



decapoda

decapoda

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# Decapoda

The decapoda or decapods (literally “ten-footed”) are an order of crustaceans within the class Malacostraca, including many familiar groups, such as crayfish, crabs, lobsters, prawns and shrimp.

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A P  
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As the name Decapoda implies, all decapods have ten legs, in the form of five pairs of thoracic appendages on the last five thoracic segments. The front three pairs function as mouthparts and are generally referred to as maxillipeds; the remainder are pereiopods. In many decapods, however, one pair of legs has enlarged pincers; the claws are called chelae, so those legs may be called chelipeds. Further appendages are found on the abdomen, with each segment capable of carrying a pair of biramous pleopods, the last of which form part of the tail fan (together with the telson) and are truly most often called uropods.

Frog Crab Frog Crab Frog Crab Frog Crab Frog Crab Frog



Frog Crab Frog Crab Frog Crab Frog Crab Frog Crab Frog



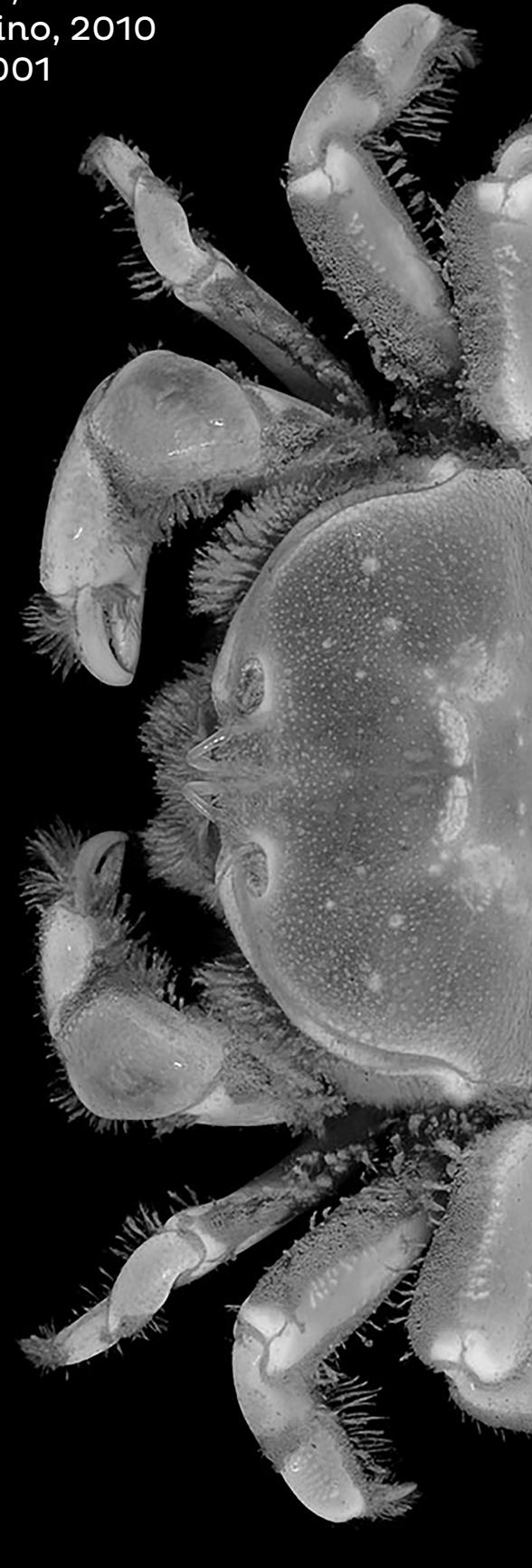
# Lobz tADin nA



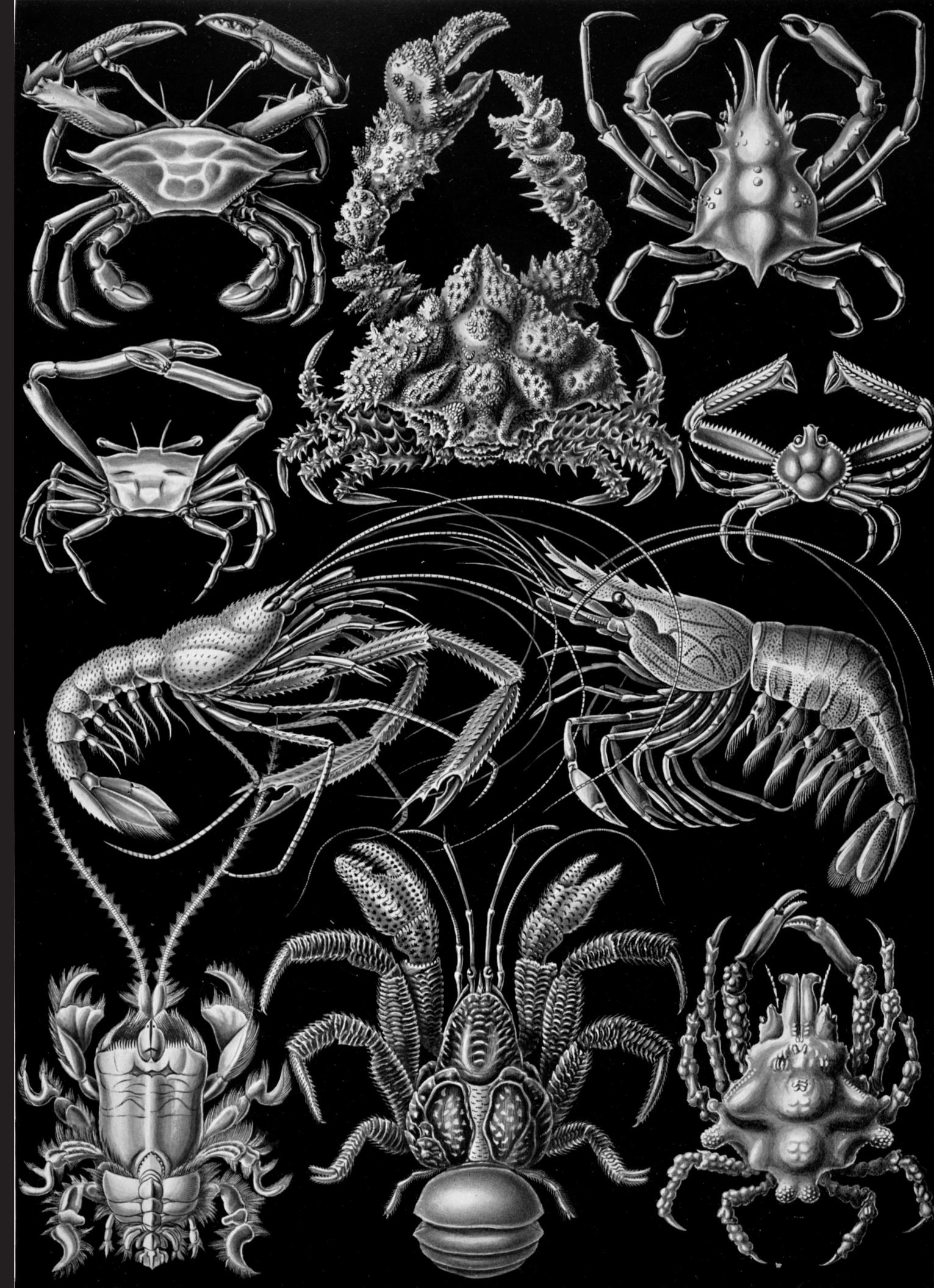
- †**Bellhexapus** De Angeli, Guinot, & Garassino, 2010
- †**Eohexapus** De Angeli, Guinot, & Garassino, 2010
- †**Eurohexapus** De Angeli, Guinot, & Garassino, 2010
- †**Globihexapus** Schweitzer & Feldmann, 2001
- †**Goniocypoda** Woodward, 1867
- Hexalaughlia** Guinot, 2006
- Hexapinus** Manning & Holthuis, 1981
- Hexaplex** Doflein, 1904
- Hexapus** De Haan, 1833
- Mariapla**x Rahayu & Ng, 2014
- Lambdophallus** Alcock, 1900
- Latohexapus** Huang, Hsueh, & Ng, 2002
- Paeduma** Rathbun, 1897
- †**Palaeopinnixa** Via, 1966
- Parahexapus** Balss, 1922
- Pseudohexapus** Monod, 1956
- Rayapinus** Rahayu & Ng, 2014
- Spiroplax** Manning & Holthuis, 1981
- Stevea** Manning & Holthuis, 1981
- Thaumastoplax** Miers, 1881
- Theoxapus** Rahayu & Ng, 2014
- Tritoplax** Manning & Holthuis, 1981

## Hexapodidae

Classification within the order Decapoda depends on the structure of the gills and legs, and the way in which the larvae develop, giving rise to two suborders: Dendrobranchiata and Pleocyemata.



