

**Remarks :** The taxonomy of the species is not clear. It is possible that 2 forms may have to be distinguished: *A. sublevis* Wood-Mason, 1891 (with a synonym *A. opipara* Burukovsky & Musy, 1976) from the Indian Ocean, and *A. tenuimana* s.s from the eastern part of the present range. More material will have to decide this question.

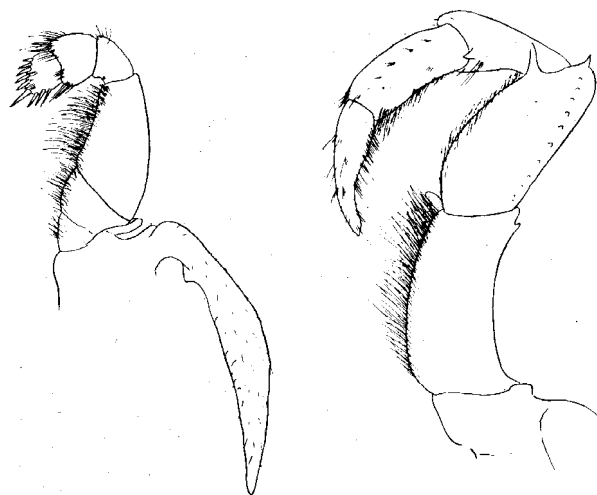
SUBFAMILY THYMOPINAE Holthuis, 1974

**Thymopinae** Holthuis, 1974, *Bulletin Marine Science, University Miami*, 24(4):753.

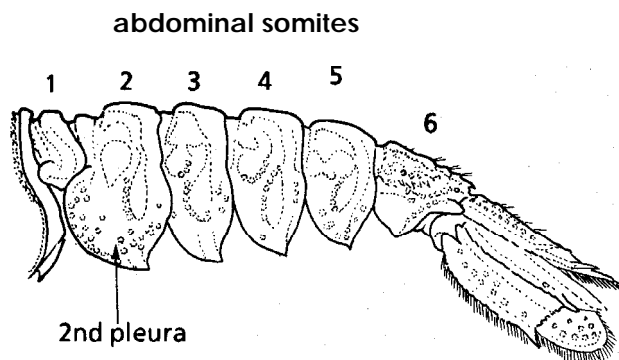
This subfamily consists of four genera, viz., *Nephropides*, *Nephropsis*, *Thymops* and *Thymopsis*. Three of these genera include a single species, namely all, except *Nephropsis*. None of them has any commercial value at present, but some may be of potential interest to fisheries.

**Key to Genera**

- 1a. Second and third maxillipeds without exopods (Fig. 44a). Pleura of second abdominal somite wide and overlapping both the pleura of the first and third somites (Fig. 44b). Lower margin of rostrum with teeth ..... *Thymopsis*
- 1b. Second and third maxillipeds with exopods (Fig. 45a). Lower margin of rostrum without teeth
  - 2a. Pleura of abdominal somites broadly overlapping (Fig. 45b). Exopod of second maxilliped without flagellum ..... *Thymops*
  - 2b. Pleura of abdominal somites narrow, hardly if at all overlapping. Lateral margin of telson unarmed, but for the posterolateral spine. Exopod of second maxilliped with a distinct flagellum



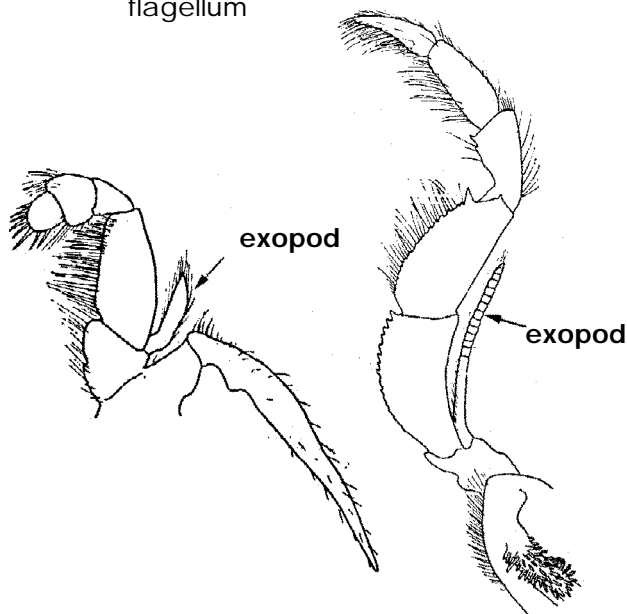
a. second and third maxilliped  
(from Holthuis, 1974)



