PANDL

1983

FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

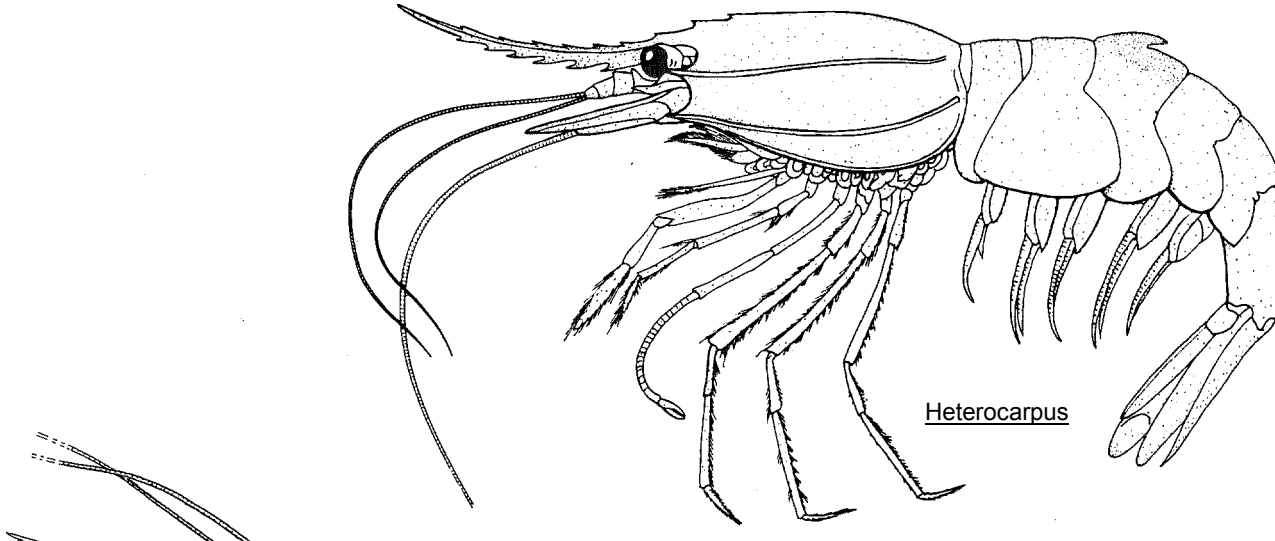
FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)

PANDALIDAE

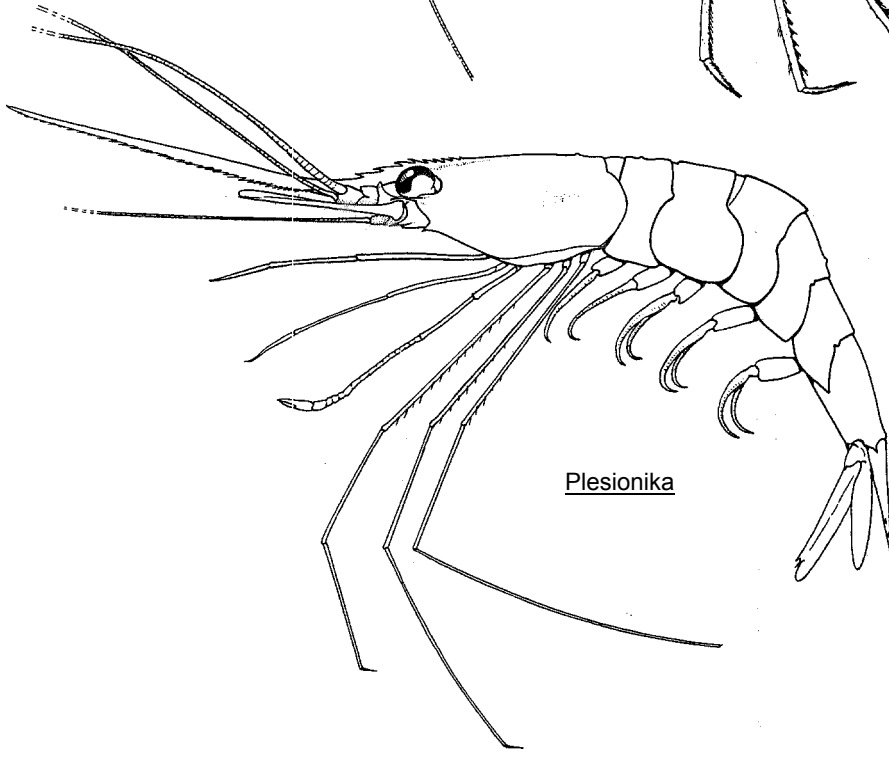
Pandalid shrimps

As in the other families belonging to the Infraorder Caridea, the pleura of second abdominal segment overlap those of first and third segments, and the third pair of pereopods lacks pincers. Rostrum longer than eyes, armed with dorsal and ventral teeth. First pair of pereopods ending in microscopically small pincers or pincers entirely lacking, legs slender, less heavy than any other pair. Carpus of second pair of pereopods divided into several, usually very many, articles.

