

***Ibacus* Leach, 1815**

SCYL Ib

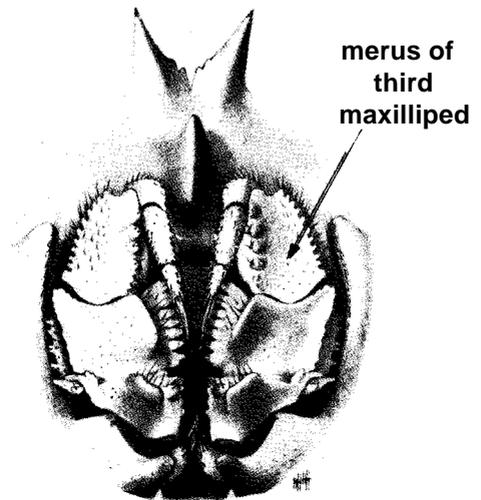
Ibacus Leach, 1815, *Zoological Miscellany*, 2:151. Gender masculine. Name placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology in Opinion 519 (published in 1958).

Type Species: by monotypy: *Ibacus peronii* Leach, 1815.

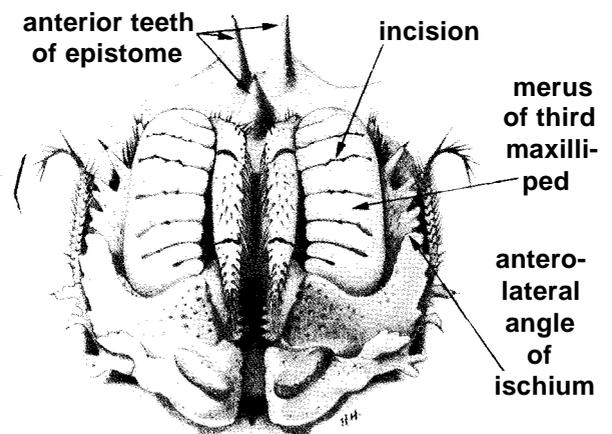
At present 6 species of *Ibacus* are known. All are found at great depths in the Indo-West Pacific region, and most are of little or no economic importance. All are dealt with here.

Key to Species:

- 1a. Merus of third maxilliped with the ventral surface slightly concave, not swollen, and not coloured differently from the other segments; inner margin sometimes crenulate but not with deep incisions (Fig. 375a)
- 2a. Anterior margin of the wide cervical incision of the carapace forming the posterior margin of the anterolateral angle of the carapace; the carapace shows no lateral margin between the anterolateral angle and the cervical incision. The carapace has 7 to 9 posterolateral teeth (Figs 376,377)
- 3a. Dorsal surface of the body with a short, woolly pubescence. Fourth segment of antenna slender, without lateral teeth, regularly narrowing from base to tip (Fig. 376)*I. alticrenatus* (Fig. 382)
- 3b. Dorsal surface of the body naked to the unaided eye, with microscopically small, scattered setae. Fourth segment of the antenna not slender, at first widening in a lateral direction before narrowing into the apex, with a distinct lateral margin that is provided with well-developed teeth (Fig. 377) *I. brucei* (Fig. 386)

