

Geographical Distribution : Western Atlantic from off Massachusetts and Bermuda to French Guiana and Suriname, including the entire Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea (Fig. 64).

Habitat and Biology : Deep sea between 137 and 824 m, mostly between 200 and 600 m. Bottom: mud or fine sand.

Size : Maximum total length about 14.5 cm Carapace length 1.5 to 7 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : Potential. Exploratory fishing in the Gulf of Mexico (off the mouth of the Mississippi, and off East Florida) showed the presence of considerable quantities of the species; with a 65 foot trawl, catches of up to 40 kg/h were obtained.

Literature : Holthuis, 1974:1776, figs 15, 16A,B; Fischer (ed.), 1978:vol. 6.

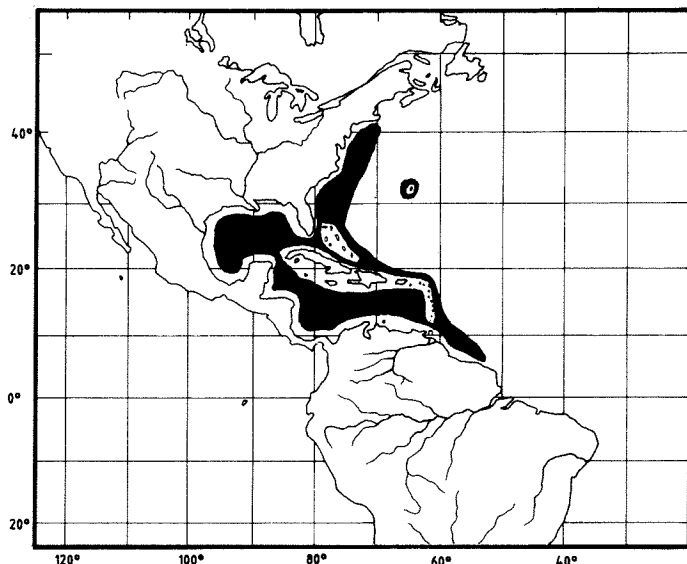


Fig. 64

Nephropsis agassizii A. Milne Edwards, 1880

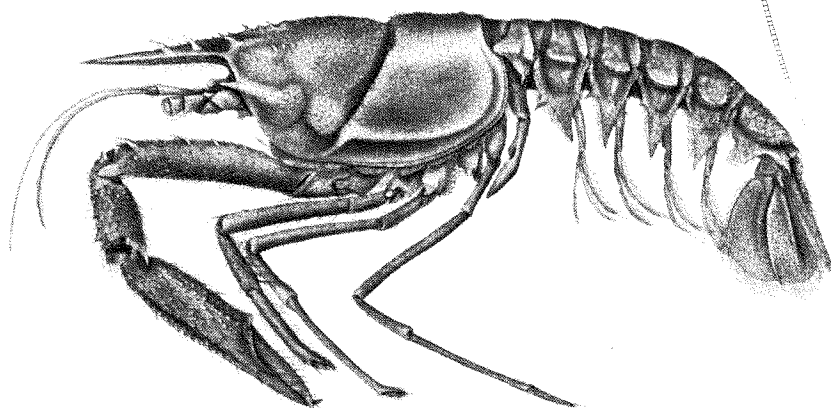
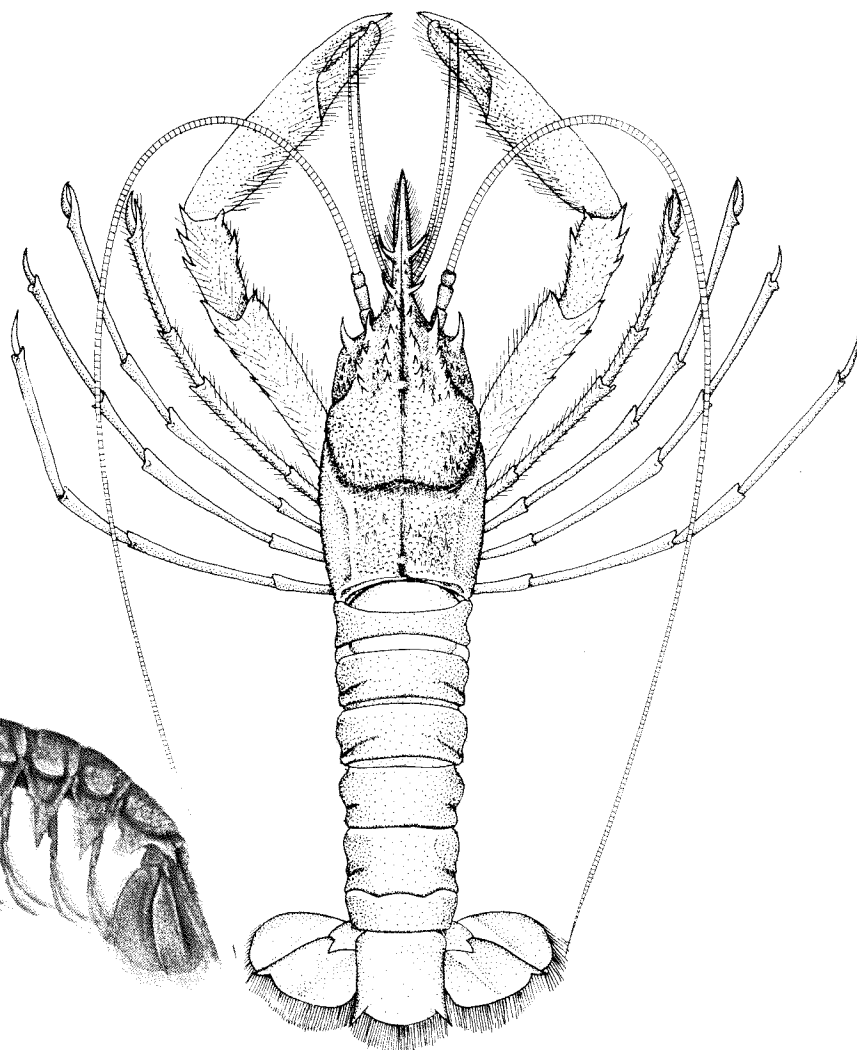
Nephropsis agassizii A. Milne Edwards, 1880, Annales Sciences naturelles, Paris, (Zool.), (6)9(2): 1

