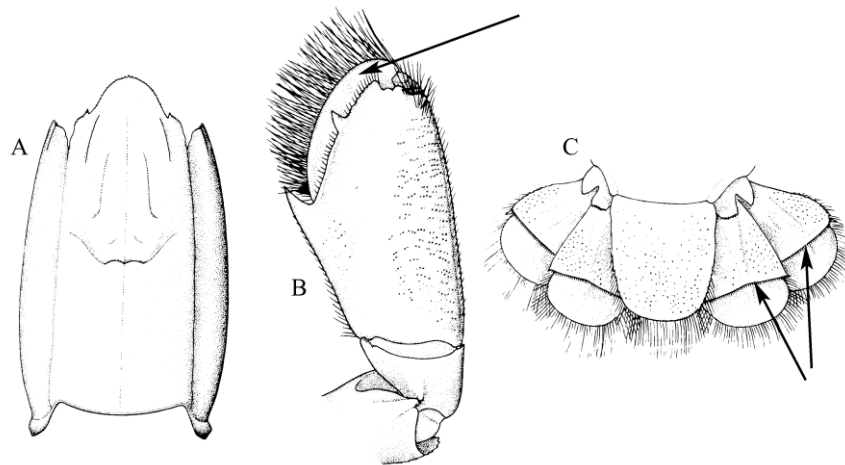


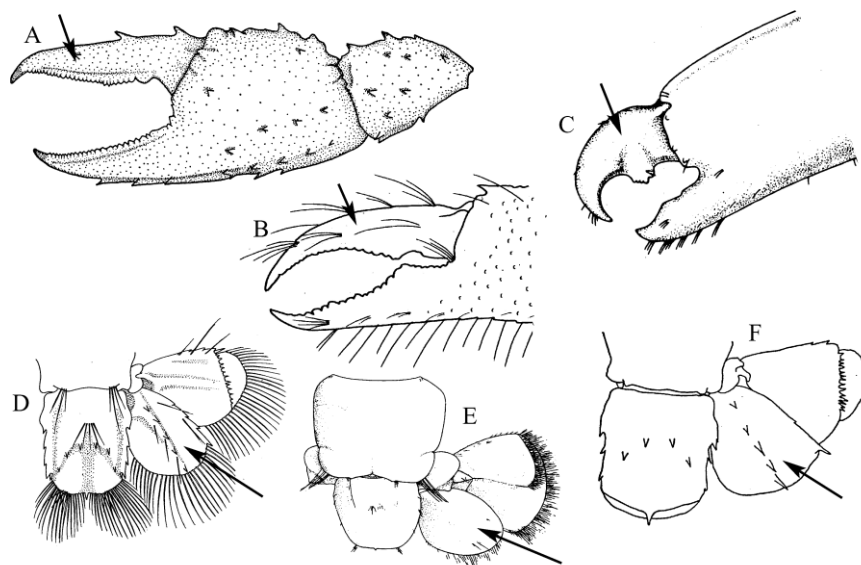
KEY TO THE THALASSINIDEA FROM THE SOUTH ATLANTIC BIGHT

Note: in some cases, within the couplets, secondary characters and information have been delimited by square brackets ([]). This information can be variable, but is considered here to be important enough to include in the key.

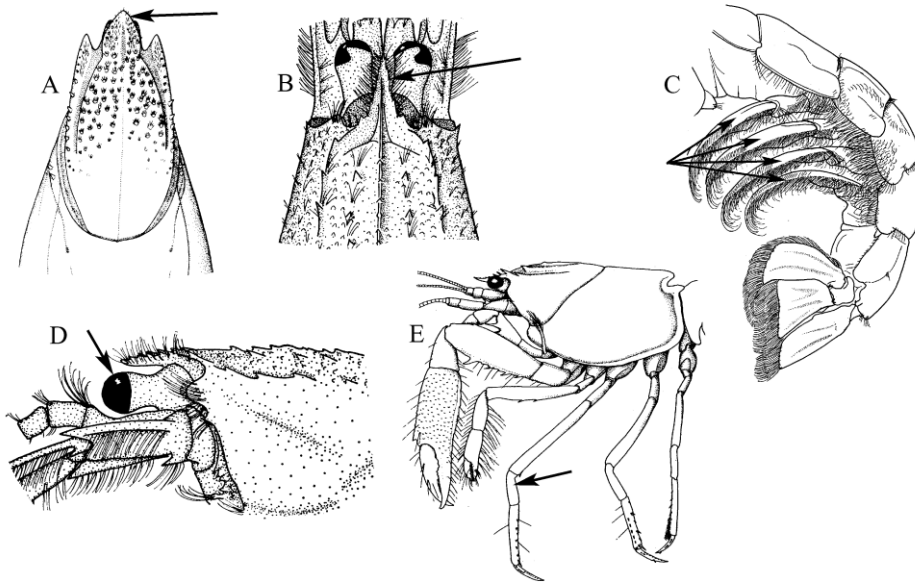
1. Pereopod 1 strongly subchelate (dactylus articulated to fold back against the ventral margin of the propodus). Uropodal endopod and exopod each with distinct distal suture [Pereopod 2 simple (not chelate)]*Naushonia crangonoides* Kingsley, 1897



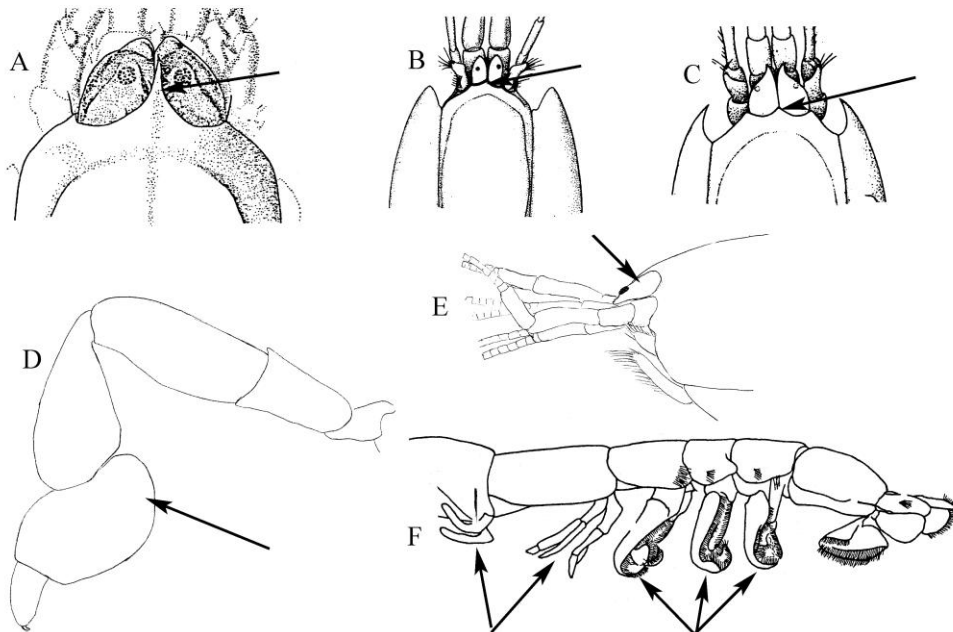
—Pereopod 1 (chela) strongly or weakly chelate (dactylus forming pincer with propodus). Uropodal endopod lacking distal suture; exopod with distal suture present or absent [Pereopod 2 chelate or simple]2