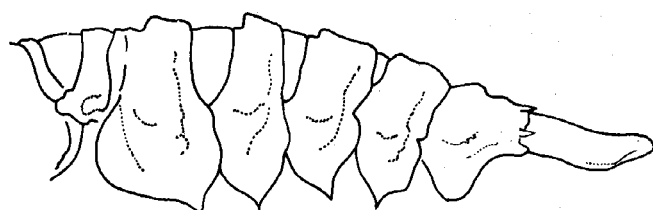
b. abdomen (lateral view)

*Thymopsis*

Fig.44



a. second and third maxilliped  
(from Holthuis, 1974)



b. abdomen (lateral view)

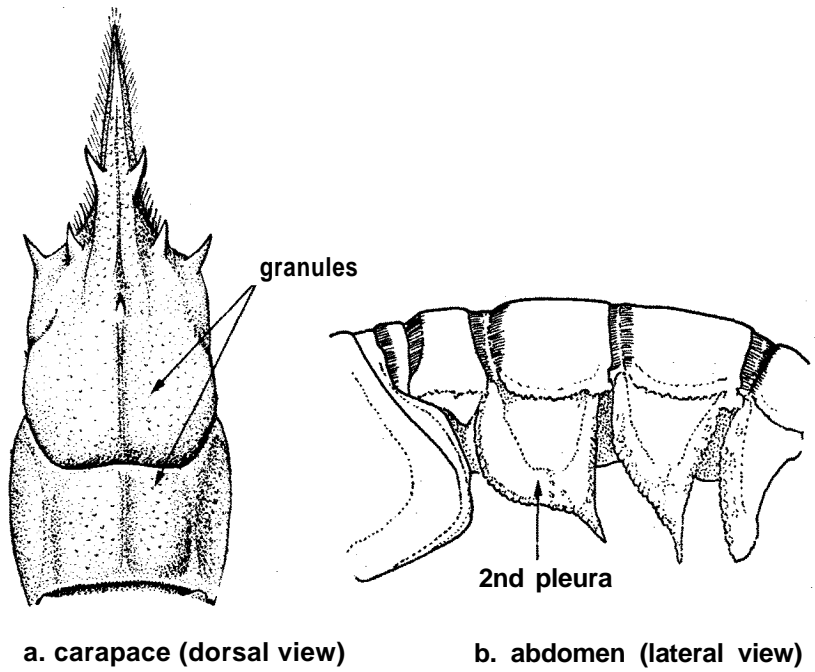
(after Zarenkov & Semenov, 1972)

*Thymops*

Fig. 45

3a Eye not pigmented. Body granular and hairy, but not covered with evenly placed large pearly tubercles (Fig. 46a). Pleura of second abdominal somite ending in a long sharp point (Fig. 46b) ..... *Nephropsis*

3b. Eye with pigmented, although small, cornea. Body entirely covered by conspicuous rounded pearly tubercles (Fig. 47a). Pleura of second abdominal somite broadly trapezoid, distal margin obliquely truncate, ending in a blunt posterior tooth (Fig. 47b) ..... *Nephropides*