All representatives of this family are marine. Within Fishing Area 51 they occur almost exclusively in deep waters. During exploratory surveys, species belonging to the genera Heterocarpus, Parapandalus and Plesionika have been found abundant enough as to be considered of potential interest to fisheries.



Heterocarpus



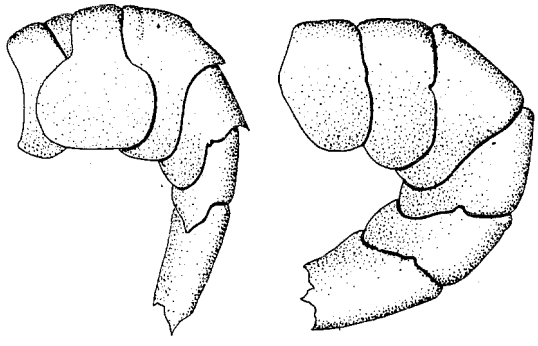
Plesionika

SIMILAR FAMILIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

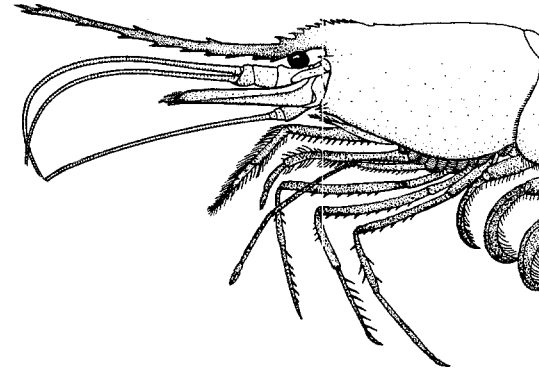
Hippolytidae and Alpheidae: first pair of pereopods with distinct pincers and more robust than following legs.

Palaemonidae: first pair of pereopods with distinct pincers; second pair with carpus not sub-divided, pincers stronger and larger than those of first pair of pereopods.

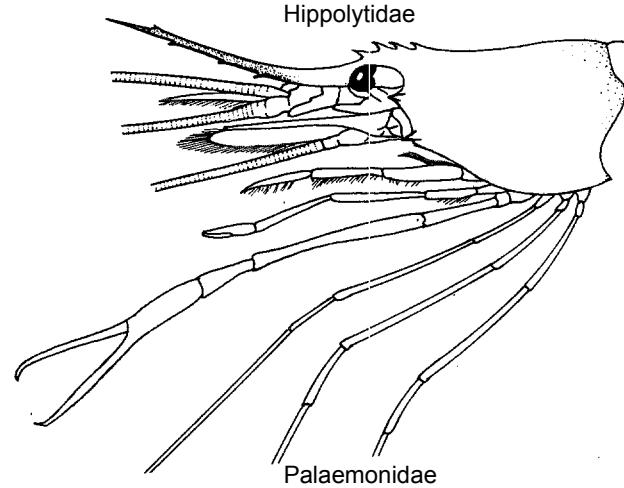
Families of the Infraorder Penaeidea: pleura of first abdominal segment overlapping those of second; 3 first pairs of pereopods ending in pincers.



Caridea Penaeidea
abdomen



Hippolytidae



Palaemonidae

KEY TO GENERA OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

1a. Carpus of second pair of pereopods subdivided into more than 3 segments (Fig. 1); maximum total length usually more than 10 cm except in Heterocarpoides

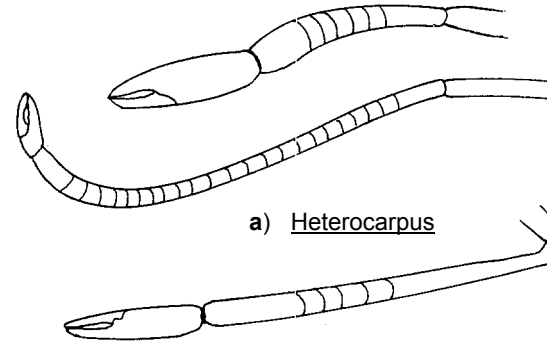
2a. Eyes well developed, the dark cornea much wider than the eyestalk

