

**NOTE ON CLEISTOSTOMA EDWARDSII (MCLEAY),
A SOUTH AFRICAN OCYPODID**

by

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With 5 textfigures

Cleistostoma edwardsii (McLeay)

Cleistotoma edwardsii McLeay, 1838, Ill. Zool. South Africa by Andrew Smith, vol. 3, p. 64.

Cleistotoma edwardsii McL., Krauss, 1843, Südafr. Crust., p. 40.

Cleistostoma edwardsii (McLeay), Stebbing, 1910. Ann. South Afr. Mus., vol. 6, p. 328.

Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie:

Knysna, September 18, 1938, L. D. Brongersma, 11 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 1 young specimen.
Zoological Museum, Amsterdam:

Knysna, September 16—18, 1938, H. Engel, 10 ♂♂, 7 ♀♀, 1 young specimen.

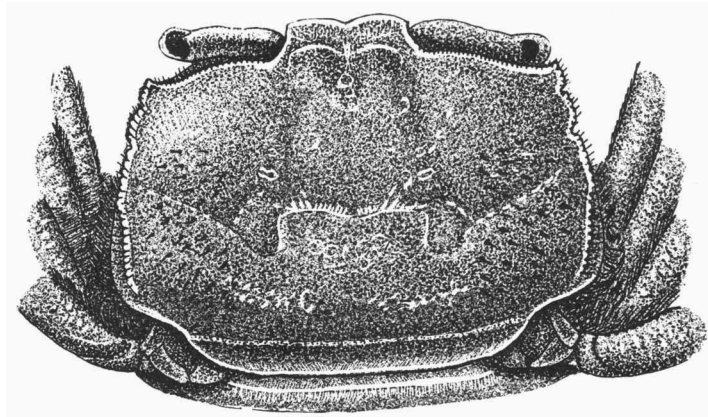


Fig. 1. *Cleistostoma edwardsii*, ♀, dorsal view, × 7.

McLeay says: „*Cleistotoma* oculis magnis, testâ laevi haud pilosâ lateribus integris nec granulosis nec postice divergentibus, manibus brevibus;

pedum pari tertio longiori, femoribus infra laevibus. Note. This species comes very near to the *Cleistotoma Leachii* of Milne Edwards; but differs from it in the surface being altogether smooth. The length is four lines."

Krauss adds no further information and Stebbing states: „I do not know whether McLeay's species has been since recognised."

The material, collected by Dr Brongersma and Dr Engel in South Africa, contains 33 specimens of a *Cleistostoma* species, collected at Knysna, probably *Cleistostoma edwardsii* McLeay.

Gordon (1931, Journ. Linn. Soc. London, vol. 37, p. 550) gives a figure of the ♂ pleopods of *Paracleistostoma leachi* (Audouin). The pleopods of our species differ from these and from those of the two other species (*depressum* de Man and *cristatum* (Ortmann)) figured by Gordon.

The ♂ pleopods of *longimanum* and *microcheir* (Tweedie, 1937, Bull. Raffles Mus., No. 13, p. 157—160) are different too.

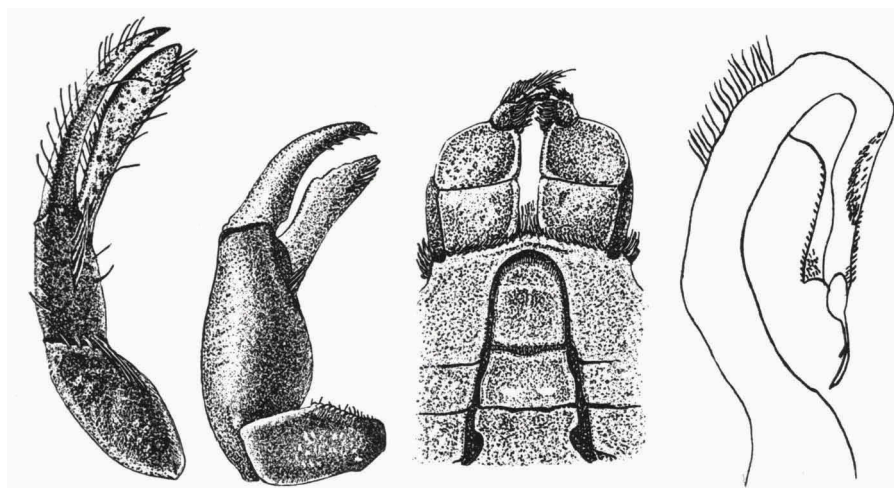


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 2. *Cleistostoma edwardsii*, ♀, left cheliped, × 14.

Fig. 3. *Cleistostoma edwardsii*, ♂, left cheliped, × 7.

Fig. 4. *Cleistostoma edwardsii*, ♂, third maxillipeds and distal abdominal segments with sternal sutures, × 7.

Fig. 5. *Cleistostoma edwardsii*, ♂, left anterior pleopod, × 12.

Description. Carapace broad, broader than long, with its lateral margins resembling those of *Euplax bosci* (Audouin), but the tooth at the external angle of the orbit is broader and more rounded; the tooth farther back on the lateral margin is even more obsolete. The surface of the carapace is smooth, except for a hairy "branchial facet".

The buccal cavern is short and broad; merus and ischium of the third maxillipeds are both broader than long; the third maxillipeds quite close the mouth. The basal segment of the palp is broad, its inner and upper border fringed with long hairs.

Chelipeds of the ♀ smaller and more slender than any of the walking legs. Fingers setose, spooned at the tips and widely gaping at the base; no tooth on the dactylus. The chelipeds of the ♂ are much broader, devoid of hair and with a rather large, blunt tooth near the base of the dactylus.

These crabs live in the muddy parts of the shores of Knysna lagoon.

For the drawing of fig. 1—4 I am indebted to Mr L. P. Pouderoyen.