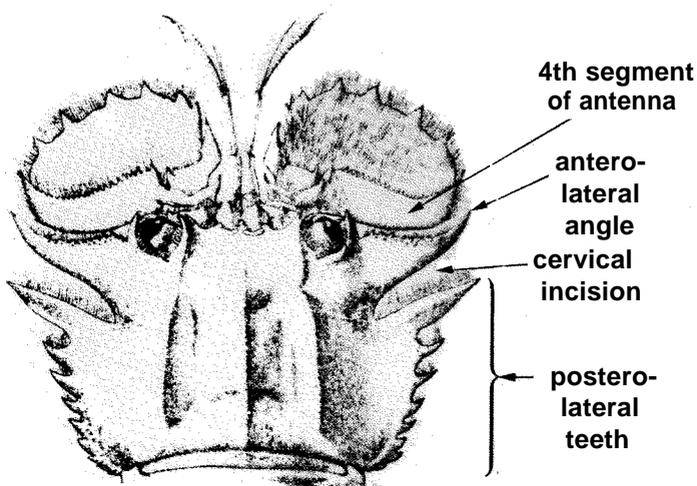


a. *I. ciliatus ciliatus*

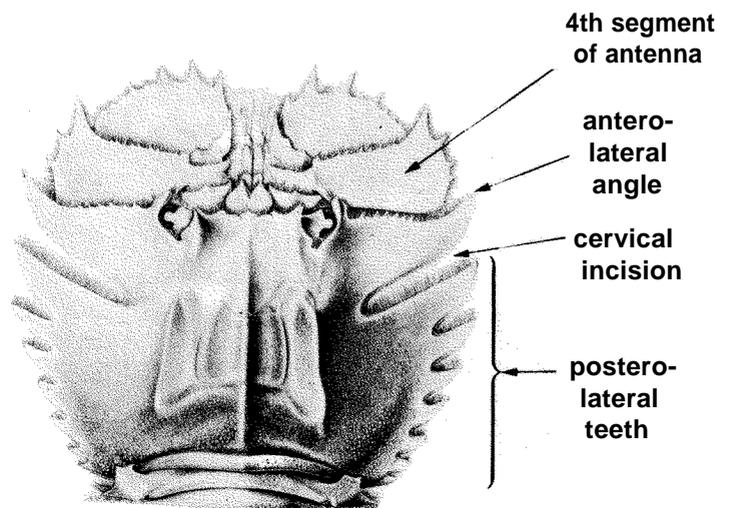


b. *I. peronii*

mouth field (ventral view) Fig. 375



I. alticrenatus
carapace (dorsal view)
Fig. 376



I. brucei
carapace (dorsal view)
Fig. 377

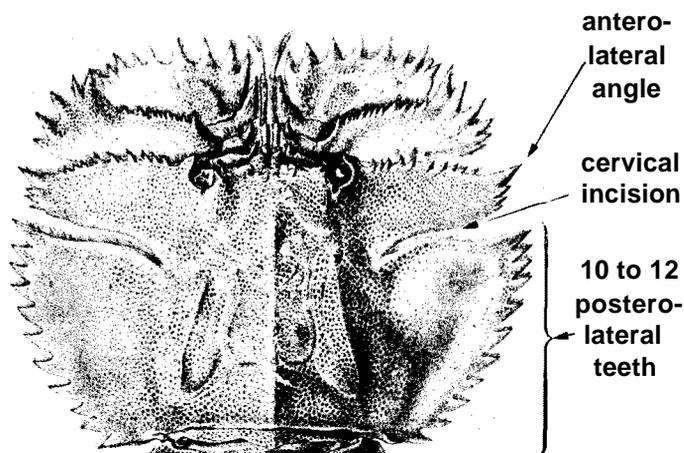
2b. Anterior margin of the narrow cervical incision of the carapace reaching the lateral margin some distance behind the anterolateral angle. Part of the lateral margin of the carapace extends between the anterolateral angle and the cervical incision and bears some teeth there. The carapace bears 10 to 13 posterolateral teeth (Fig. 378a,b)

4a. Carapace of adult specimens naked. Lateral margin of carapace with 10 to 12, usually 11 posterolateral teeth (Fig. 378a). *I. ciliatus ciliatus* (Fig. 388a)

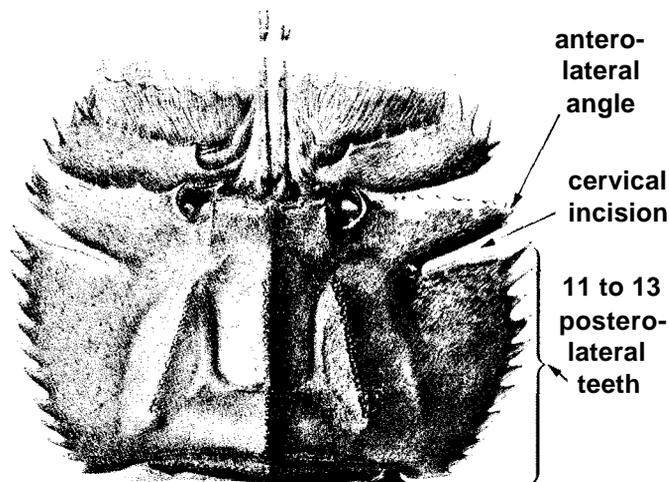
4b. Carapace of adult specimens with a thick cover of a velvety pubescence. Lateral margin of carapace with 11 to 13, usually 12 posterolateral teeth (Fig. 378b) *I. ciliatus pubescens* (Fig. 388b)

1b. Merus of third maxilliped swollen, often with a yellowish tinge, with deep incisions on the inner margin, several of which may reach beyond the middle of the merus (Fig. 375b)

5a. Lateral margin of carapace behind cervical incision with 12 to 17 teeth (Fig. 379a). Merus of third maxilliped strongly swollen at the distal end, less so in the rest of its length; the incisions of the inner margin, though rather deep, not reaching the median line of the merus; anterolateral angle of ischium strongly produced, pointed, almost reaching halfway the length of the merus (Fig. 379b) *I. brevipes* (Fig. 384)



