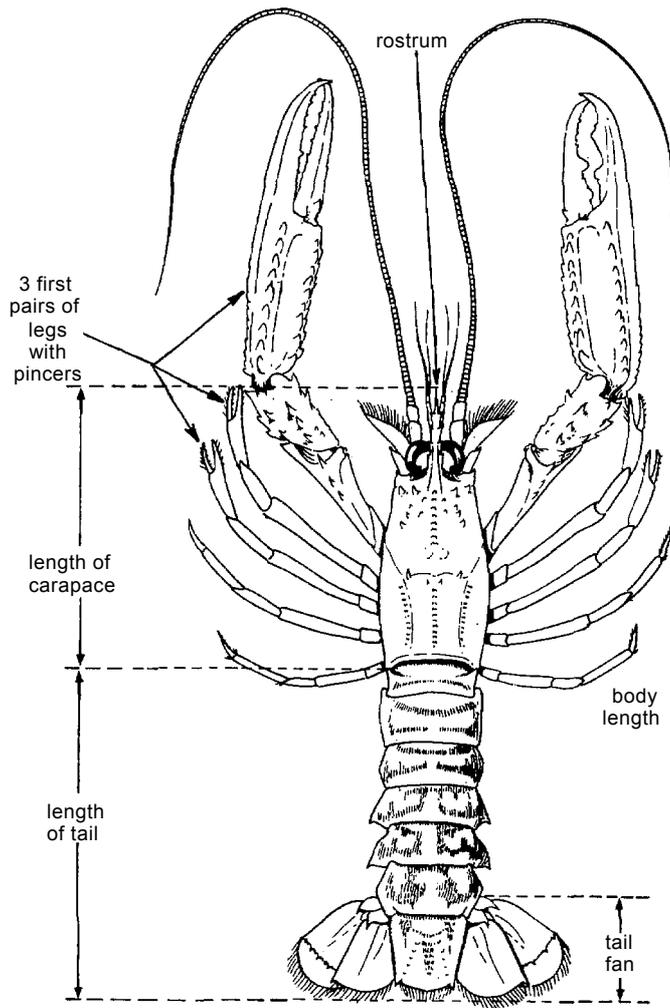


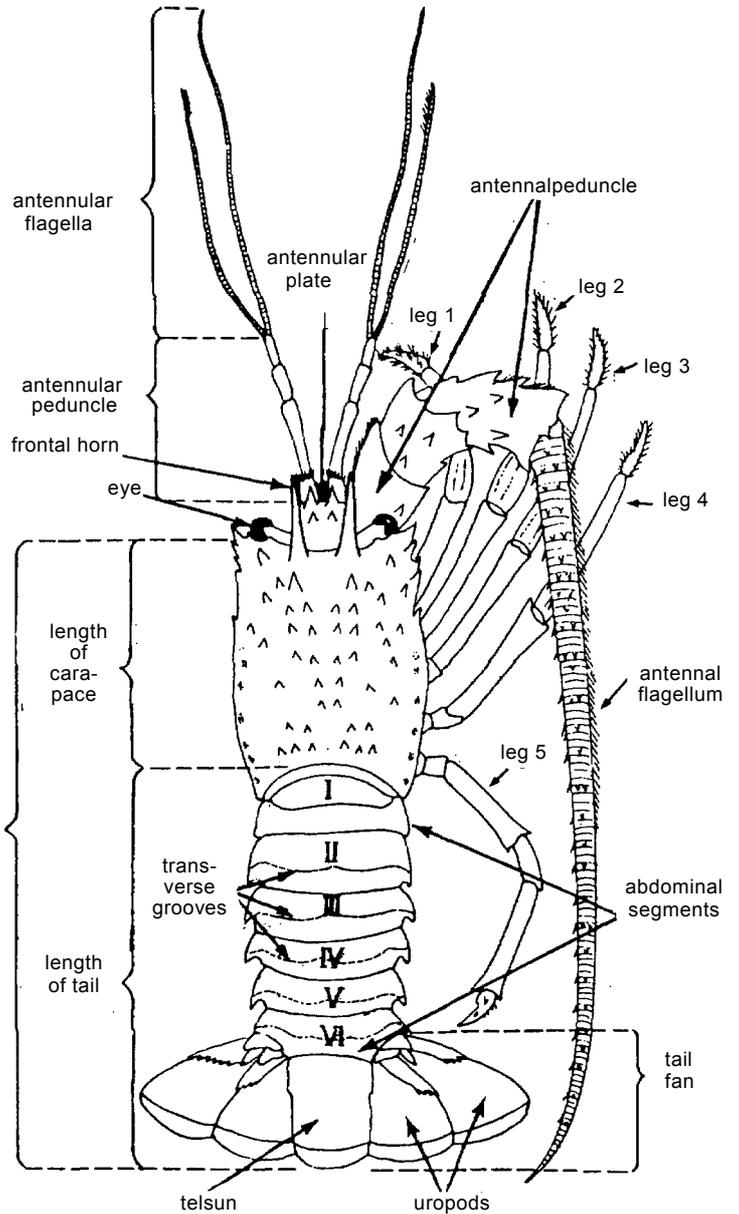
LOBSTERS

TECHNICAL TERMS AND PRINCIPAL MEASUREMENTS USED AND ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO FAMILIES



Family NEPHROPIDAE (True lobsters)