3a. Carapace with 1 or more longitudinal crests on sides (Fig. 2)

4a. Second pair of pereopods unequal, with at least 7 articles in the carpus (Fig. 1a); maximum total length more than 10 cm ..... Heterocarpus

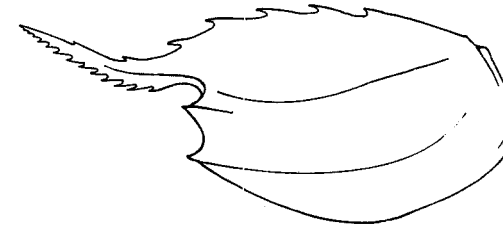
4b. Second pair of pereopods equal, with only 6 articles in the carpus (Fig. 1b); maximum total length 5 cm ..... Heterocarpoides

3b. Carapace smooth, without conspicuous crests



a) Heterocarpus

b) Heterocarpoides
distal part of second pereopods
Fig. 1



Heterocarpus
Fig. 2

5a. Epipods present on at least first 2 pairs of pereopods ..... Plesionika

5b. Epipods absent from all pereopods …Parapandalus

2b. Eyes poorly developed, the dark cornea narrower than the eyestalk ..... Dorodotes

1b. Carpus of second legs subdivided into 2 or 3 segments; maximum total length less (often much less) than 8 cm ..... Other genera

LIST OF SPECIES OF POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL VALUE OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

Code numbers are given for those species for which Identification Sheets are provided:

Heterocarpus dorsalis Bate, 1888
Heterocarpus ensifer A. Milne Edwards, 1881
Heterocarpus gibbosus Bate, 1888
Heterocarpus laevigaitus Bate, 1888
Heterocarpus tricarinatus Alcock & Anderson, 1894
Heterocarpus woodmasoni Alcock, 1901 PANDL Heter 9

? Parapandalus narval (Fabricius, 1787)
Parapandalus spinipes (Bate, 1888)

Plesionika alcocki (Anderson, 1896)
Plesionika ensis A. Milne Edwards, 1881)
Plesionika martia (A. Milne Edwards, 1883)

Prepared by L.B. Holthuis and J.C. Miquel, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands.

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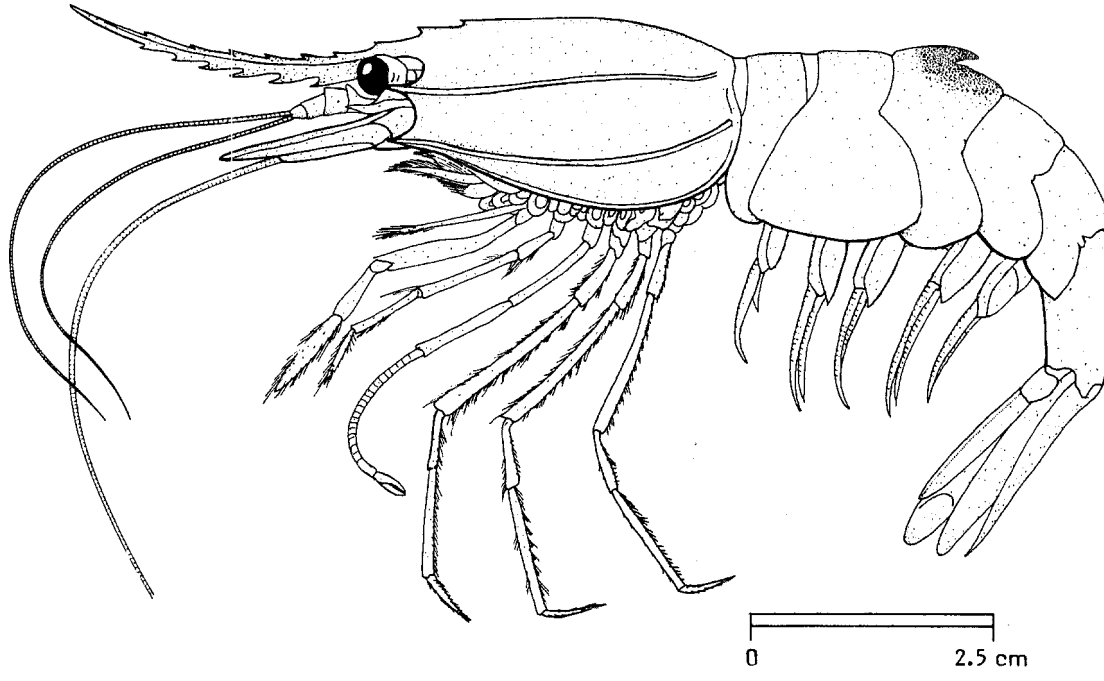
FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: PANDALIDAE

