Abstract
The size at sexual maturity and the allometric growth of the semi-terrestrial crab Sesarma rectum were studied in an impacted tropical mangrove in northeast Brazil. Crabs were monthly collected during spring low-tide periods, from October 2009 through September 2010. A catch-per-unit effort (CPUE) technique was used to sample the crab population, with two-hour sampling periods, by two people. A total of 492 crabs were obtained, being 262 males and 230 females. The specimens were measured at carapace width (CW), the left and right propodus length and height (RPL, RPH, LPL and LPH), and the gonopod length of males (GL), and abdomen width (AW) of females. In males, the inflection point was at 27.14 mm CW in the relationship between CW and the length of right propodus (LRP), considering the morphological size at the onset of maturity. Based on the relationship between CW and AW, the size at sexual maturity in females was 22.97 mm. In spite of living in an impacted area, this population attained the maturity onset at a bigger size than other localities.

Keywords
Sesarma rectum, sexual maturity, allometric growth, tropical mangrove, northeast Brazil.