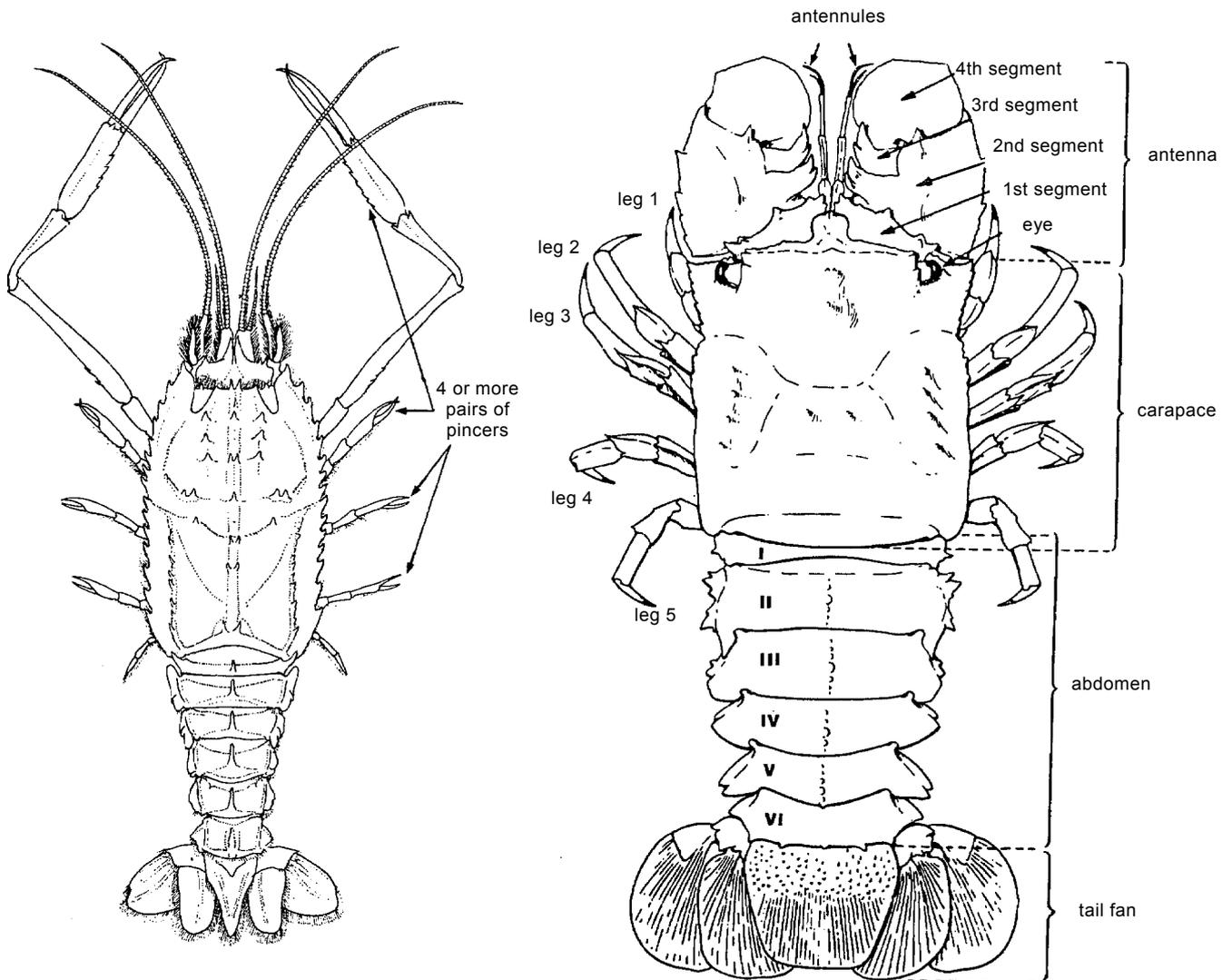
Median rostrum well developed; first 3 pairs of walking legs ending in true pincers; pincers of first pair usually enlarged. A single species in the area: *Nephropsis atlantica*, on which scarcely any information is available.