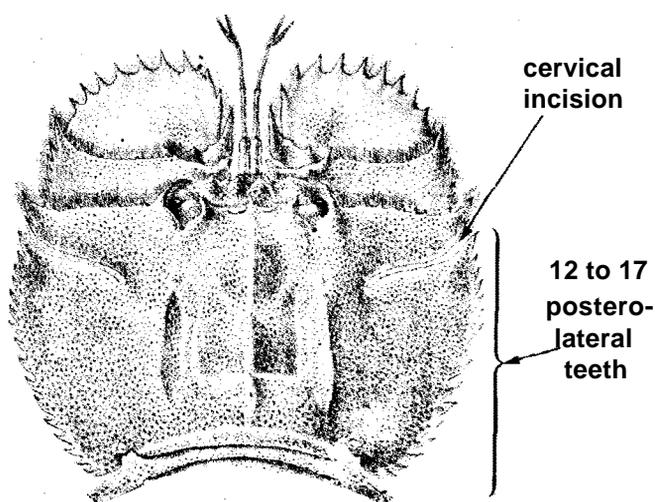
a. *I. ciliatus ciliatus*



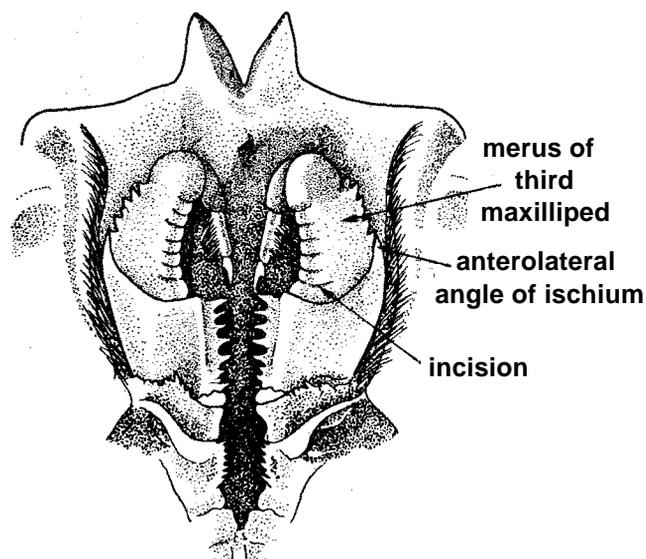
b. *I. ciliatus pubescens*

carapace (dorsal view)

Fig. 378



a. carapace (dorsal view)



b. mouth field (ventral view)