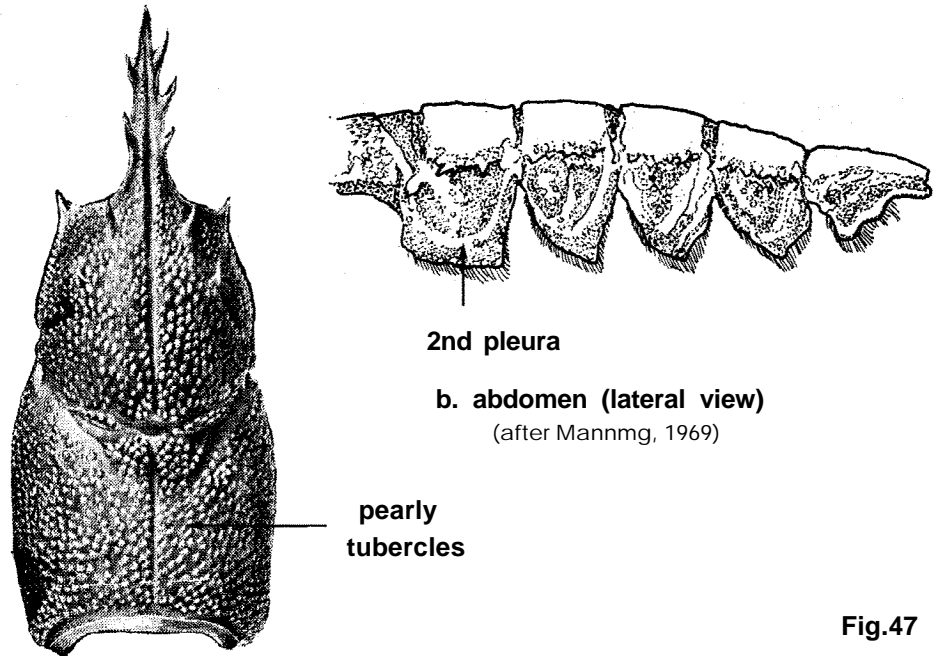


a. carapace (dorsal view)

b. abdomen (lateral view)

*Nephropsis*

Fig.46



a. carapace (dorsal view)

b. abdomen (lateral view)

(after Mannmg, 1969)

*Nephropides*

Fig.47

*Nephropides* Manning, 1969

NEPH Nephid

*Nephropides* Manning, 1969, *Crustaceana*, 17:303. Gender masculine.

**Type Species:** by original designation and monotypy: *Nephropides caribaeus* Manning, 1969.

A single species known so far.

*Nephropides caribaeus* Manning, 1969

Fig. 48

NEPH Nephid 1

*Nephropides caribaeus* Manning, 1969, *Crustaceana*, 17:304, text-fig. 1 pt. 1

FAO Names : En - Mitten lobsterette.

**Type** : Type locality: Off Caribbean coast of "Nicaragua, 12°25'N 82°15'W; depth 546-582 m". Holo-type in USNM, no. 113741; paratypes in USNM, RMNH.

**Geographical Distribution** : Extreme western Caribbean Sea off the coasts of Central America and northern South America, from Belize to Colombia, 16°58' to 9°24'N, 76°3 1.5' to 87°53'W (Fig. 49).