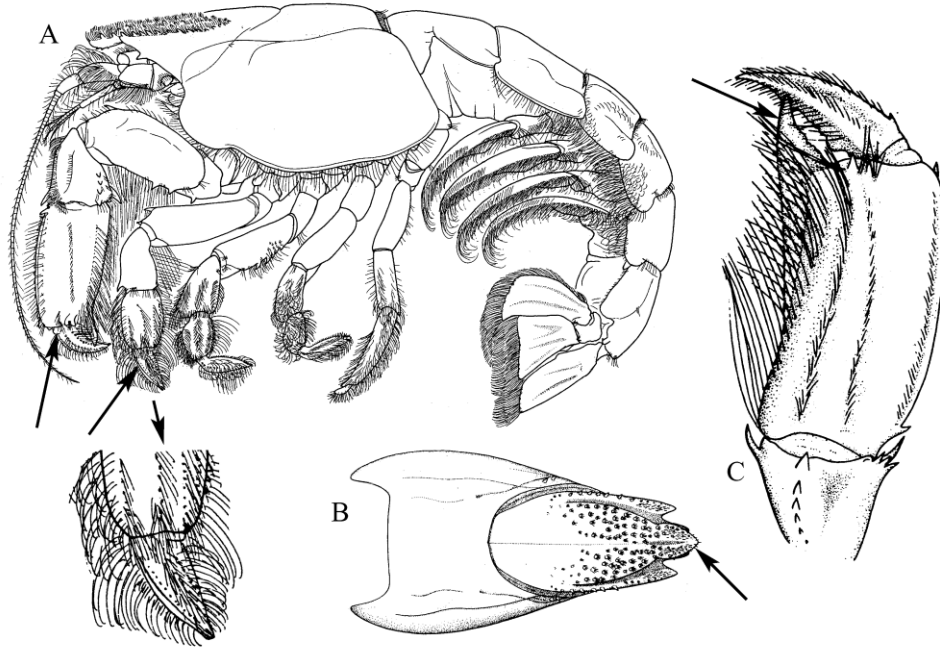
2. Rostrum well developed, spinose, either rounded or acutely tipped. Eystalks rounded. Pereopod 3 not highly modified: similar to pereopods 4 and 5. Pleopods 2-5 setose, well developed3



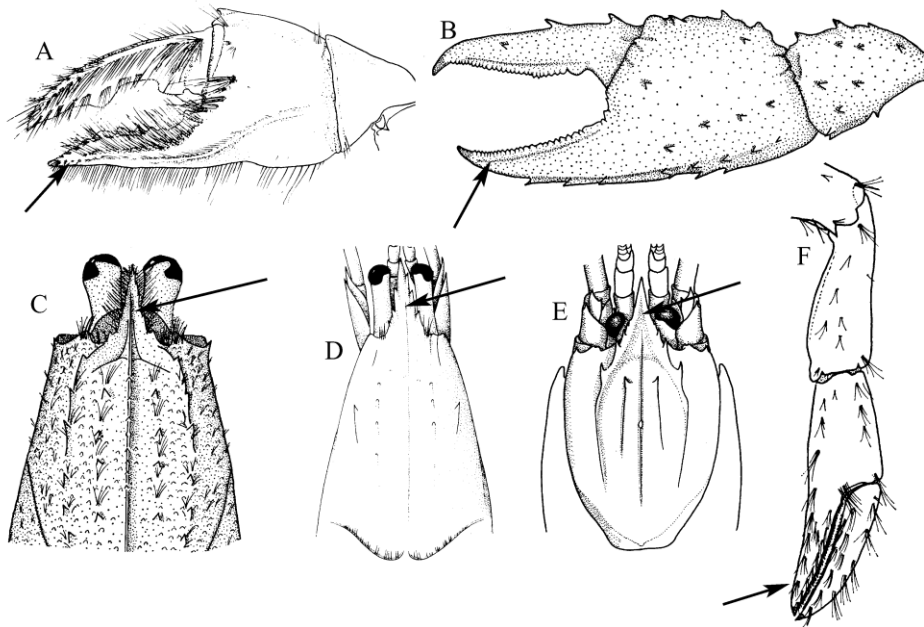
—Rostrum small, usually triangular, flattened, dorsally smooth. Eystalks flattened dorsoventrally. Pereopod 3 highly modified, propodus usually broadly expanded (except in *Cheramus marginatus*), and distinctly different from pereopods 4 and 5. Pleopods 1- 2 reduced; pleopods 3-5 well developed with broad, highly setose rami 8



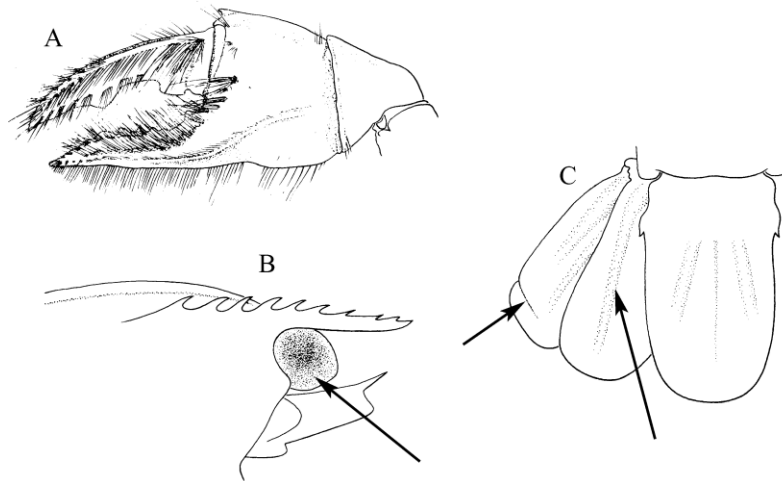
3. Pereopod 1 weakly chelate, superficially appearing subchelate, but having short fixed finger (distal extension of propodus). Pereopod 2 simple (not chelate), similar to pereopods 3-4. Rostrum large, spinose, broadly rounded to a blunt tip
Upogebia affinis (Say, 1818)



