



# FAO SPECIES CATALOGUE

## VOL. 13 MARINE LOBSTERS OF THE WORLD

An Annotated and illustrated Catalogue of Species of Interest to Fisheries Known to Date



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**Cover illustration:** the Atlantic deep-sea lobster (*Acontacharis caeca*) in aggressive posture outside its burrow. Drawing by M. D'Antoni.

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## **VOL, 13 MARINE LOBSTERS OF THE WORLD**

**An Annotated and Illustrated Catalogue  
of Species of Interest to Fisheries Known to date**

prepared by

**L.B. Holthuis**  
Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum  
Leiden, The Netherlands

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

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## PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

Lobsters are among the most prized of fisheries resources and of significant commercial interest in many countries. Because of their high value and esteemed culinary worth, much attention has been paid to lobsters in biological, fisheries, and systematic literature. The present volume represents a comprehensive treatment of the identification, taxonomy, distribution, biology and ecology of the world's lobsters that are of interest to fisheries.

The author of this catalogue, Dr L.B. Holthuis, is one of the world's foremost authorities on crustaceans. He prepared the first volume in the FAO species catalogue series, "Shrimps and Prawns of the World" published in 1980. He also has collaborated with FAO in the preparation of crustacean species identification sheets for the eastern central Atlantic, the western Indian Ocean, and the Mediterranean/Black Seas, and by revising the information on crustaceans for most of FAO's national field guides to commercial marine resources in Africa and Asia. One of his areas of specialization is lobsters and since 1946 he has been the sole or senior author for over 25 taxonomic articles concerning this group; more than any other author, past or present. His work on lobsters has included the examination of specimens from the major museums of the world and extensive travels to examine and collect them firsthand.

**Technical Editors:** W. Fischer, L. Garibaldi and K. Carpenter, Fisheries Resources and Environment Division, FAO

**Illustrators:** M. D'Antoni and P. Lastrico, FAO, Rome

**Page composition:** G. Sciarappa-Demuro, FAO, Rome

**Holthuis, L.B.**

**FAO species catalogue.** Vol. 13. Marine lobsters of the world. An annotated and illustrated catalogue of species of interest to fisheries known to date.

**FAO Fisheries Synopsis.** No. 125, Vol. 13. Rome, FAO. 1991. 292 p.

### ABSTRACT

This is the thirteenth issue in the FAO series of world-wide annotated and illustrated catalogues of major groups of organisms that enter marine fisheries. The present volume on marine lobsters includes 149 species in 3 infraorders, 10 families and 33 genera. There is an introductory section that supplies general remarks on the biology and fisheries of lobsters, a glossary of technical terms, illustrated keys to infraorders, superfamilies, families, subfamilies and species, and detailed accounts on species. Species accounts include illustrations of the species and their distributions, and information on scientific and vernacular names, types, distribution, habitat, biology, size, interest to fisheries, and relevant literature. Following the species accounts is a table of species by major fishing area, an index, and a bibliography. Two original contributions to nomenclature are presented in this volume. A new subgenus, *Sagmariasus*, is erected under the palinurid genus *Jasus*. In addition, the new name, *Callinassa biffari*, is proposed to replace the junior primary homonym *C. affinis* Holmes, 1900.

### Distribution

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