

*Trachysalambria palaestinensis* (Steinitz, 1932)



Photo : Bella Galil

**Misidentification**  
*Trachypenaeus curvirostris*  
Stimpson, 1860  
(cf. Steinitz, 1933a  
and subsequent authors)

Short description

Carapace densely setose. Rostrum short, upcurved, 7-11 teeth on upper margin. Epigastric tooth distinctly separated from rostral teeth. Orbital, antennal, hepatic spines present, pterygostomian spine absent. Second abdominal segment bearing small tubercle medially, four posterior segments medially crested. Telson armed with 3-4 pairs of movable spines laterally. Basial spine on first and second walking legs. Petasma symmetrical, T-shaped, with wing-like distolateral projections. Anterior plate of thelycum triangulate, medially sulcate. **color:** carapace pale brown, abdominal crest white. Antennal flagella orange-red. Pleopods red with white marks. Uropods dark red with white margins. **size:** TL males 8.5 cm, females 11.5 cm.

Distinguishing characteristics

Carapace setose, rostrum upcurved, petasma T-shaped.

## Biology / Ecology

Nocturnal. Reproduction April-September.

**habitat:** sandy or sandy-mud bottoms, 6-300 m, usually between 30-60 m.

## Distribution

**Worldwide:** Red Sea. **Mediterranean:** recorded first as *Metapenaeus* sp. in Palestine (Steinitz, 1929 [1924-1925]). Successively recorded in southern Turkey (Geldiay and Kocatas, 1968); Egypt (Dowidar and Ramadan, 1976); southern Tunisia (Zaouali, 1993b); Greece, Rhodes Isl. (Kevrekidis *et al.*, 1998).

## Mode of introduction

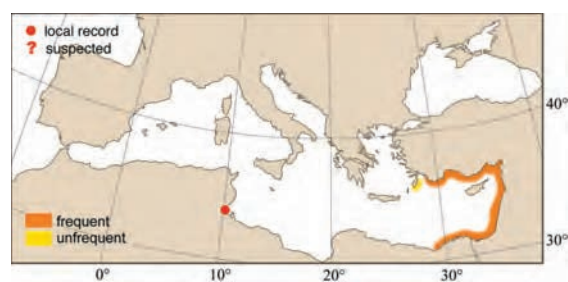
Via the Suez Canal (Balss, 1927).

## Establishment

Abundant along the Levant coast since the 1970s.

## Importance to humans

None



**1st Mediterranean record**  
Palestine, 1929  
[1924-1925]

## Key references

- Holthuis L.B., 1987a. Crevettes. pp. 189-292. In: Fischer, W., L. Bauchot, and M. Schneider (eds.), 1987. Fiches FAO d'identification des espèces pour les besoins de la pêche. Méditerranée et mer Noire. Zone de pêche 37. Vol. 1. Végétaux et Invertébrés. Rome.
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- Steinitz W., 1929. Die Wanderung indopazifischer Arten ins Mittelmeer seit Beginn der Quartärperiode. *Internationale Revue der gesamten Hydrobiologie und Hydrographie*, 22: 1-90.