FAO Names : **En**- Prickly lobsterette; **Fr** Langoustine epineuse; **Sp** - Cigala de grano.

Type : **Type locality**: "détroit de Floride, a 1500 metres de profondeur" cited by A. Milne Edwards (1880) probably is erroneous and should be "Blake" Station 33, north of Yucatan Bank, 24°01'N 88°58'W, 2560-2870 m (see Holthuis, 1974:799-800). Whereabouts of type specimen unknown.

Fig. 65

NEPH Nephps 2



(from Holthuis., 1974) lateral view

dorsal view

Fig. 65

Geographical Distribution : Western Atlantic: Bahama Islands, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, Tobago and off São Paulo, Brazil (Fig. 66).

Habitat and Biology : Deep sea between 878 and 2560 m, most common between 1100 and 1900 m.

Size : Maximum total length about 12 cm (carapace length 5.6 cm); adults with carapace length usually between 4 and 5 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : Hardly potential. The species is taken occasionally during exploratory trawling, but never in great quantities. This, plus the fact that the species is relatively small and lives at very great depths make it unlikely that it ever will form the subject of a fishery.

Local Names: USA: Agassiz's lobsterette.

Literature : Holthuis, 1974:796, figs 19,20; Fischer, (ed.), 1978: vol. 6.