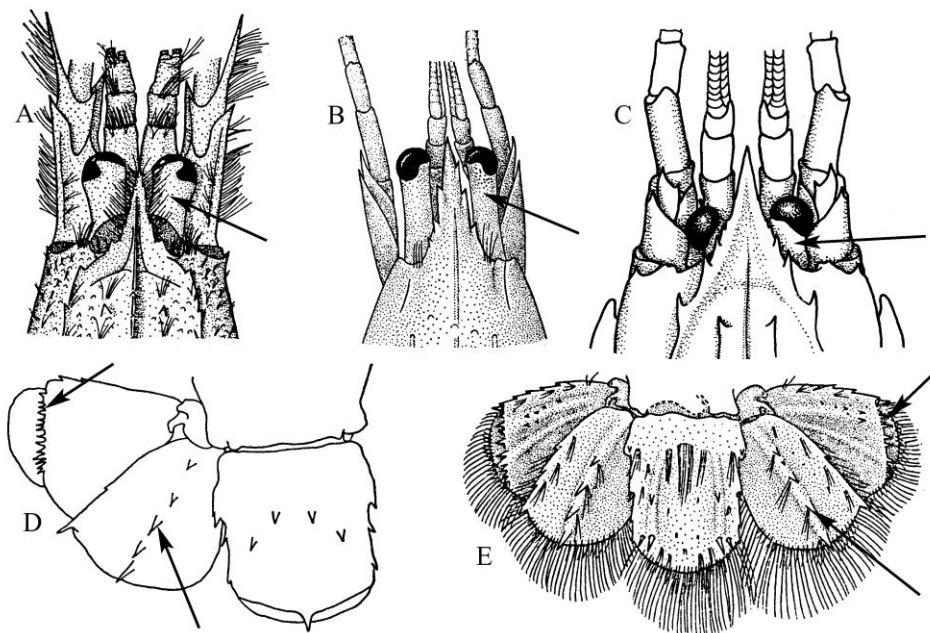
—Pereopod 1 strongly chelate. Pereopod 2 chelate. Rostrum triangular, laterally spinose, acutely tipped.4



4. Eyes with pigment indistinct (diffuse or appearing absent); eyestalk rudimentary, flattened obliquely on distal surface. Uropodal exopod with weakly defined distal suture, recognizable part of suture margin lacking spines; endopod with medial carina unarmed (lacking spines). Family Calocariidae..... *Calocaris templemani* Squires, 1965

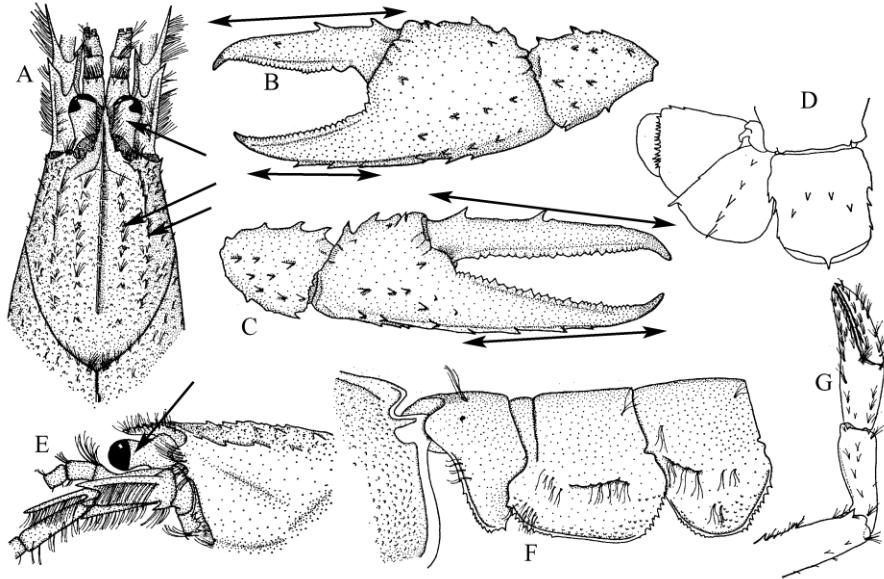


—Eyes with eyestalk well developed, nearly reaching and sometimes overreaching tip of rostrum. Uropodal exopod with well-defined distal suture, suture margin armed with spines; endopod with medial carina armed with several distinct spines. Family Axiidae.....5

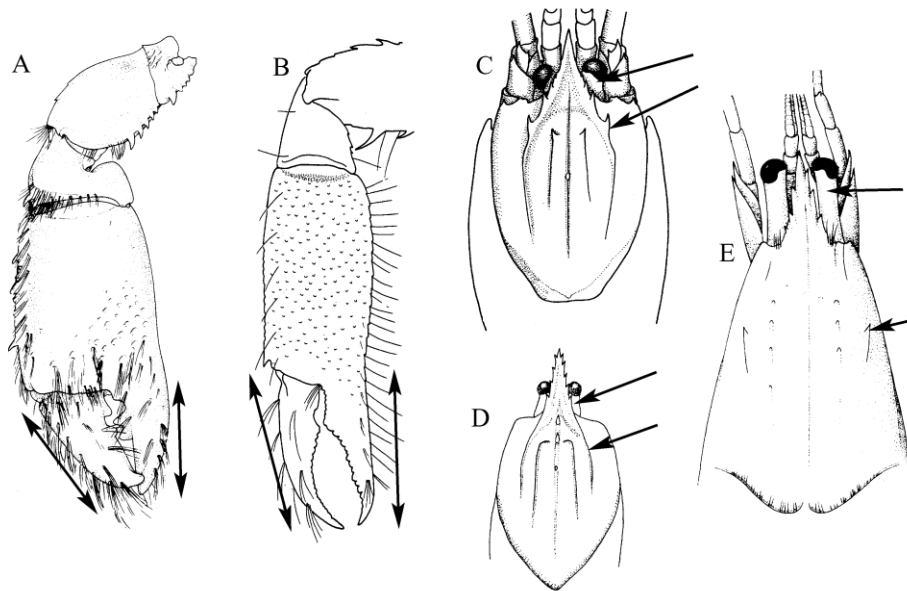


5. Pereopod 1 major or minor chela with dactylus distinctly longer than the palm (proximal part of propodus), dorsal margin of dactylus with a few sharp spines. Eyes extending slightly beyond rostrum. Carapace dorsal surface distinctly setose, granulose, and spinose; lateral carina with 5 or more spines