CCSSshhSsl d  
RRhhherqipe  
AAhrimuppec  
YYFrm*m<sub>t</sub>*arl a  
FIipi t obp  
IS*m*  
SHm  
H p



The **coconut crab**, *Birgus latro*, is a species of terrestrial hermit crab, also known as the **robber crab** or **palm thief**. It is the largest land-living arthropod in the world, and is probably at the upper size limit for terrestrial animals with exoskeletons in recent Earth atmosphere, with a weight of up to 4.1 kg (9.0 lb). It can grow to up to 1 m (3 ft 3 in) in length from leg to leg. It is found on islands across the Indian Ocean and parts of the Pacific Ocean as far east as the Gambier Islands mirroring the distribution of the coconut palm; it has been extirpated from most areas with a significant human population, including mainland Australia and Madagascar.

The coconut crab is the only species of the genus *Birgus*, and is related to the terrestrial hermit crabs of the genus *Coenobita*. It shows a number of adaptations to life on land. Like hermit crabs, juvenile coconut crabs use empty gastropod shells for protection, but the adults develop a tough exoskeleton on their abdomen and stop carrying a shell. Coconut crabs have organs known as “branchiostegal lungs”, which are used instead of the vestigial gills for breathing. They cannot swim, and will drown if immersed in water for long. They have developed an acute sense of smell, which has developed convergently with that of insects, and which they use to find potential food sources. Mating occurs on dry land, but the females migrate to the sea to release their fertilised eggs as they hatch. The larvae are planktonic for 3–4 weeks, before settling to the sea floor and entering a gastropod shell. Sexual maturity is reached after about 5 years, and the total lifespan may be over 60 years.

Adult coconut crabs feed on fruits, nuts, seeds, and the pith of fallen trees, but will eat carrion and other organic matter opportunistically. The species is popularly associated with the coconut, and has been widely reported to climb trees to pick coconuts, which it then opens to eat the insides. While coconut crabs can climb trees, and can eventually open a coconut collectively, coconuts are not a significant part of their diet. Coconut crabs are hunted wherever they come into contact with people and are subject to legal protection in some areas.



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Although *Birgus latro* is a derived type of hermit crab, only the juveniles use salvaged snail shells to protect their soft abdomens, and adolescents sometimes use broken coconut shells to protect their abdomens. Unlike other hermit crabs, the adult coconut crabs do not carry shells but instead harden their abdominal terga by depositing chitin and chalk. Not being constrained by the physical confines of living in a shell allows this species to grow much larger than other hermit crabs in the family Coenobitidae.[12] Like most true crabs, *B. latro* bends its tail underneath its body for protection. [9] The hardened abdomen protects the coconut crab and reduces water loss on land, but has to be moulted periodically. Adults moult annually, and dig a burrow up to 1 m (3 ft 3 in) long in which to hide while vulnerable.[10] It remains in the burrow for 3 to 16 weeks, depending on the size of the animal.[10] After moulting, it takes 1 to 3 weeks for the exoskeleton to harden, depending on the animal's size, during which time the animal's body is soft and vulnerable, and it stays hidden for protection.[13]

# Alpheidae Pistol Shrimp

Look at these really long little antennae look, so so long! very long! impressively long!  
man-dibiles  
Look at these really long little antennae look, so so long! very long! impressively long!



# Colophon

Weights

Paper

Jordan Walker

'Pluto'

Hannes Von Döhren

HVD Fonts

2011



## Sources

<https://www.wikipedia.org> - text and images

<https://www.google.com/imghp> - images



Is it a box crab, or a crabby box?

either way, it won't give you the pox!

Crustaceans are marvelous, and full of  
good grace,

you can not deny, just look at that face!



deca  
poda