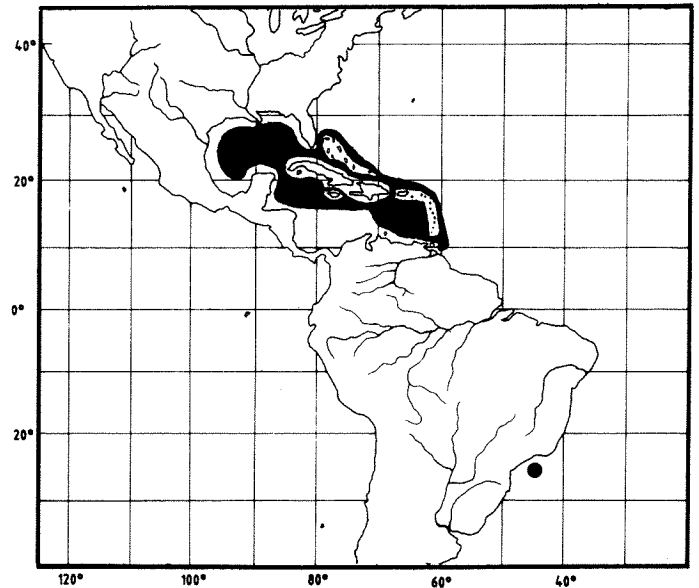


Fig. 66

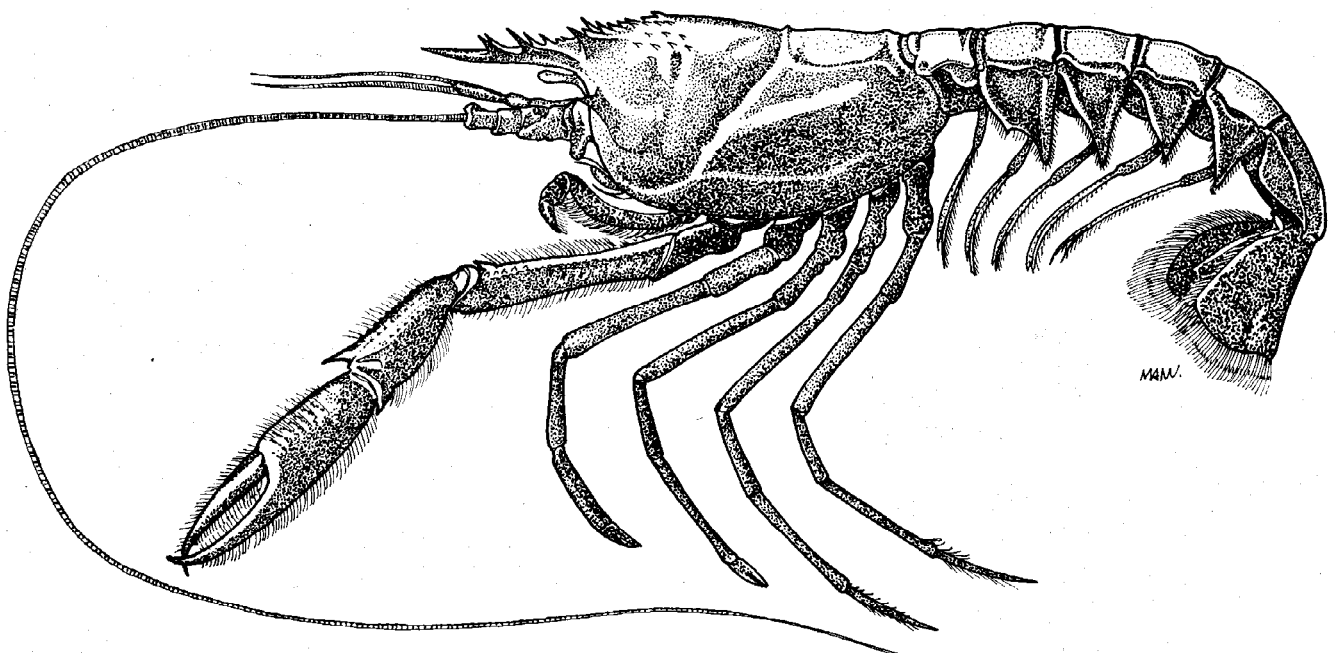
Nephropsis atlantica Norman, 1882

Fig. 67

NEPH Nephps 4

Nephropsis atlantica Norman, 1882, Proceedings Royal Society Edinburgh, 11:684.

FAO Names : En - Scarlet lobsterette.



(after Bouvier, 1917)

Fig. 67a

Type : Type locality: "Knight Errant" August 10, 1880. Station 4; in 555 fathoms (Norman, 1882). Norman evidently made an error in the station number, as the date and depth given by him are those of Station 30 and not Station 4. The position of Station 30 in the Faeroe Channel is 59°33'N 7°14'W, 555 fms = 1015 m, bottom mud. Whereabouts of type unknown, not in BM.

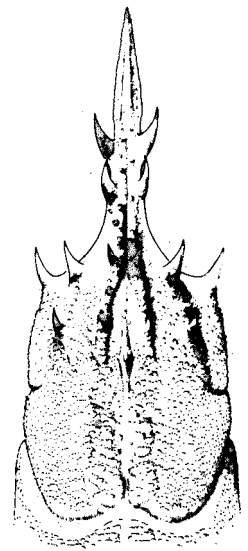
Geographical Distribution : Eastern Atlantic between 61°N and 24°S (Faeroe Islands to Namibia) (Fig. 68). Records of the species from the Indo-West Pacific region refer most probably to *N. sulcata*.

Habitat and Biology : Deep sea from 470 to 1804 m, mostly between 900 and 1400 m; bottom mud.

Size : Maximum total length 10.3 cm; ovigerous females are 8 to 10 cm long.

Interest to Fisheries : Only potential. The fact that the species is rather small and inhabits great depths makes its suitability for a fishery unlikely, although sometimes it is taken in numbers (RV J.E. PILLSBURY took respectively 16 and 31 specimens at a single station off respectively the Ivory Coast and Liberia).