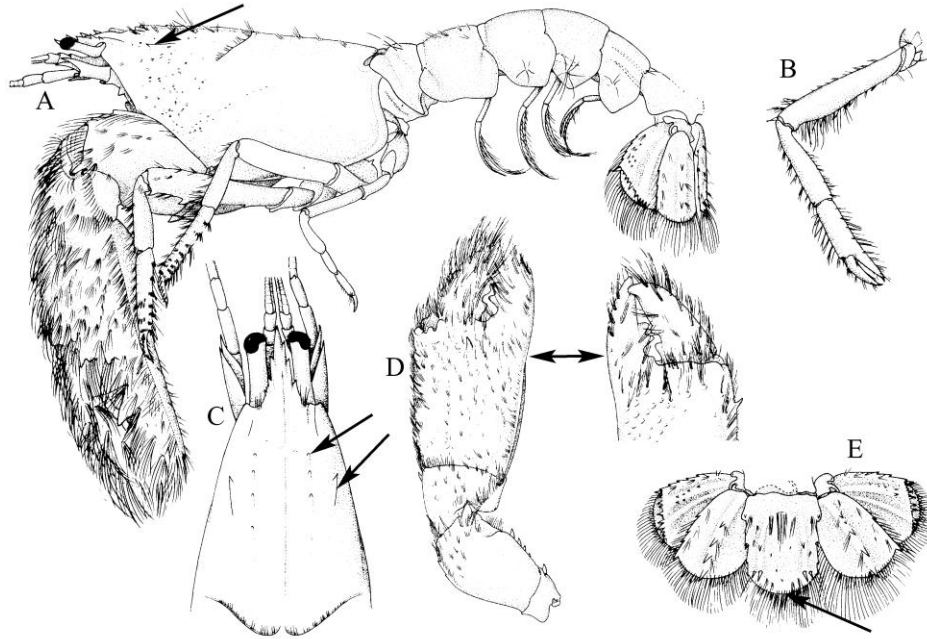
..... *Acanthaxius hirsutimanus* (Boesch and Smalley, 1972)



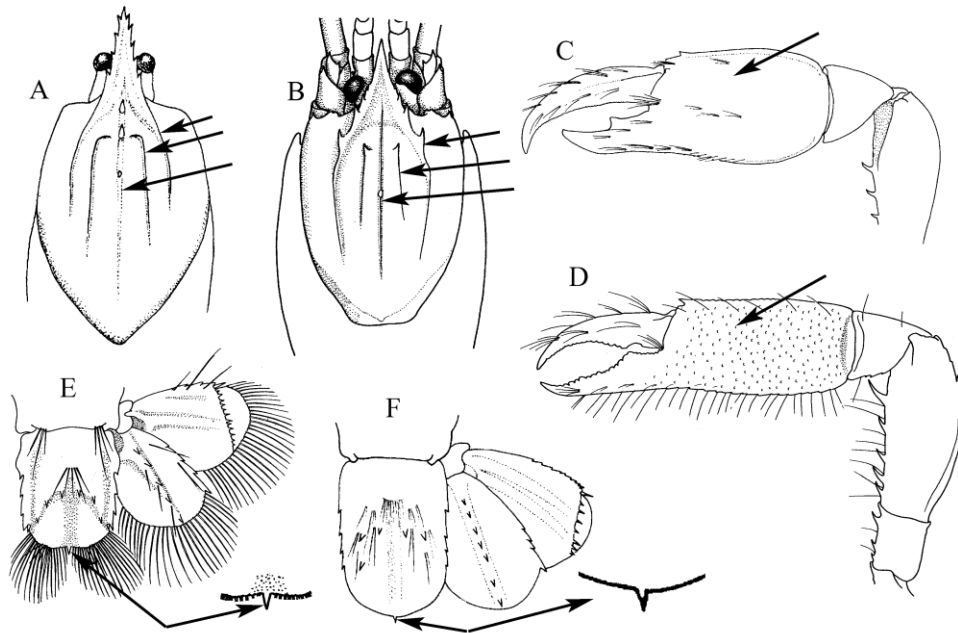
—Pereopod 1 major and minor chelae with dactylus a similar length to or not as long as the palm (proximal part of the propodus) (except sometimes in *A. armatus*), dorsal margin of dactylus smooth, or nearly so. Eyes not extending beyond rostrum. Carapace dorsal surface weakly to moderately setose; lateral carina with 4 or fewer spines.6



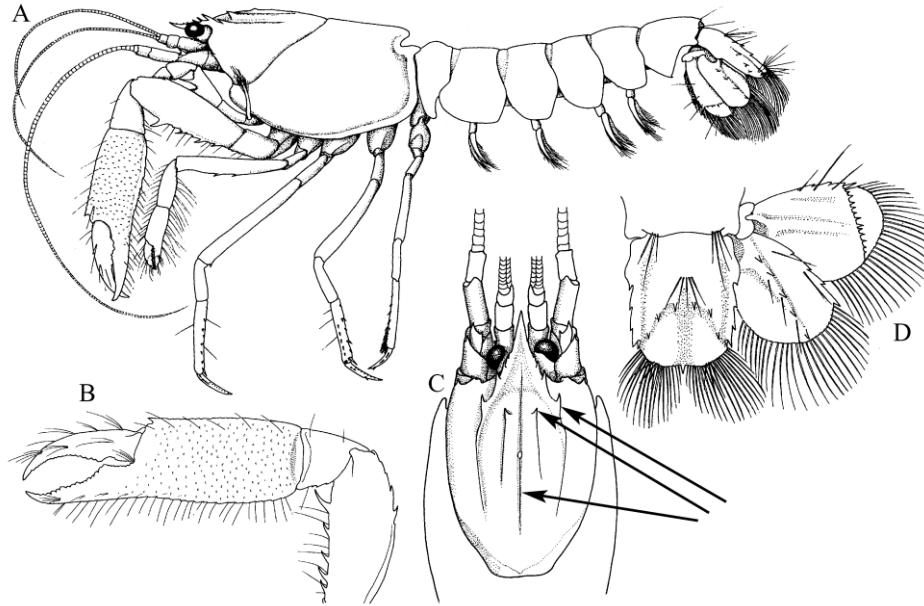
6. Carapace dorsal surface with indistinct lateral and submedial carinae; lateral carinae indicated by a single strong spine (not noticeably coalescing to form rostral margin). Pereopod 1 major chela massive, densely setose. Telson without medial spine on distal margin *Calaxius jenneri* (Williams, 1974)



