NEW RECORDS OF TWO SPECIES OF THE FAMILY PSEUDORHOMBILIDAE ALCOCK, 1900 CRABS (CRUSTACEA: DECAPODA: XANTHOIDEA) FROM THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

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The family Pseudorhombilidae Alcock, 1900 comprises of 17 genera and around 36 species, being widely distributed in the western Atlantic, occurring from shallow waters to continental slope, inhabiting sandy or muddy substrates. The genus Euphrosynoplax Guinot, 1969, currently has only two species, with both the species distributed only in Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, between 20 and 350 m depth, while the genus Robertsella Guinot, 1969 is composed by two species distributed in depths below 300 m, being only one recorded from Brazilian waters (R. meridionalis Tavares & Gouvêa, 2013). Based on that here, we report the first occurrence from South Atlantic of Euphrosynoplax clausa Guinot, 1969 and the second register of Robertsella meridionalis Tavares & Gouvêa, 2013 from Brazilian waters. The specimens were collected on the framework “Avaliação da Biota Bentônica e Planctônica da Bacia Potiguar e Ceará (Bpot)”, developed by the Brazilian Oil Company “Petrobras (Petróleo Brasileiro S/A)” on board the R/V Seward Johnson col. in May 2011 in Potiguar Basin, encompassing the States of Ceará (CE) and Rio Grande do Norte (RN), located on Northeast region of Brazil. The materials were sampled from bottom trawls conducted on the continental slope using a semi-balloon otter trawl with 50 mm mesh size and 18 m of mouth opening, trawled during 30 minutes between the depths of 150 and 2068 m. After the identification, all the material was deposited in the carcinological collection of the “Museu de Oceanografia Prof. Petrônio Alves Coelho (MOUFPE)” at Federal University of Pernambuco, Recife - Brazil. These records are an important contribution for the knowledge of the biodiversity of crustaceans from Brazilian waters, due to the first record of the genus Euphrosynoplax from South Atlantic and filling the gap on the geographical distribution of R. meridionalis from Northwestern Brazil.

Palavras-chave: Euphrosynoplax, Robertsella, Brazil, geographic distribution, Potiguar Basin.