Literature : Selbie, 1914:48, pl. 7 figs 1-13; Holthuis, 1974:801, fig. 21.



anterior part of Fig. 67b
carapace (dorsal view)
(from Macpherson, 1990)

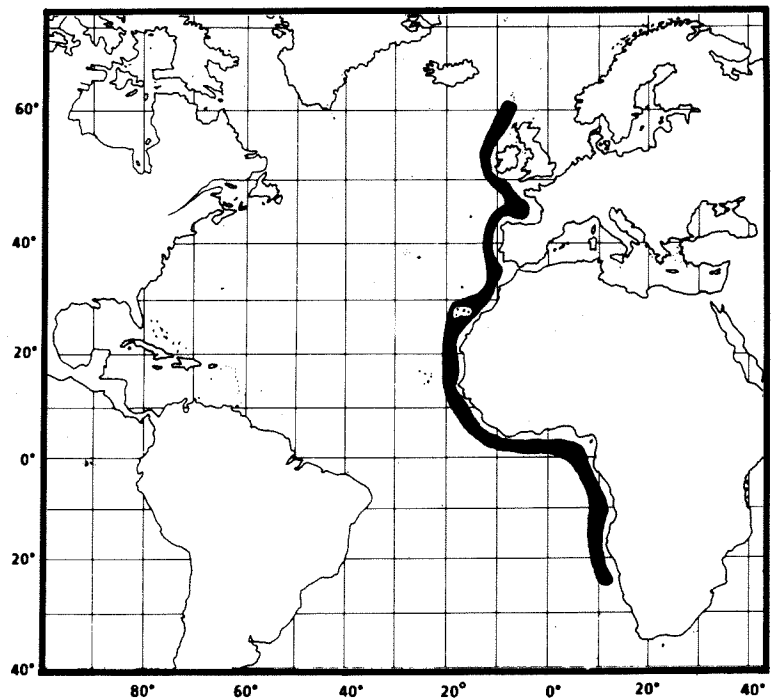


Fig. 68

Nephropsis carpenteri Wood-Mason, 1885

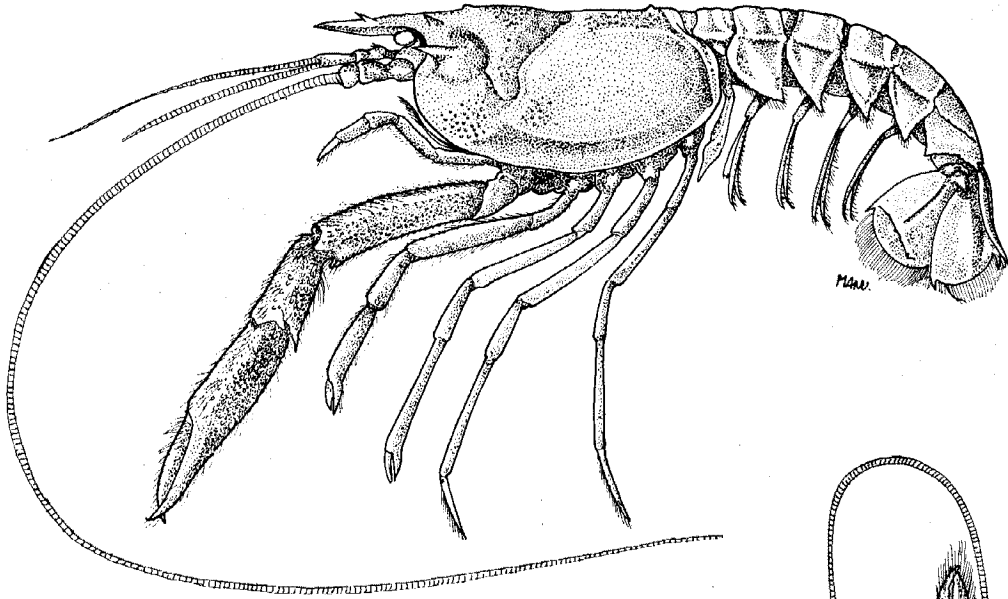
Fig. 69

NEPH Nephps 5

Nephropsis carpenteri Wood-Mason, 1885, Proceedings Asiatic Society Bengal, 1885:71.

FAO Names: En - Ridge-back lobsterette.

Type : Type locality: "Investigator" Station 162. Bay of Bengal, 13°51'12"N.80°28'12"E, 145-250 fms [= 265-457m], brown mud. Holotype in ZSI, no. 4251/7, in alcohol, condition poor.



Geographical Distribution : Indo-West Pacific region
Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, Japan (Fig. 70)