FISHING AREA 51
(W. Indian Ocean)

Heterocarpus woodmasoni Alcock, 1901

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None



VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO : En - Indian nylon shrimp
Fr - Crevette nylon indienne
Sp - Camarón nailón indio

NATIONAL:

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Carapace with 2 longitudinal crests on each side, extending over the full length of carapace; one from the antennal spine backward, the other from the branchiostegal spine; no crest between postantennal crest and dorsal margin of carapace. Rostrum long, slightly curved, with 9 to 11 dorsal and 6 to 9 ventral teeth; dorsal teeth starting in anterior fourth of carapace; middorsal abdominal crest present from third to fifth segments, not ending in posterior spines; a conspicuous elevated, sharp tooth at middle of dorsal crest of third segment; sixth segment with 2 submedian dorsal crests. Second pair of pereopods unequal in size.

Colour: pink to red, with a very conspicuous, rounded, dark spot on the posterodorsal area of the third abdominal segment including the dorsal tooth.

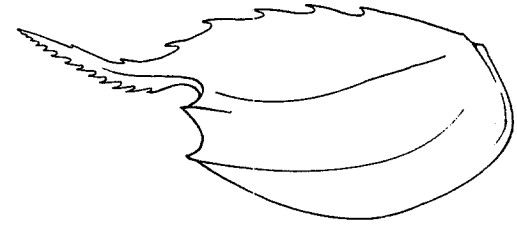
DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

None of the other species of Heterocarpus and Heterocarpoides possess the striking dorsal tooth on the third abdominal segment. Further distinguishing characters of these species are:

Heterocarpus gibbosus, H. laevigatus and H. tricarinatus: postantennal crest very short but a well developed and long postocular crest (postantennal crest well developed and postocular crest lacking in H. woodmasoni).

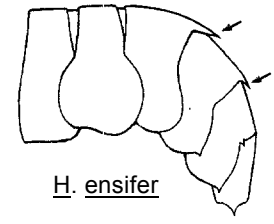
H. dorsalis, H. ensifer and species of Heterocarpoides: dorsomedian crest on third and fourth abdominal segments ending in a spine (no posterior spines in H. woodmasoni); in Heterocarpoides such a spine is also present on the fifth segment.

Species belonging to the other genera of Pandalidae: no crests on sides of carapace.

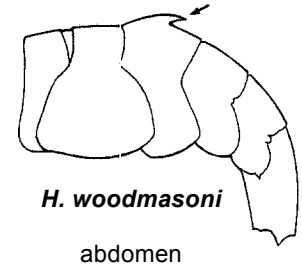


H. gibbosus

H. woodmasoni
carapace



H. ensifer



H. woodmasoni

abdomen

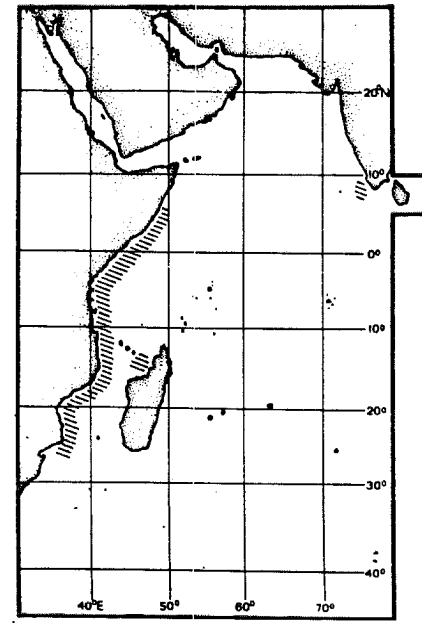
SIZE:

Maximum total length: males, 13.1 cm females, 14.9 cm.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND BEHAVIOUR:

Within Fishing Area 51, so far known only from east Africa (Mozambique, Tanzania, Kenya, Somalia), Madagascar and the south-west coast of India. Also occurring in the Andaman Sea and several localities off the Indonesian Archipelago.

Found at depths of 220 to 640 m on soft sand and mud, most abundant between 300 to 400 m depth.



PRESENT FISHING GROUNDS:

Commercially fished in small quantities in Kenya (off Malindi to Ras Ngomeni); this is the most abundant species in deep water catches off Kenya and south-west India.

CATCHES, FISHING GEAR AND FORMS OF UTILIZATION :

Separate statistics are not reported for this species.

Caught with bottom otter trawls.

Marketed frozen.