Online ISSN 2435-0931 Print ISSN 0385-0900

Bulletin of the Mizunami Fossil Museum, no. 47, 95, 1 fig.

Manuscript accepted on October 22, 2020; online published on November 28, 2020
http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:0CA534F0-83C2-40DB-BF0A-C96AE2A8BEA5

—Short Note—

Transfer of decapod specimens to the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals

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Recently, a PhD candidate, Jessica N. Tashman, at Kent State University conducted a study of grooming behavior as demonstrated in fossil crabs (Tashman et al., 2008). She recognized areas on the carapace of the crabs that could be cleaned by the animals and areas that were beyond their reach. The study helped recognize living and post-mortem infestations of epibionts. The study would not have been possible without the contribution of extremely well-preserved fossil crabs (Fig. 1) made available by Bruce Thiel from Portland, Oregon. The provenance of the specimens was well documented, and the meticulous preparation permitted careful documentation of the biotic interactions. To assure long-term care of the specimens, referred to as T185 and T246 in Thiel's collection and in Tashman et al. (2008), the material has been deposited in the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals, Hillsboro, Oregon, with catalogue numbers RM8623 and RM8624, respectively.

Reference

Tashman, J. N., R. M. Feldmann, C. E. Schweitzer, and B. A. Thiel. 2018. Inferences for grooming behavior drawn from epibionts on early to middle Cenozoic crabs of Oregon and Washington state, USA. Bulletin of the Mizunami Fossil Museum 44: 9–22.

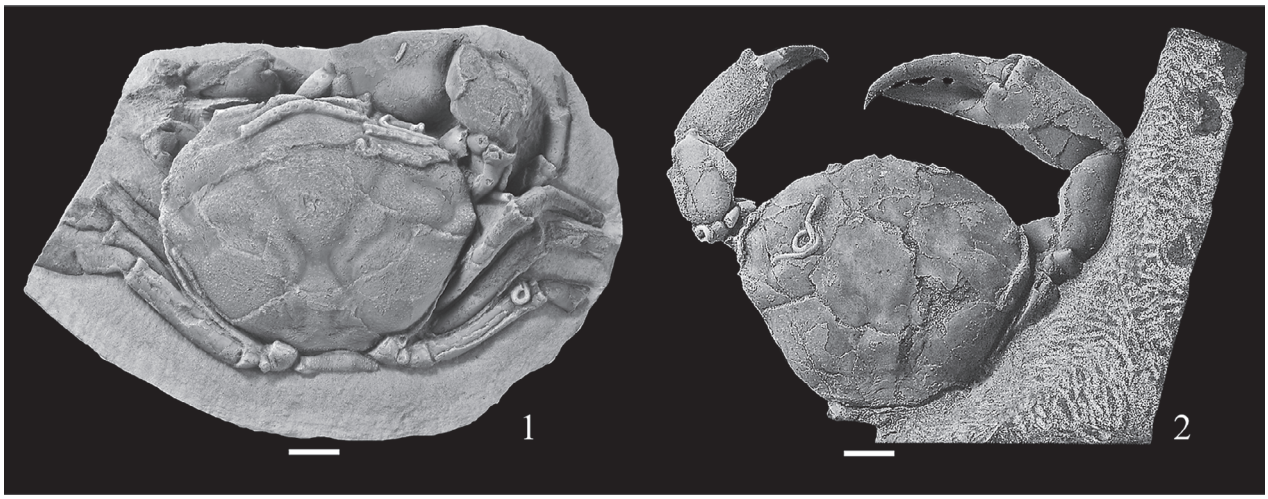

Fig. 1. *Pulalius vulgaris* (Rathbun, 1926) bearing epibionts, specimen RM8623 (Fig. 1.1) and RM8624 (Fig. 1.2) transferred from the Bruce Thiel collection to the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals. Scale bars = 1 cm.