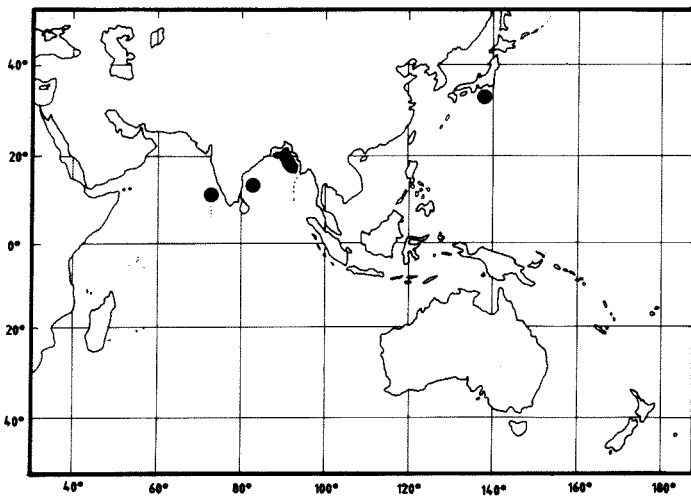
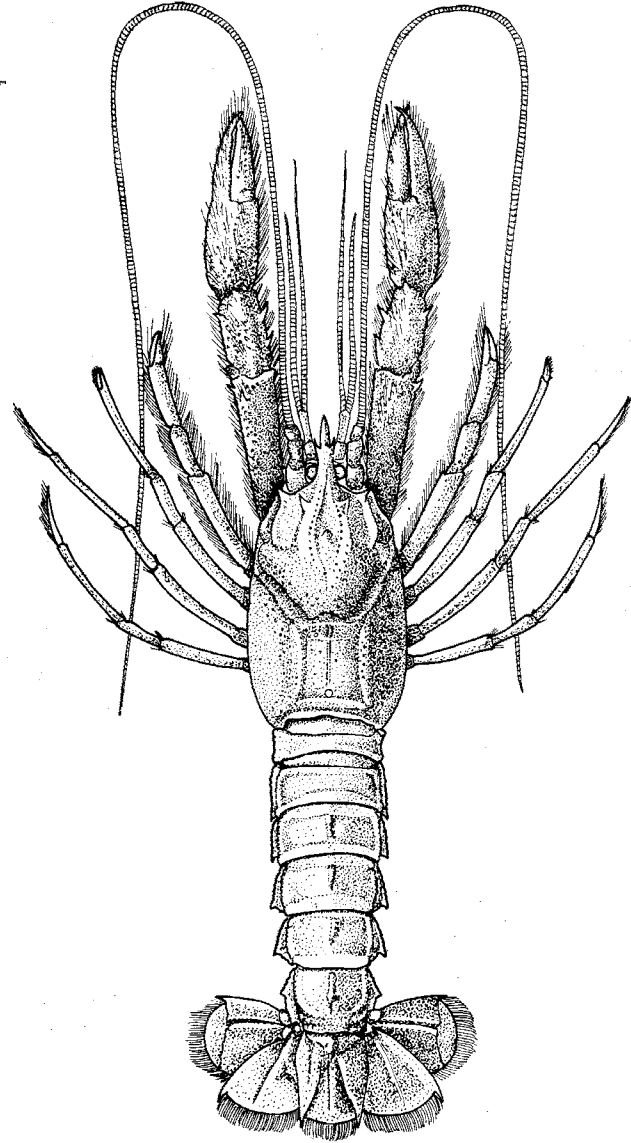


Fig. 70

(after Alcock & Anderson, 1896)

Fig. 69

Habitat and Biology : Depth range between 200 and 500 m.

Size : Total length 9 to 12 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : So far none. There are as yet no indications of fishing grounds with a sizeable population of this species.

Literature : Alcock & Anderson, 1896, pl. 27, fig. 2; Alcock, 1901:160; Macpherson, 1990:316, figs 5f, 11e,f, 12, 16f.

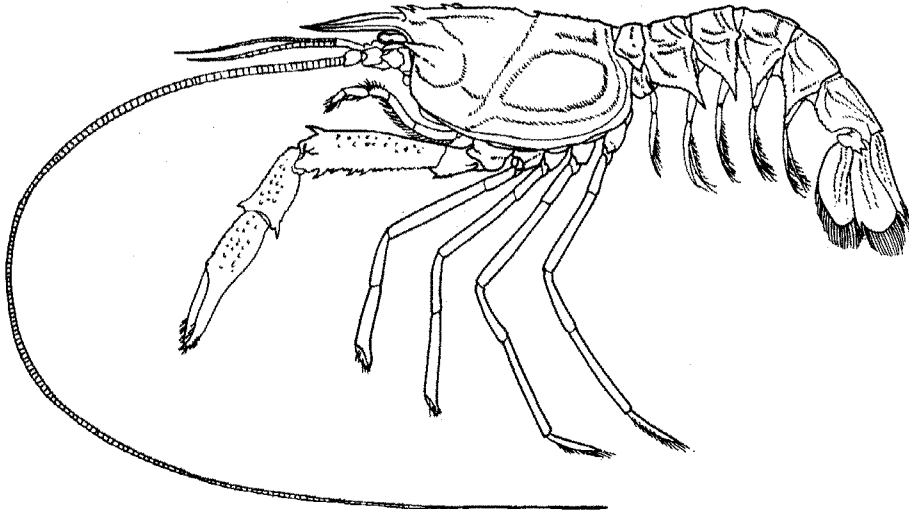
Nephropsis ensirostris Alcock, 1901

Fig. 71

NEPH Nephps 6

Nephropsis ensirostris Alcock, 1901, Descriptive catalogue of Indian deep-sea Crustacea Macrura and Anomala: 162, pl. 1 fig. 2.