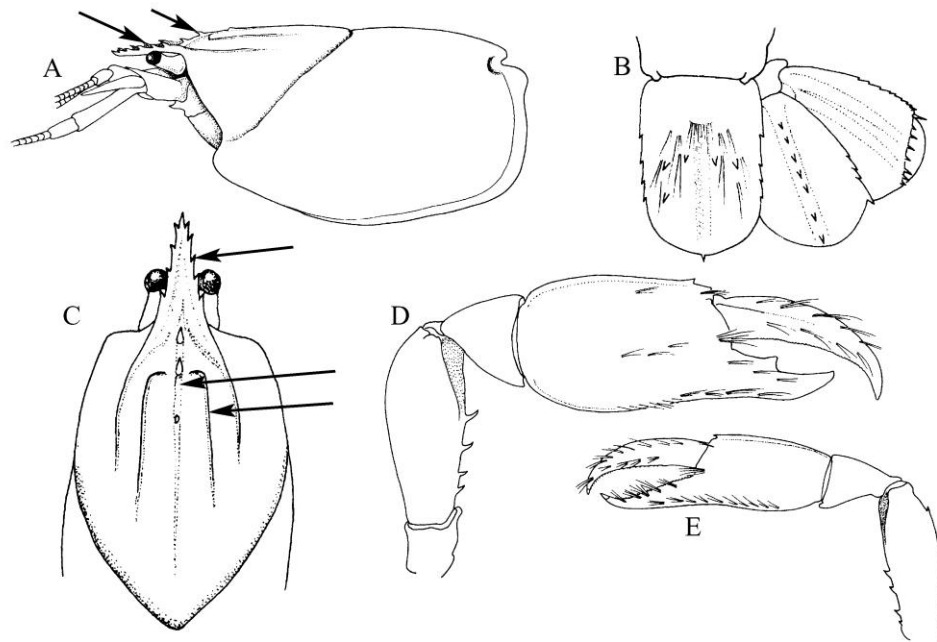
—Carapace dorsal surface with distinct lateral, submedial, and medial carinae; lateral carinae extending anteriorly to coalesce and form rostral margin. Pereopod 1 major chela not massive or exceptionally setose. Telson with medial spine present on distal margin7



7. Carapace medial carina lacking spines; submedial carinae each with distinct spine anteriorly; each lateral carina with an anterior spine (situated posterior to, and merging with, the rostrum); rostrum with 4-6 progressively smaller lateral spines and associated setae
 *Paraxiopsis gracilimana* Kensley, 1996

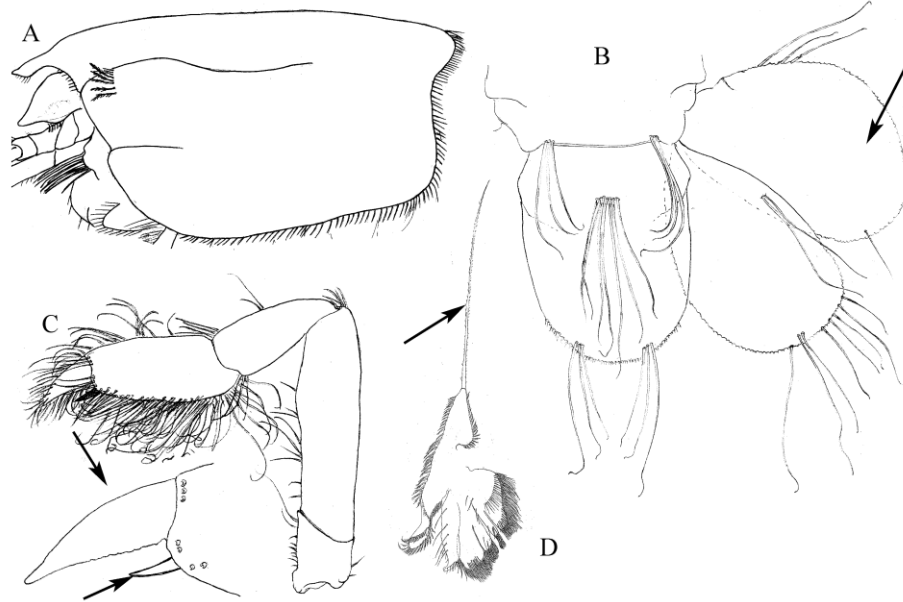


—Carapace medial carina armed anteriorly with 1-3 spines; submedial carinae lacking spines; lateral carinae lacking spines; rostrum with 3-6 pairs of distinct similarly sized lateral spines, continuing to tip.....
 *Axius armatus* S. I. Smith, 1881

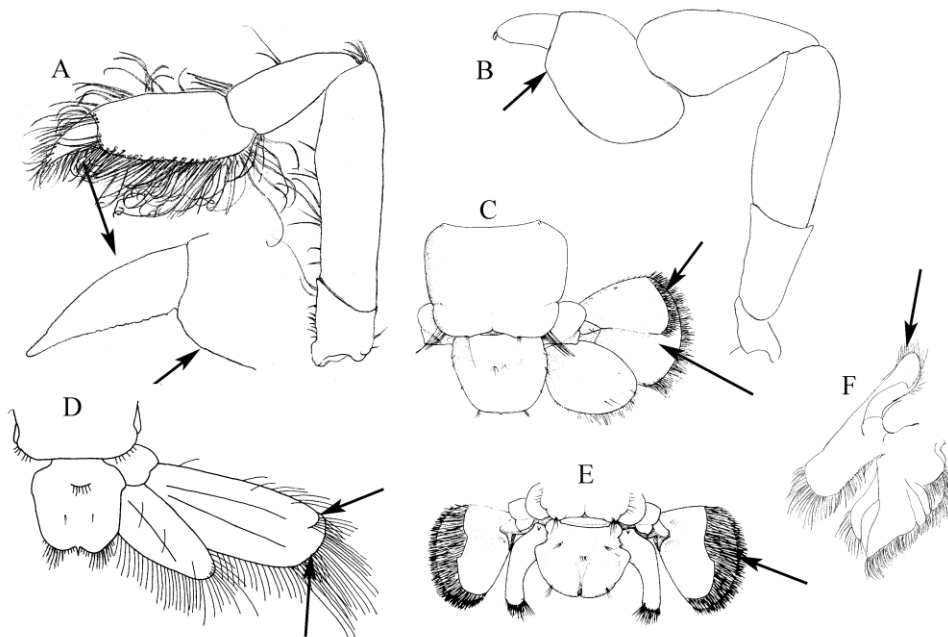


8. Pereopod 3 propodus distal margin with single spiniform seta. Maxilla 2 with long distinctive seta on posterior lobe of scaphognathite. Uropodal exopod lacking plates [not appearing bilobed], with broadly rounded margin. Family Thomassiinidae

