

*Thelphusa*, Latreille.

- Thelphusa*, Latreille, Nouv. Dict. d. Hist. Nat., ed. 2, vol. xxxiii. p. 500, 1819.  
 „ Milne Edwards, Hist. Nat. Crust., vol. ii. p. 10, 1837 ; Ann. d. Sci. Nat., ser. 3, Zool. xx. p. 209, 1853.  
 „ A. Milne Edwards, Nouv. Archiv. Mus. Hist. Nat., vol. v. p. 163, 1869, et synonyma.  
 „ Kingsley, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad., p. 35, 1880.

Carapace transverse, with the antero-lateral margins arcuated and usually armed with a single tooth, placed at a short distance behind the tooth or lobe at the exterior angle of the orbit, sometimes moderately convex, with a more or less distinct post-frontal crest, sometimes very convex, and the post-frontal crest obsolete. Front deflexed, of moderate width. Orbits usually without marginal fissures, and with the interior subocular lobe but little developed. Epistoma narrow, transverse. Endostome not longitudinally ridged. Post-abdomen (in the male) usually distinctly seven-jointed. Eyes of moderate size. Antennules transversely plicated and usually almost concealed beneath the front. The basal joint of the antennæ is very short, and does not always reach the frontal margin; the short flagellum lies within the anterior hiatus of the orbit. The ischium-joint of the exterior maxillipedes is not produced at its antero-internal angle; the merus is small, usually distally truncated, with the antero-external angle rounded, the antero-internal angle (at or near which the next joint articulates with the merus) slightly emarginate. The chelipedes (in the males) are well developed and usually unequal, with the merus trigonous; carpus with a strong spine on its inner margin, palm rounded above; fingers usually not so long as the palm, distally acute, and dentated on the inner margins. The ambulatory legs are rather long, with styliform dactyli, which are armed with spinules disposed in longitudinal series.

The described species of *Thelphusa* are very numerous; one, the common *Thelphusa fluviatilis*, occurs not only on the shores of the Mediterranean, but also in Asia Minor, Syria and Persia; the others are found in all the warmer temperate and tropical regions of the Old World, extending southward to the Cape of Good Hope, Madagascar and Australia, but not to New Zealand; a species (*Thelphusa chilensis*) occurs in Chili.

The genus may be divided into three sections or subgenera, characterised mainly by the form (when developed) of the postfrontal crest; the Challenger collection includes a species belonging to each of these sections, which are connected with one another by insensible gradations.

I. Carapace moderately convex, but little dilated in front of the branchial regions, with the epibranchial tooth usually distinctly developed. Postfrontal crest distinct, but not continuous. Typical *Thelphusæ*.

The species are mostly Mediterranean and Asiatic.

II. Carapace moderately convex, usually antero-laterally dilated, with sometimes one