FAO Names : En - Gladiator lobsterette.



Type : Type locality: "Investigator" Station 177, "Arabian Sea, north of the Laccadives 636 fathoms" [= 13°47'49"N 73°7'E, 1163 m, green mud]. Type material, ZSI, no. 3892/10; 2 specimens preserved in alcohol, condition poor, probably are types.

Geographical Distribution : Indo-West Pacific region: Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, Andaman Sea, Philippines and Indonesia (Fig. 72).

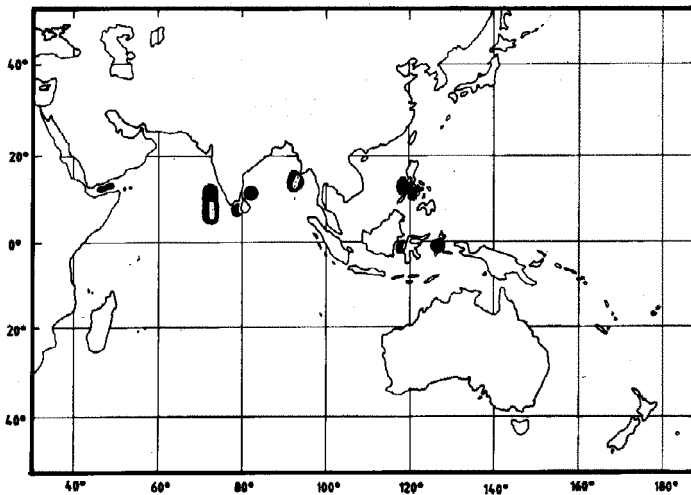


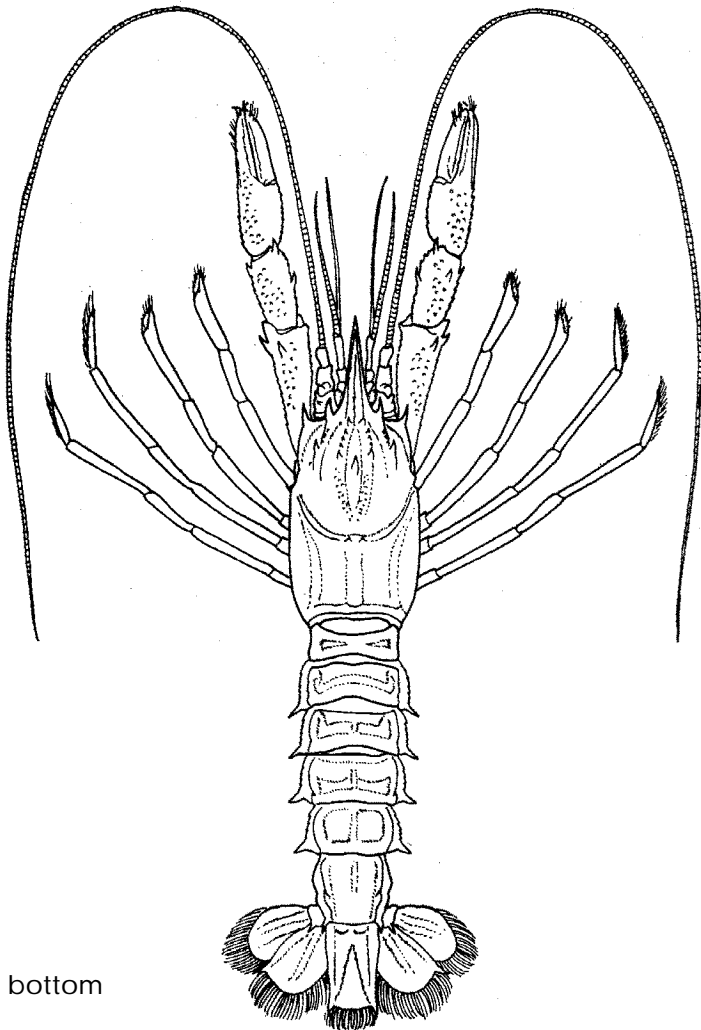
Fig. 72

Habitat and Biology : Deep sea from 580 to 1160 m, bottom mud or sandy mud.

Size : Total length about 6 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : So far none. The species has been rarely caught, while also the fact that it is rather small and lives in the deep sea makes its commercial value less likely.

Literature : Alcock, 1901:162, pt. 1 fig. 2; Alcock & McArdle, 1902:pl. 58 fig 1; Macpherson, 1990:303, figs 5a,6,8a,b, 16a.