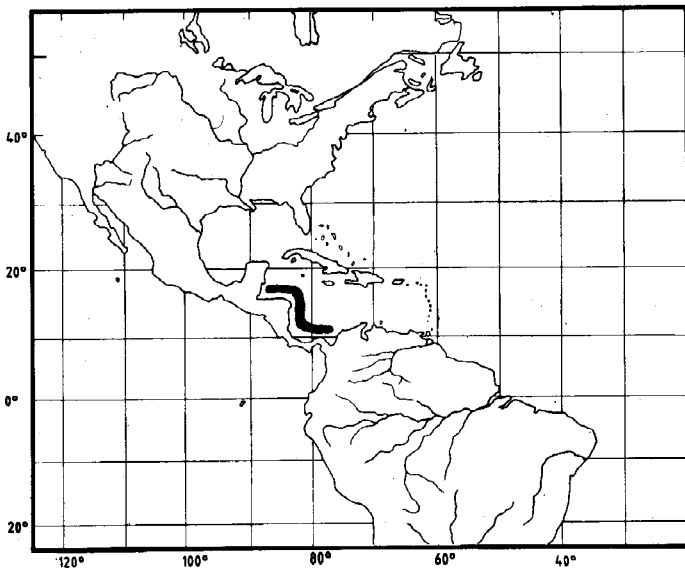


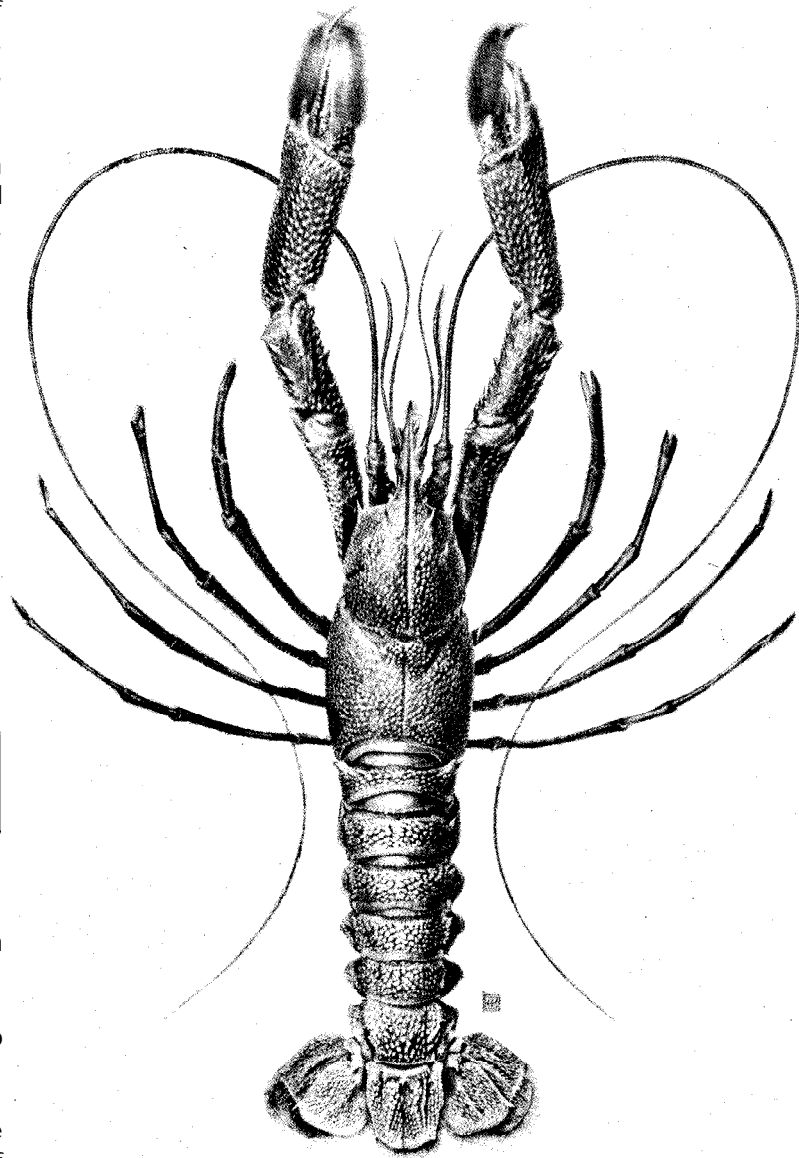
Fig. 49

**Habitat and Biology** : Deep sea, 511 to 728 m; on mud bottom.

**Size** : Total length 15.6 to 17 cm, carapace length 5 to 6 cm.

**Interest to Fisheries** : So far none, but the size of the specimens might make the exploitation profitable if good fishing grounds are found.

**Literature** : Manning, 1969:304, text-fig. 1 pl. 1; Holthuis, 1974:806-10, figs 22,23.



(from Manning, 1969)

Fig. 48

*Nephropsis* Wood-Mason, 1873

NEPH Nephps

*Nephropsis* Wood-Mason, 1873, *Annals Magazine natural History*, (4)12:60. Gender feminine. Name placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology in Opinion 559 (published in 1959).

**Type Species** : by monotypy : *Nephropsis steward* Wood-Mason, 1873.

At present, 13 species of the genus *Nephropsis* are known, 5 from the Atlantic, 7 from the Indo-West Pacific, and one from the eastern Pacific region. None of these species are currently being fished on a commercial scale, but some are of potential interest.

The taxonomic status of several species is not clear, and therefore the following key to species must be considered as provisional; several new species can be expected.

