

Identification of Iranian Subtidal Portunid Crabs (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura) of the Oman Sea with First Record of 5 Species

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Abstract

In this study, Portunid crabs of Sistan and Baluchistan were identified. Sampling was carried out at 7 stations in subtidal zones of Sistan and Baluchistan coast (North of the Gulf of Oman) in summer 2009 and fall 2010 by trawl net. The samples were fixed in alcohol 70% and shipped to laboratory for identification. In this study, all of 9 species belonged to Portunid family included: *Charybdis (charybdis) helleri*, *Charybdis (charybdis) feriata*, *Charybdis (charybdis) mile*, *Charybdis (Goniobellenus) hoplites*, *Charybdis (Goniobellenus) smithii*, *Thalamita crenata*, *Portunus segnis*, *Portunus sanguinolentus* and *Scylla serrata*. The 5 species *Charybdis (Charybdis) helleri*, *Charybdis (Charybdis) mile*, *Charybdis (Goniobellenus) smithii*, *Thalamita crenata*, and *Scylla serrata* are reported for first time from the Iranian side of the Gulf of Oman. The species name of *Portunus pelagis* Linnaeus, 1758 has changed to *Portunus segnis* Forskål, 1775.

Keywords: *Brachyuran Crabs, Identification, Subtidal, Portunidae, Gulf of Oman.*