(after Alcock, 1901)

Fig. 71

Nephropsis malhaensis* Borradaile, 1910*NEPH Nephps 7**

Nephropsis malhaensis Borradaile, 1910, Transactions Linnean Society, London, Zoology, 13(2):262.

FAO Names : En - Saya de Malha lobsterette.

Type : Type locality: "dredged in 300 fms off Saya de Malha", Western Indian Ocean. Holotype in ZMC in alcohol, condition good.

Geographical Distribution : Only known from the type locality (Fig. 65).

Habitat and Biology : Deep sea, in 550 m.

Size : Total length of holotype, only specimen known, 7.75 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : None. The species, being only known from the holotype, is mentioned here solely for completeness' sake. There are no indications that it ever will have commercial possibilities.

Literature : Borradaile, 1910:262; Macpherson, 1990:317, figs 13a,b, 14c,d.

Remarks : The original description is short and not accompanied by a figure. Macpherson (1990) gave an additional illustrated description of the holotype.

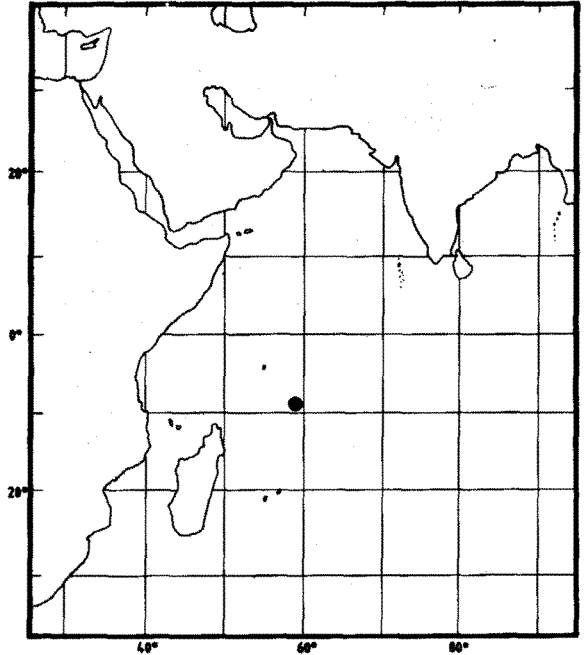
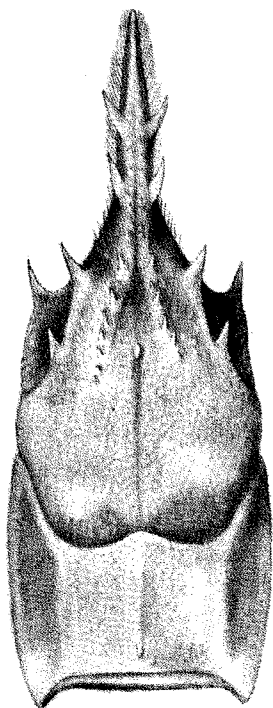


Fig. 73

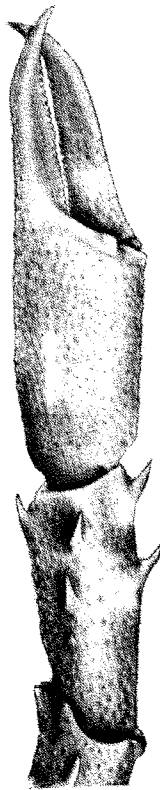
Nephropsis neglecta* Holthuis, 1974*Fig. 74****NEPH Nephps 8**

Nephropsis neglecta Holthuis, 1974, Bulletin Marine Science, University Miami, 24:792, fig. 18.

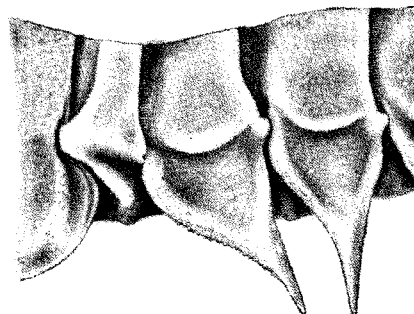
FAO Names : En - Ruby lobsterette.



a. carapace (dorsal view)



b. cheliped



c. abdomen (lateral view)

(from Holthuis, 1974)

Fig. 74

Type : Type locality: "16-20 miles s. of Dry Tortugas, Florida [USA], 1065 m". Holotype in USNM, no. 136690 paratypes in USNM; UMML, RMNH, MCZ.

Geographical Distribution : Western Atlantic from Florida (USA) to the Guianas, including the Caribbean Sea and the Lesser Anlilles (Fig. 75).

Habitat and Biology : Deep sea between 655 and 1234 m, most catches between 800 and 1300 m; substrate sand or mud, sometimes with rubble.