**Key to Species:**

**1a** Rostrum without lateral teeth. A strong post-supraorbital spine present behind the supraorbital spine (Fig. 50a). Abdominal somites 3 to 6 with a median dorsal carina (Fig. 50b). Anterior margin of pleura of second abdominal somite without spines (Fig. 51a). Telson without media-dorsal spine (Fig. 52a). Indo-West Pacific ..... *N. ensirostris* (Fig. 71)

**1b.** Rostrum with lateral teeth: Other characters mentioned under 1a present or absent

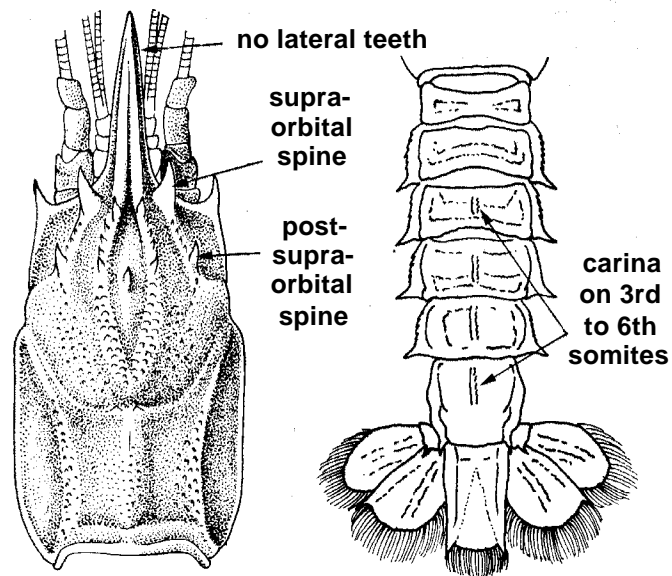
**2a** Rostrum with one pair of lateral teeth (one tooth on either margin) (Fig. 53). Anterior margin of pleuron of second abdominal somite without a spine, although the pleuron itself may end in a sharp, spine-like tip (Fig. 51a)

**3a.** An erect dorsal spine placed in the middle of the basal part of the telson (Fig. 52b). Post-supraorbital spine absent or replaced by one or more spinules. Abdominal somites 2 to 6 with a median dorsal carina. Exopod of uropod with a diaeresis (Fig. 60a)

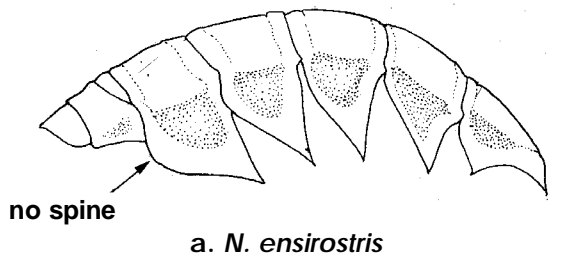
**4a** Carapace smooth. Rostrum less than half as long as the rest of the carapace. Anterior margin of pleuron of second abdominal somite strongly convex. Eastern Pacific ..... *N. occidentalis* (Fig. 76)

**4b** Carapace with numerous small granules. Rostrum more than half as long as the rest of the carapace. Anterior margin of pleuron of second abdominal somite only slightly convex. Indo-West Pacific ..... *N. acanthura* (Fig. 61)

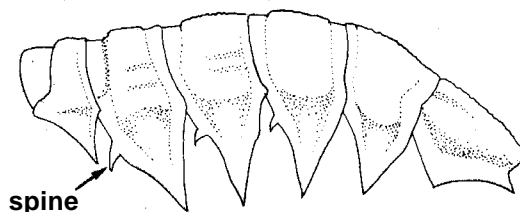
**3b.** Telson without an erect dorsal spine on its basal part (Fig. 52a)



