin” (Dai et al., 1979: 122), but the rest of the text made no indication as to who prepared the descriptions. According to Article 50a of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1985), the authorship of *N. angulatum* should be cited as Dai, Chen, Song, Fan, Lin & Zeng, 1979 (see also Ng, 1992).
DISCUSSION

*Huananpotamon*, new genus, resembles *Nanhaipotamon* externally, but differs in several key aspects (Table 1). Also, all the known species of *Huananpotamon* are distinctly smaller in size (adult carapace breadth 16.5-23.0 mm) compared to *Nanhaipotamon* (adult carapace breadth 21.1-35.1 mm).


**Table 1. Differences between *Nanhaipotamon* Bott, 1968, and *Huananpotamon*, new genus**

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th><em>Nanhaipotamon</em></th>
<th><em>Huananpotamon</em></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Carapace</td>
<td>distinctly convex fore and aft, appears domed</td>
<td>slightly convex fore and aft, not domed</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Dorsal surface of carapace</td>
<td>almost smooth</td>
<td>with fine rugae</td>
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<td>3. Branchial region</td>
<td>distinctly swollen</td>
<td>not obviously swollen</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Anterolateral border</td>
<td>slightly cristate, almost rounded</td>
<td>distinctly cristate, lined with granules</td>
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<td>5. Third maxilliped</td>
<td>ischium very broad, appears squarish, inner margin distinctly dilated</td>
<td>ischium more slender, appears rectangular, inner margin not dilated</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Male abdomen</td>
<td>proximal segments very broad, segment 6 and telson elongate relatively broad</td>
<td>proximal segments comparatively narrow, segment 6 and telson</td>
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<td>7. Male first pleopod</td>
<td>stout, terminal segment relatively short; distal half of subterminal segment stout, gently tapering</td>
<td>slender, terminal segment relatively long; distal half of subterminal segment slender, neck-like</td>
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<td>8. Female genital pore</td>
<td>outer lateral border angulated</td>
<td>outer lateral border arched</td>
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Fig. 1. *Huananpotamon angulatum* (Dai et al., 1979), new combination. Holotype male, carapace width 18.5 mm, carapace length 15.6 mm, Jian'ou, Fujian Province (FJ 757902-1).
LITERATURE CITED