Size : Carapace length between 1.5 and 3.5 cm, corresponding with a total length of about 3 to 7.5 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : So far none. The fact that the species is relatively small, usually taken singly or in pairs, and inhabits the deep sea, makes it not likely that it ever will be exploited commercially.

Literature : Original description

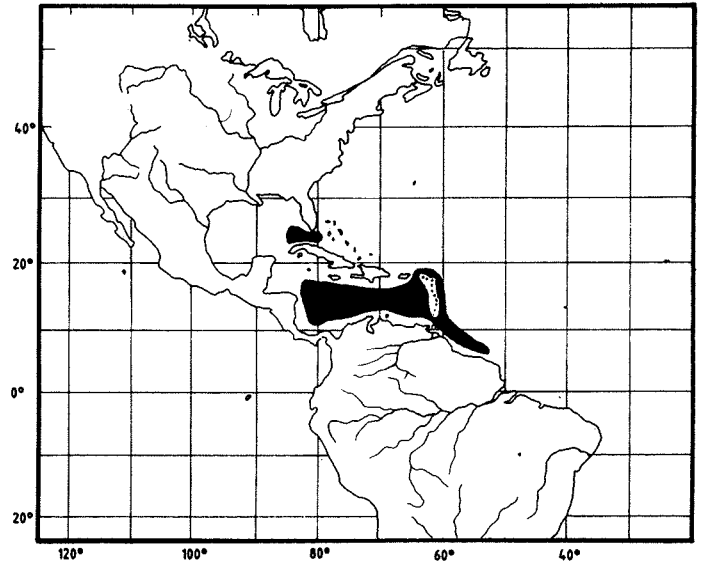


Fig. 75

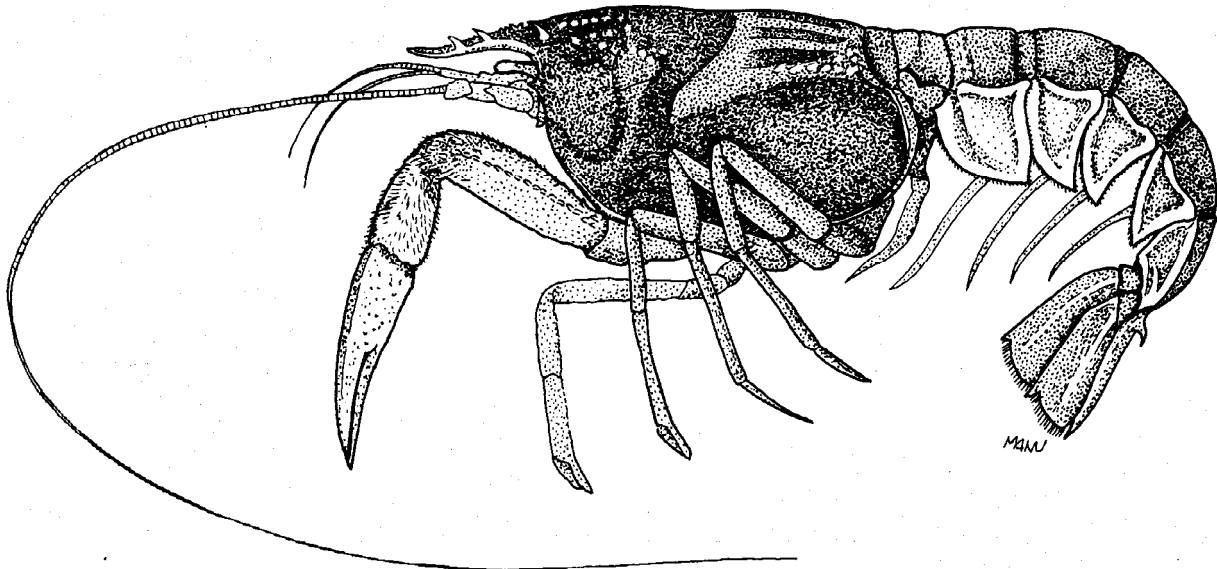
Nephropsis occidentalis Faxon, 1893

Fig. 76

NEPH Nephps 9

Nephropsis occidentalis Faxon, 1893, Bulletin Museum comparative Zoology, Harvard Colleeae, 24: 195.

FAO Names : **En** - Pacific lobsterette; **Fr** - Langoustine du Pacifique; **Sp** - Cigala del Pacifico.



(after Faxon, 1895)

Fig. 76

Type : Type localities: "Albatross" Station 3418, off Acapulco, Mexico, 16°33'N 99°52'30"W; 660 fms [= 1207 .m], brown sand, broken specks; syntype in USNM, no. 21081. "Albatross" Station 3424, near Tres Marias Islands, Mexico, 21°15'N 106°23'W, 676 fms [= 1236 m], grey sand, broken specks; syntype in USNM, no. 2 1082.