**a. carapace (dorsal view) b. abdomen (lateral view)**  
*N. ensirostris* **Fig. 50**

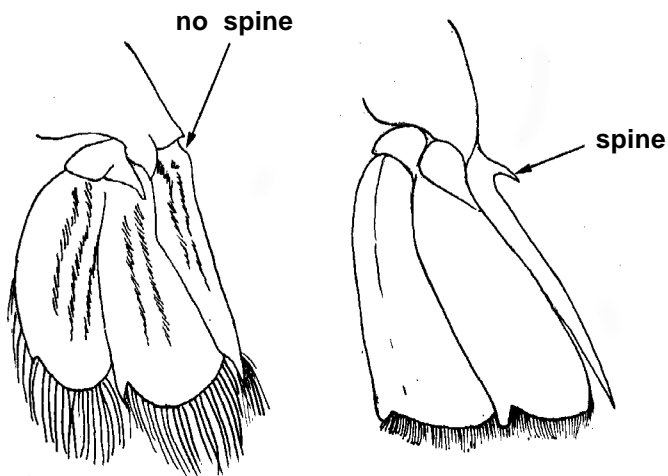


**a. *N. ensirostris***



**b. *N. agassizii***

**abdomen (lateral view) Fig. 51**



**a. *Nephropsis* sp.**

**b. *N. occidentalis***

**tail fan (lateral view)**

**Fig. 52**

5a. Abdominal somites without any trace of a mid-dorsal carina. No post supraorbital spine on carapace. The distance between the supraorbital spines and the gastric tubercle is less than half the distance between the gastric tubercle and the cervical groove (Fig. 53). Exopod of uropod with a diaeresis (Fig. 60a). Indo-West Pacific ..... *N. stewarti* (Fig. 80)

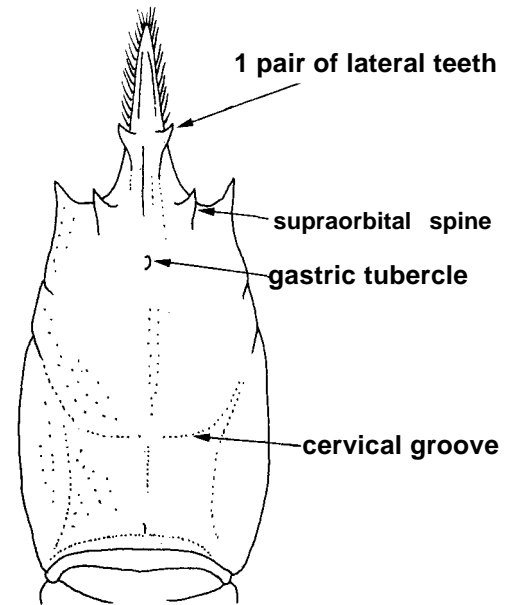
5b. Abdominal somites 2 (or 3) to 6 with a median longitudinal carina

6a. A post supraorbital spinule is present. The distance between the supraorbital spines and the gastric tubercle is about 2/3 of the distance between the gastric tubercle and the cervical groove (Fig. 54). Exopod of uropod with a diaeresis (Fig. 60a). Western Atlantic . . *N. rosea* (Fig. 78)

6b. No post supraorbital spinule behind the supraorbital spine. The distance between the supraorbital spines and the gastric tubercle is about half or less than half the distance between the gastric tubercle and the cervical groove (Fig. 55)

7a. Median dorsal carinae on third to sixth abdominal somites, but not on second (Fig. 56a). Indo-West Pacific *N. carpenteri* (Fig. 69)

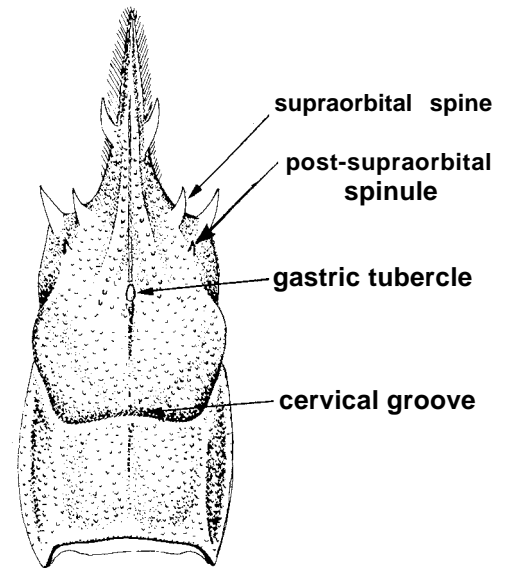
7b. Median dorsal carinae on second to sixth abdominal somites (Fig. 56b). Western Atlantic ..... *N. aculeata* (Fig. 63)



*N. stewarti*

carapace (dorsal view)