Family PALINURIDAE (Spiny lobsters)

No distinct median rostrum; each eye protected by a strong spiny frontal projection of the carapace (frontal horns); legs without true pincers (except 5th leg in females which ends in a small pincer).

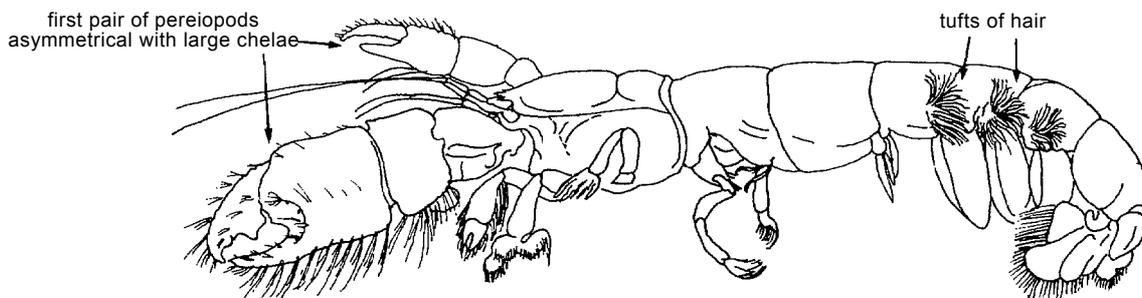
LOBSTERS

**Family POLYCHELIDAE**

Eyes small and lacking pigment; soft-bodied deep-sea lobsters; carapace without a rostrum; telson pointed; first 4 or 5 of all legs with pincers, first pair enlarged; antennae cylindrical, shorter than body; so far of no interest to fisheries, but *Stereomastis sculpta talismani* (Bouvier, 1917) is an important bycatch in deep-sea trawls.

Family SCYLLARIDAE (Slipper lobsters)

Body strongly flattened, antennae transformed into broad plates, lacking flagella; legs without pincers. So far there is no established fishery for any of the species occurring in the area, though *Scyllarides herklotsii*, when taken as bycatch, is sold in local markets. Three other species, *Scyllarus carpati* Holthuis, 1952, *Scyllarus paradoxus* Miers, 1881, and *Scyllarus posteli* Forest, 1963 are very small (up to 9 cm), and hence of no significant interest to fisheries.

**Family CALLIANASSIDAE (Ghost shrimps)**

Elongate body with a thin integument; carapace and abdomen smooth, some pleura of the latter with tufts of hair. Abdomen shorter than carapace; eyes small, placed close to each other; first pair of pereiopods asymmetrical with large chelae; second pair of pereiopods small, also chelate; the following legs are simple. Ghost shrimps of the genus *Callianassa* burrow in the mud of estuaries, sometimes in freshwater. One species *Callianassa turnerana* (total body length 5.5 to 14.5 cm), is of considerable importance locally in artisanal fisheries. This species swarms every 3 to 5 years in estuaries and is caught in enormous quantities with baskets.

LOBSTERS

PALINURIDAE

Panulirus argus (Latreille, 1804)

FAO names : En - Caribbean spiny lobster;
Fr - Langouste blanche; Sp - Langosta
comun.

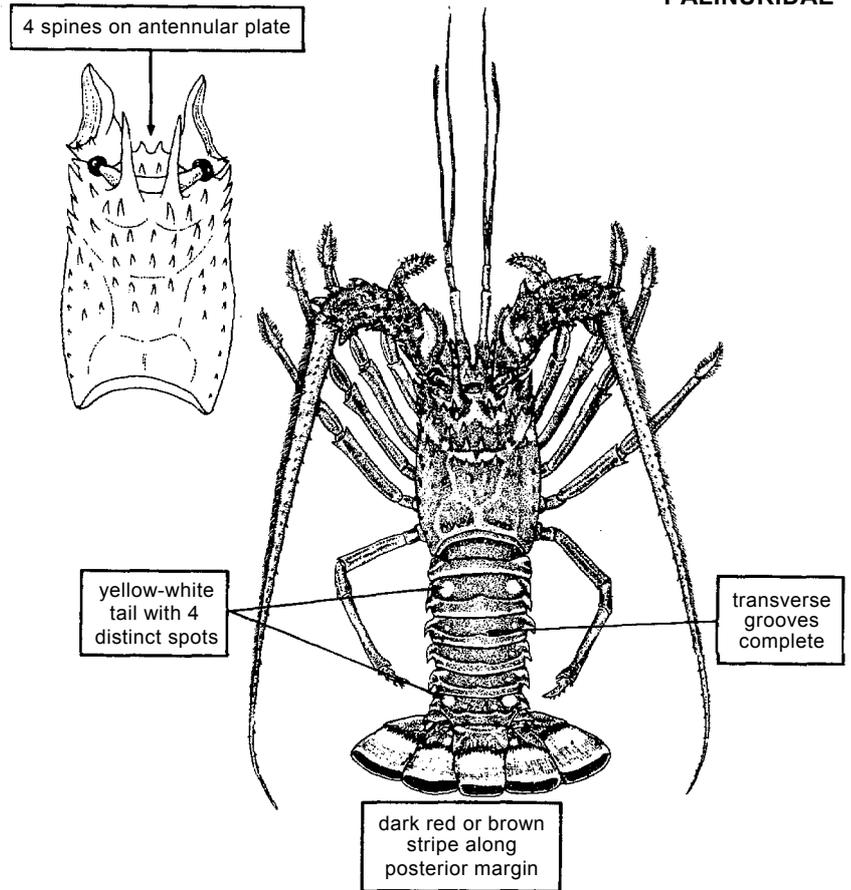
Size : 45 cm, common to 28 cm.