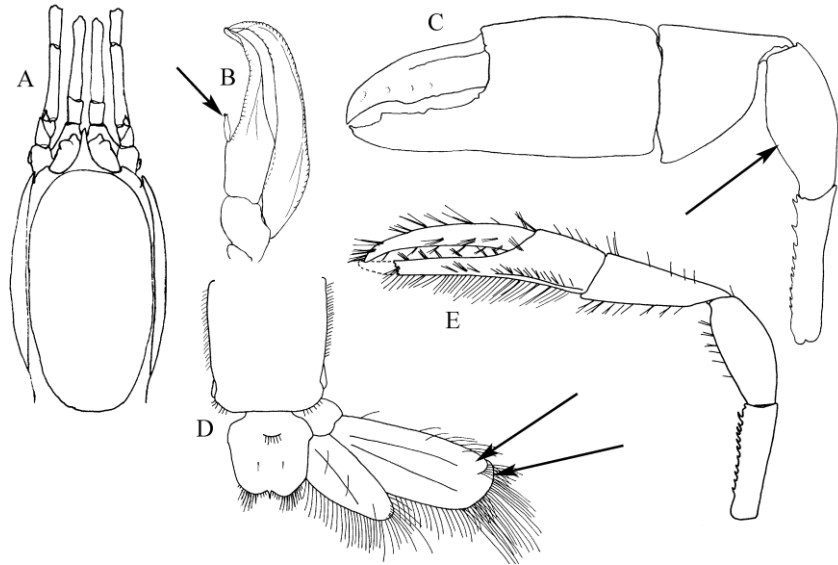
.....*Crosniera wenneae* Heard and King, 2007



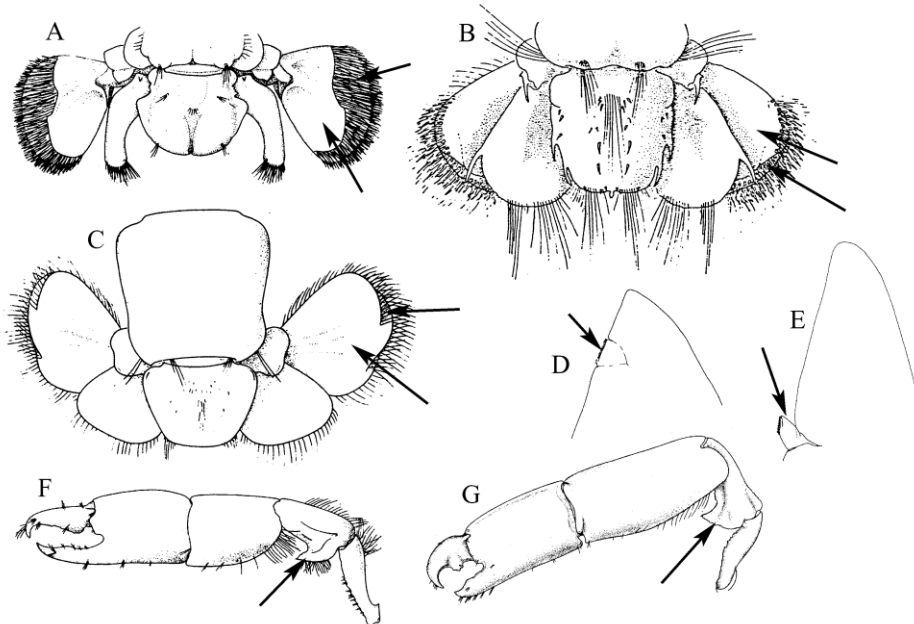
— Pereopod 3 propodus distal margin lacking spiniform seta. Maxilla 2 lacking long distinctive seta on posterior lobe of scaphognathite. Uropodal exopod usually with subdistal plates appearing bilobed, with subdistal fringe of setae (plates indistinct and appearing absent in *Cheramus marginatus*). Family Callinassidae..... 9



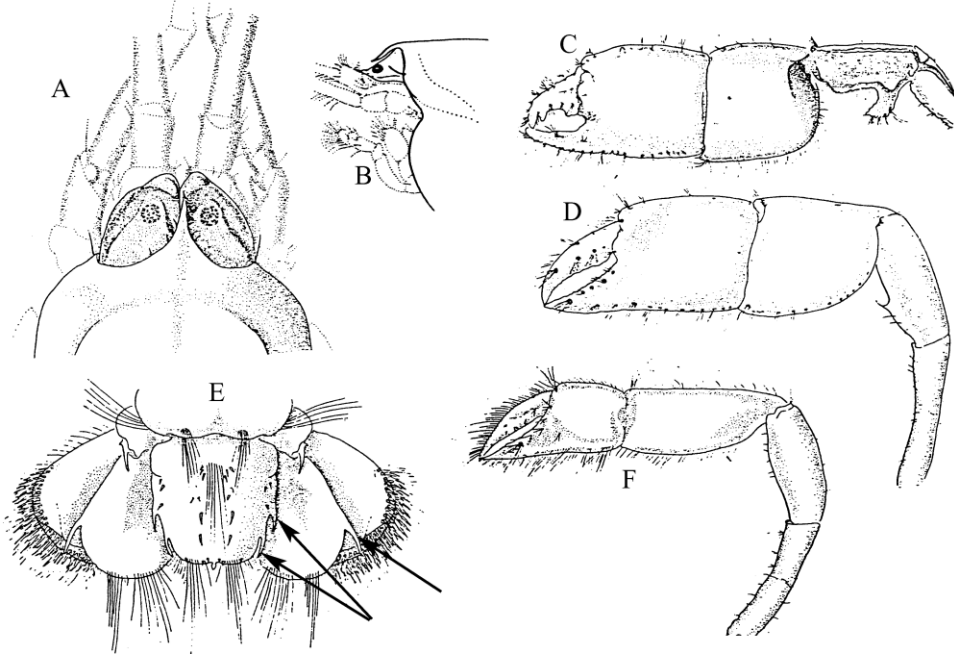
9. Uropodal exopod at least twice as long as wide and nearly twice as long as telson; subdistal plates indistinct, appearing absent, represented by row of stout spiniform setae immediately behind distal fringe of plumose setae on distal upper margin. Pleopods 3-5 with finger-like appendices internae. Pereopod 1 (major chela) merus lower margin convex, smooth, lacking hook-like process or small spines. Subfamily Cheraminae
 *Cheramus marginatus* (Rathbun, 1901)