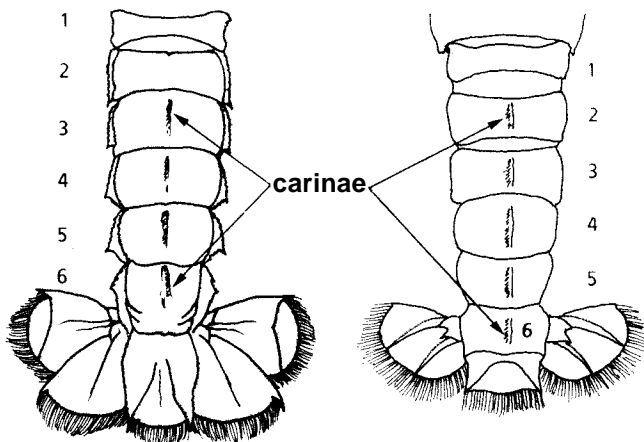
Fig. 53



*N. rosea*

carapace (dorsal view)

Fig. 54

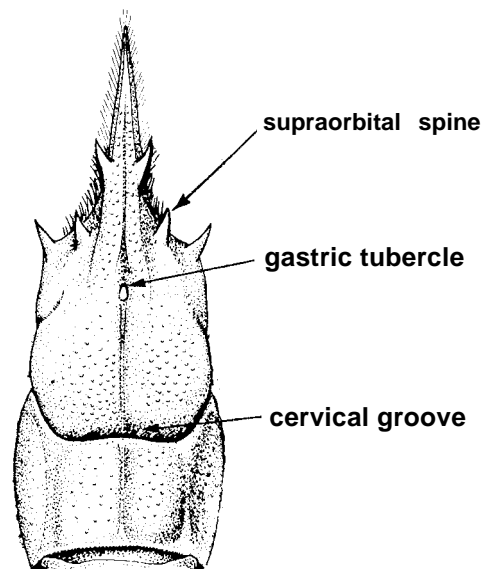


a. *N. carpenteri*

b. *N. aculeata*

abdomen (dorsal view)

Fig. 56



*N. aculeata*

carapace (dorsal view)

Fig. 55

2b. Rostrum with two pairs of lateral teeth (Fig. 57a). Anterior margin of second abdominal somite with or without spines

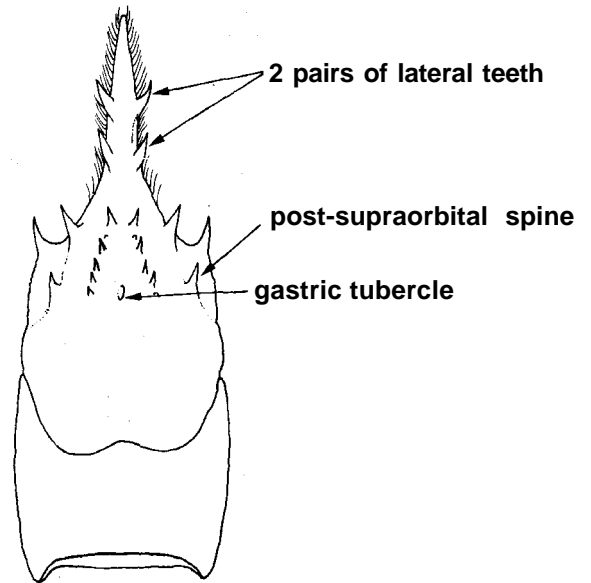
8a. Pleura of second abdominal somite without any spine on the anterior margin (Fig. 57b). A strong post supraorbital spine present on carapace. Gastric tubercle situated slightly behind the post-supraorbital spines (Fig. 57a). A median carina on the second to sixth abdominal somites. Exopod or uropod with a diaeresis (Fig. 60a). Telson without dorsal erect spine in the basal part. Western Atlantic ..... *N. neglecta* (Fig. 74)

8b. Pleura of second abdominal somite with one or more spines on the anterior margin (Fig. 51b)