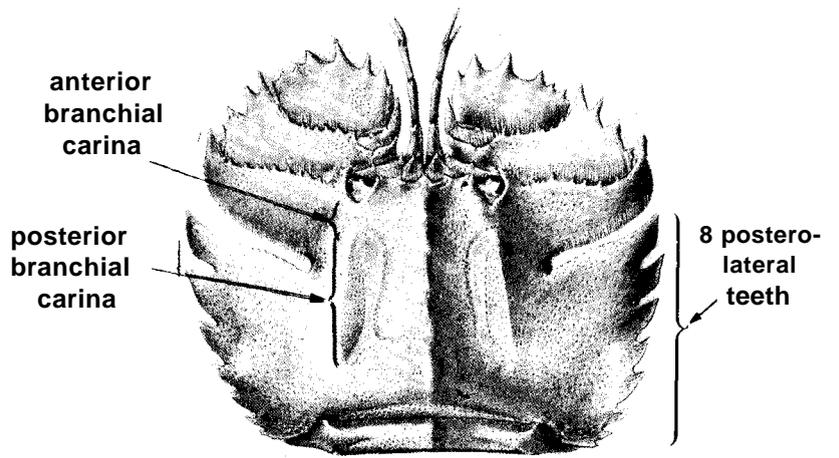
I. brevipes

Fig. 379

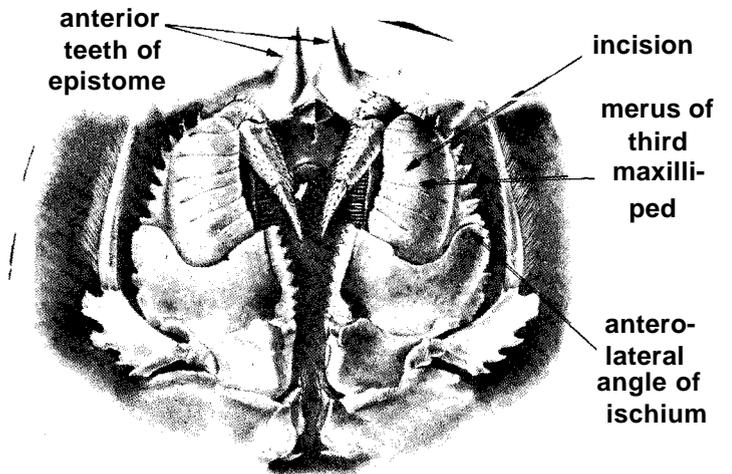
5b Lateral margin of carapace behind cervical incision with 6 to 8 teeth (Figs 380a, 381). Merus of third maxilliped evenly swollen, most of the incisions of the inner margin reach beyond the middle of the segment; anterolateral angle of ischium reaching only slightly beyond the base of the merus, top rounded (Figs 375b, 380b)

6a. Posterior branchial carinae of the carapace straight or only slightly convex, lying in one line with the anterior branchial carinae. Posterior incision of the orbit without tubercle. Lateral margin of carapace with 8 (rarely 7) posterolateral teeth (Fig. 380a). Anterior teeth of the epistome directed forwards (Fig. 380b)..... *I. novemdentatus* (Fig. 390)

6b. Posterior branchial carinae of the carapace strongly convex, not lying in one line with the anterior branchial carinae. Posterior incision of the orbit with a distinct tubercle. Lateral margin of carapace with 6 or 7, seldom 8, posterolateral teeth (Fig. 381). Anterior teeth of epistome directed ventrally (Fig. 375b) *I. peronii* (Fig. 392)



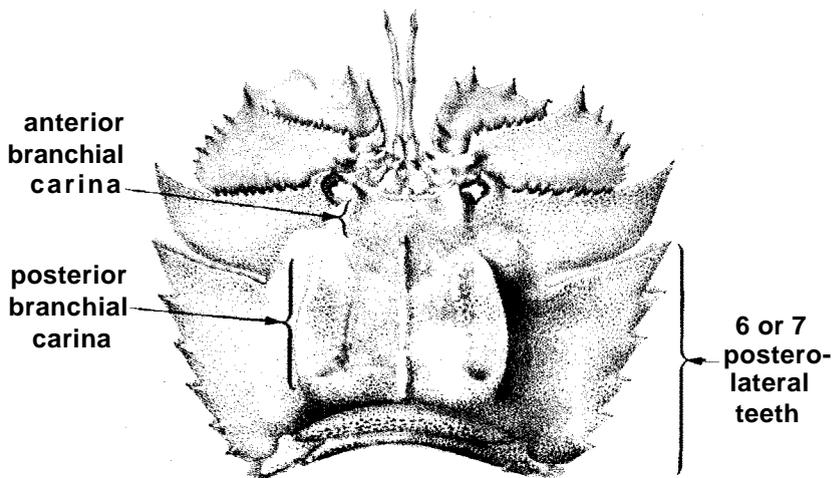
a. carapace (dorsal view)



b. mouth field (ventral view)

I. novemdentatus

Fig. 380



I. peronii
carapace (dorsal view) Fig. 381

Ibacus alticrenatus Bate, 1888

Fig. 382

SCYL Ib 2

Ibacus alticrenatus Bate, 1888, Report Voyage Challenger, Zool., 24:63, pi. 9 fig. 2.

Synonyms : *Ibacus alticrenatus septemdentatus* Grant, 1905.

FAO Names : En - Velvet fan lobster

Type : Type locality of *I. alticrenatus*: "Challenger" "Station 167, west of New Zealand . lat. 39°32'S., long. 171°48'E.; depth, 150 fathoms [= 274 m]; bottom, blue mud". Four syntypes in BM, no. 88.22, in alcohol, condition fair.

Type locality of *I. a. septemdentatus*: "About 28 miles east from Port Jackson Heads" near Sydney, N.S.W. Australia. "250-300 fathoms [= 457-549 m]". Two syntypes in AM, no. G. 5424.

Geographical Distribution : Australia (New South Wales, Bass Straits, Tasman Sea, Victoria, South Australia); New Zealand (North Island, South Island, Chatham Islands) (Fig. 383).