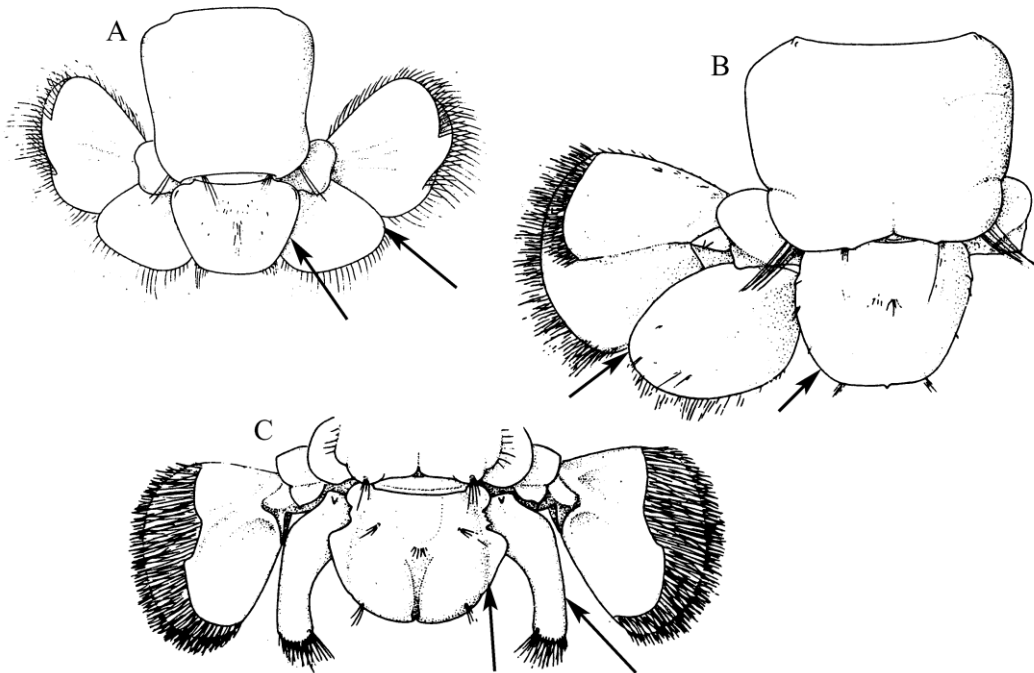
—Uropodal exopod distinctly less than twice as long as wide; subdistal plates distinct, with distal fringe of setae. Pleopods 3-5 having short stubby-like appendices internae. Pereopod 1 (major chela) merus lower margin with hook-like process or spine. Subfamilies Callianassinae and Callichirinae)..... **10**



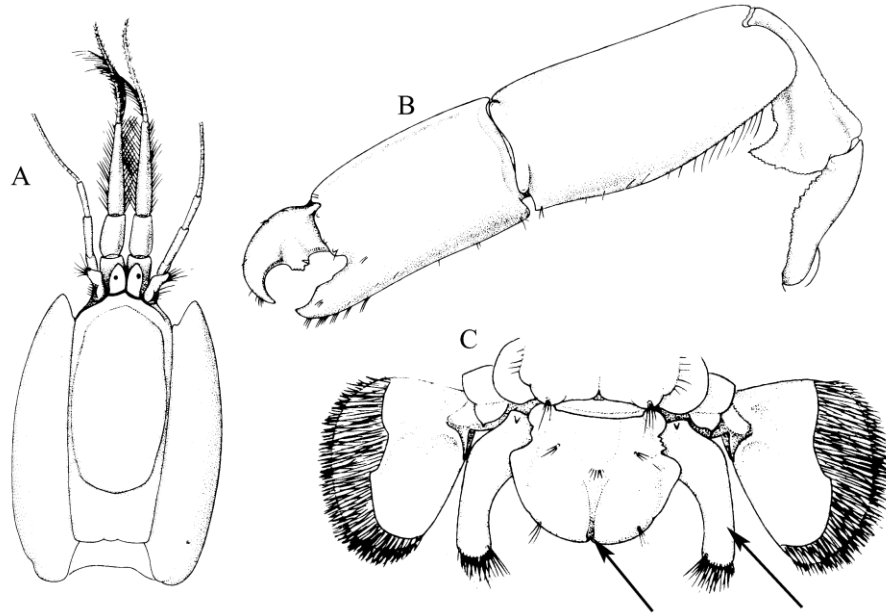
10. Uropodal endopod lateral margin with one large spine. Telson lateral margins with 2 spines.....*Necallianassa berylae* Heard and Manning, 1998



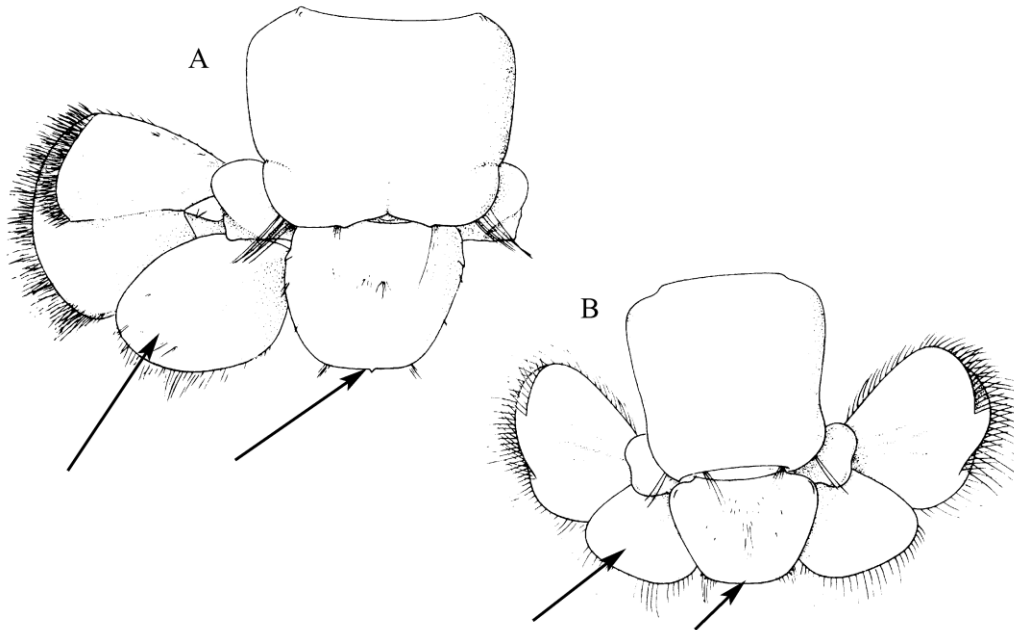
—Uropodal endopod lateral margin without spines. Telson lateral margins without spines11