Fishing gear : in the Western Atlantic, the
species is caught mainly with traps.

Habitat : shallow waters, but may be found
up to 90 m depth.

Remarks : only two records from Ivory
Coast; probably introduced.

Loc.name(s) :

***Panulirus regius*** De Brito Capello, 1864

Synonyms : *Panulirus rissonii* (Desmarest,
1825).

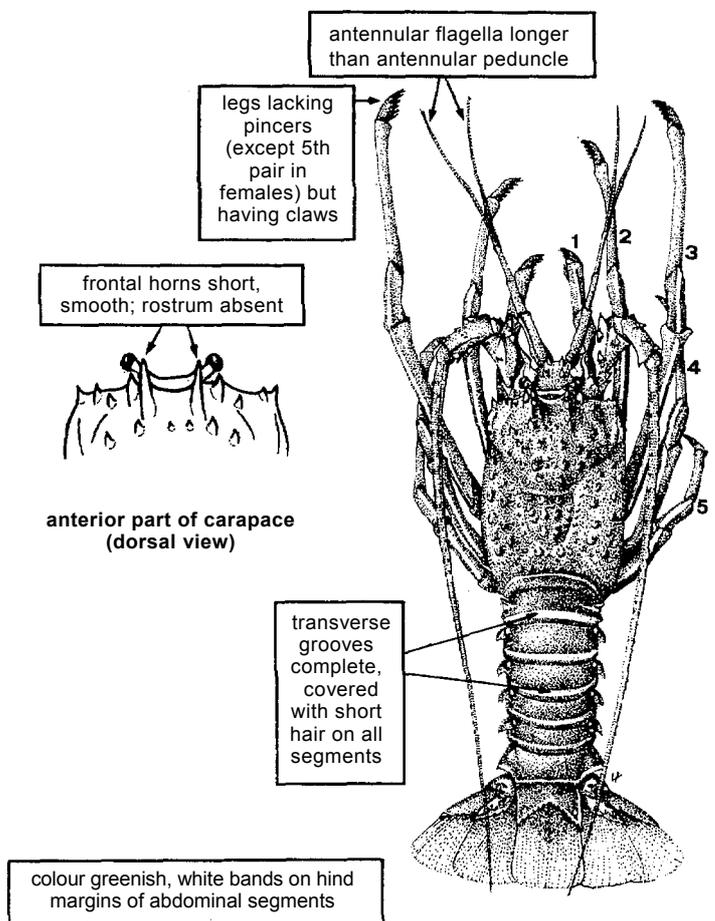
FAO names : En - Royal spiny lobster;
Fr - Langouste royale ; Sp - Langosta real.

Size : 35 cm, common to 25 cm.

Fishing gear : lobster pots, bottom
trawls, bottom set nets.

Habitat : shallow coastal waters from 5
to 40 m depth on rocky and sandy
bottoms.

Loc.name(s) :



LOBSTERS

SCYLLARIDAE

Scyllarides herklotsii (Herklots, 1851)

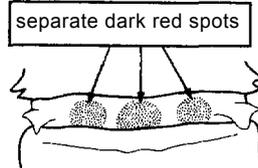
FAO names : **En** - Red slipper lobster;
Fr - Cigale rouge ; **Sp** - Cigarra roja.

Size : about 32 cm, common to 25 cm.

Fishing gear : bottom trawls, bottom set nets.

Habitat : on sandy and rocky bottoms from 5 to 7 m depth, but also beyond 200 m.

Loc.name(s) :



1st abdominal segment

median dorsal ridge indistinct or absent

colour reddish brown to dark red