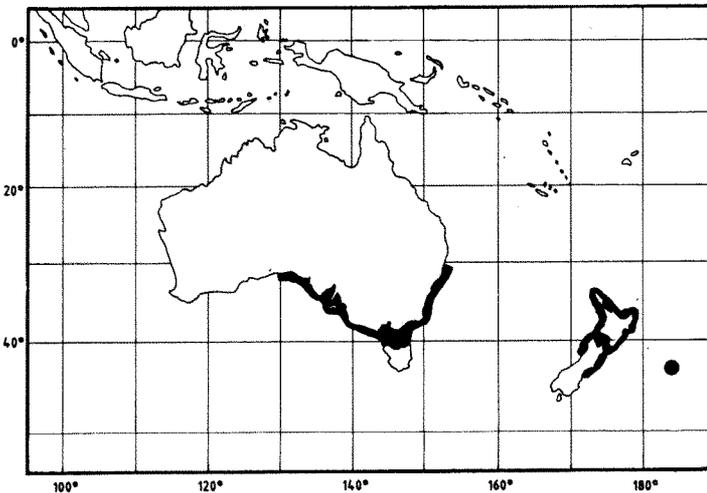
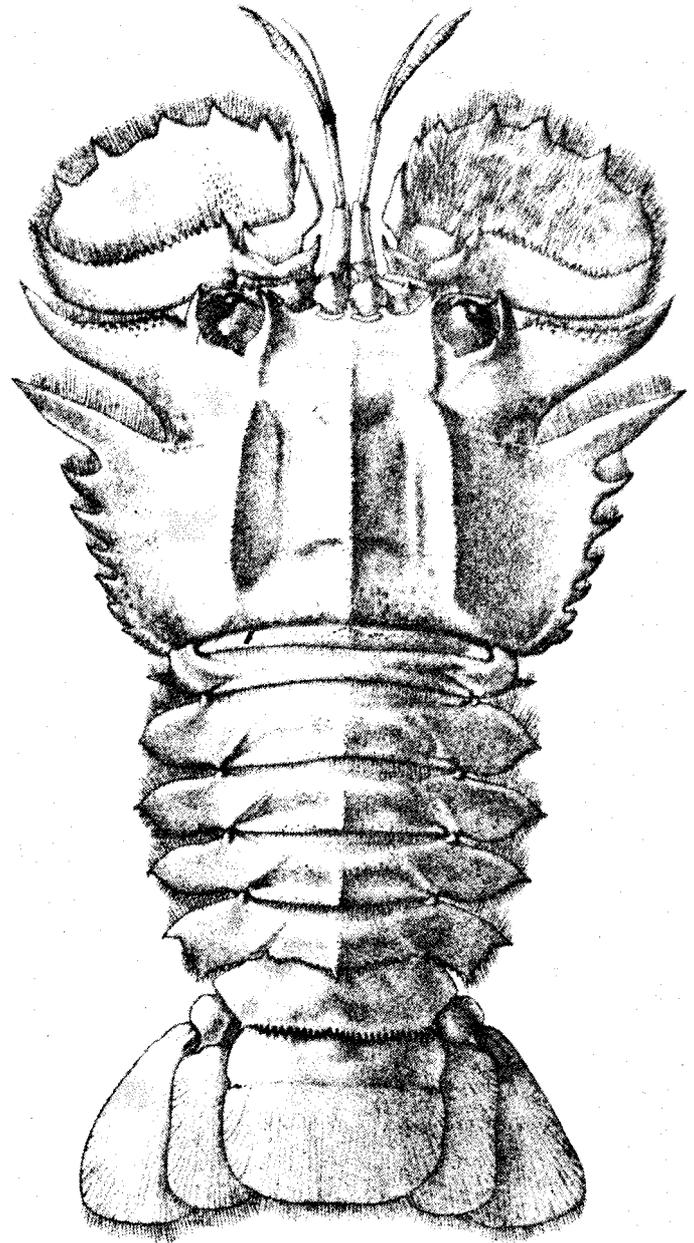


Fig. 383



(from Holthuis, 1985)

Fig. 382

Habitat and Biology : Depth range from 20 to 455 m, on soft muddy bottoms. Digs into the substrate and covers itself with the mud and sand. Ovigerous females from May to October.

Size : Carapace length 1.5 to 6.3 cm; maximum total length about 16 cm.

Interest to Fisheries : According to Lesser (1974:260) the species has no commercial value in New Zealand. But in New South Wales, Australia, "commercial quantities of *Ibacus alticrenatus* are still taken by trawlers working off the continental shelf by day and by night" (Coleman, 1977: 132), and the species is sold at the Sydney market.

Local Names : AUSTRALIA: Deep water bug, Sandy bug; NEW ZEALAND: Prawn killer.

Literature : Holthuis, 1985:36-41, fig. 9.