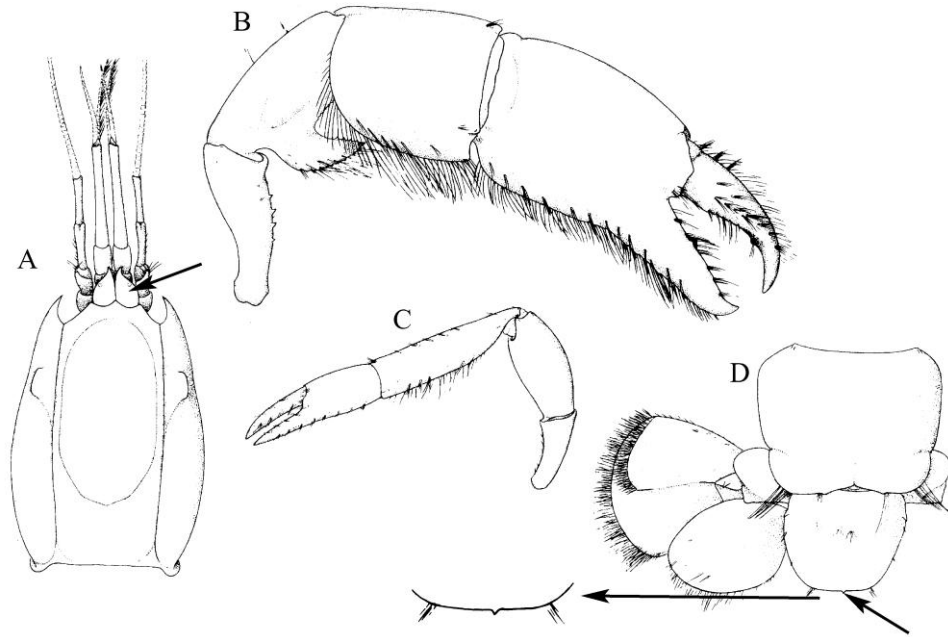
11. Uropodal endopod narrow, length four times width. Telson with distinct medial groove*Callichirus major* (Say, 1818)



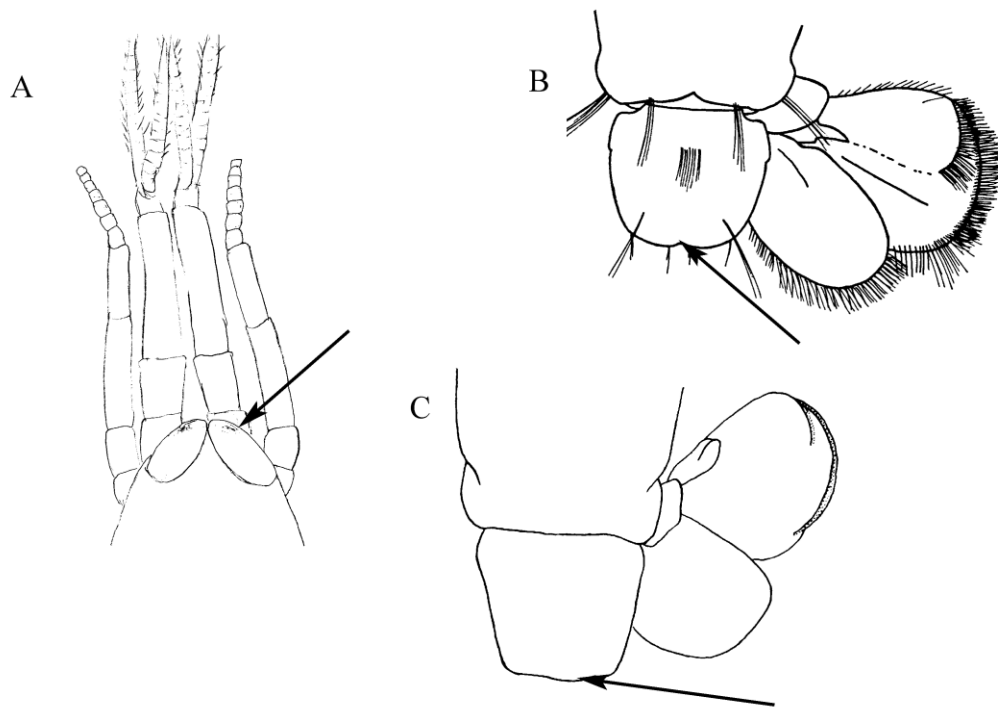
—Uropodal endopod rounded, length less than two times width. Telson lacking distinct medial groove.....12



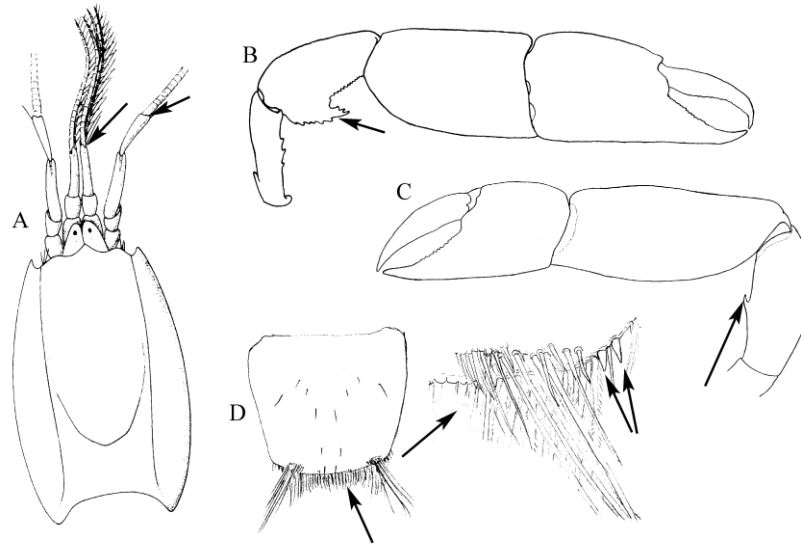
12. Eyestalks, pointed, curving laterally at apex. Telson posterior margin with small acute spine medially *Gilvossius setimanus* (DeKay, 1844).



—Eyestalks rounded at apex. Telson posterior margin lacking medial projection.13



13. Antennular peduncle distinctly shorter than antennal peduncle. Pereopod 1 minor chela of male similar in size and shape to major and minor chelae of female, merus with weak hook-like spine; carpus about 3 times longer than wide at greatest width. Telson posterolateral corners with two, small, short spiniform setae; posterior margin with fringed with row of closely spaced, plumose setae.....*Biffarius biformis* (Biffar, 1971a)



—Antennular peduncle equal to, or extending slightly longer than, antennal peduncle. Pereopod 1 major chela of female distinctly larger and more developed than minor chela; minor chela of male and female markedly elongate; merus lacking weak hook-like spine; carpus narrow, 5-6 times longer than greatest width. Telson posterolateral corners lacking setae or with a single, short, spiniform seta; posterior margin sparsely setose
*Biffarius cf. fragilis* (Biffar, 1970)