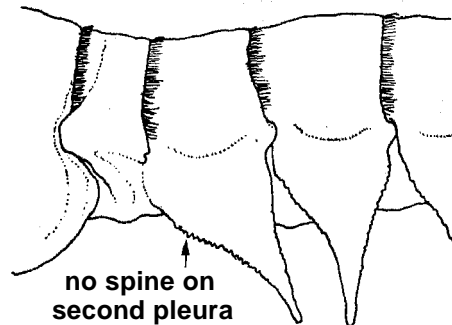
9a. Abdomen with a dorsomedian carina on the second to sixth somites. Exopod of uropod with a diaeresis (Fig. 60a). Rostrum with two pairs of lateral teeth in the basal part. The supraorbital spine is followed by a post supraorbital spine. Anterior margin of pleura of second abdominal somite with one or two spines in the basal half. Telson without mediodorsal spine in the basal part

10a. Median groove of rostrum reaching distinctly beyond anterior pair of lateral rostral teeth. Distance between supraorbital spine and gastric tubercle is half the distance between gastric tubercle and postcervical groove (Fig. 58). Indo-West Pacific ..... *N. sulcata* (Fig. 84)

10b. Median groove of rostrum failing to reach the anterior pair of lateral rostral teeth. Distance between supraorbital spine and gastric tubercle about two thirds the distance between gastric tubercle and postcervical groove (Fig. 59) Eastern Atlantic ..... *N. Atlantica* (Fig. 67)



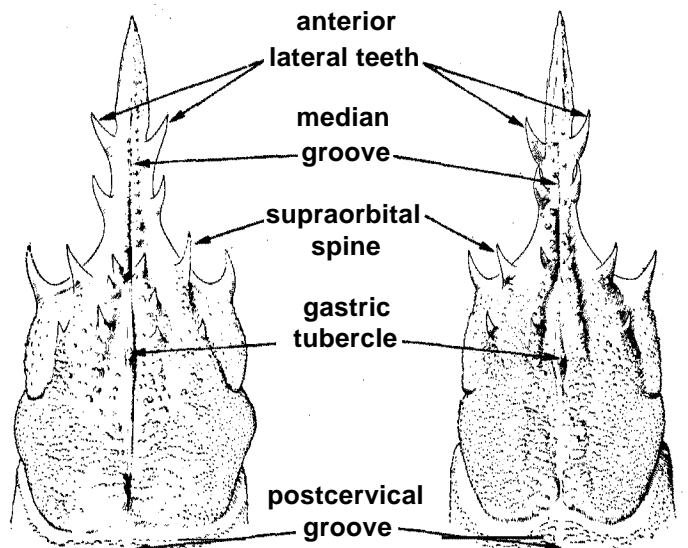
a. carapace (dorsal view)



b. abdomen (lateral view)

*N. neglecta*

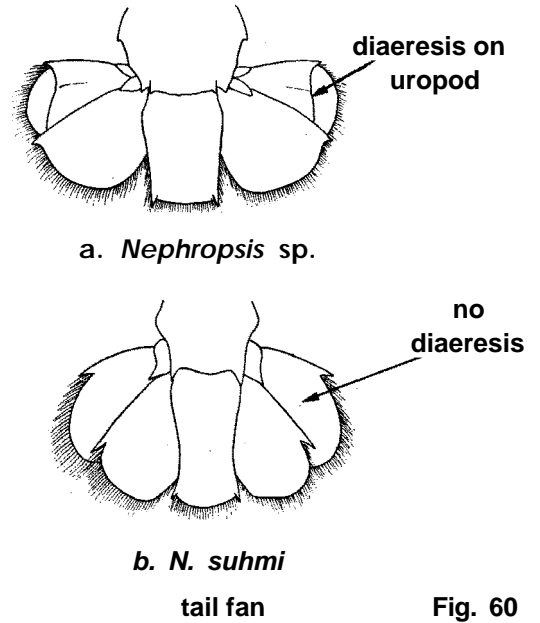
Fig. 57



anterior part of carapace (dorsal view) *N. sulcata* Fig. 58

anterior part of carapace (dorsal view) *N. atlantica* Fig. 59

- 9b. Abdomen without mediodorsal carina
- 11a. Exopod of uropod with a diaeresis (Fig.60a). Indo-West Pacific ..... *N. malhaensis*
- 11b Exopod of uropod without diaeresis (Fig. 60b)
- 12a. Atlantic species ..... *N. agassizii* (Fig. 65)
- 12b. Indo-West Pacific species ..... *N. suhmi* (Fig. 82)



*Nephropsis acanthura* Macpherson, 1990

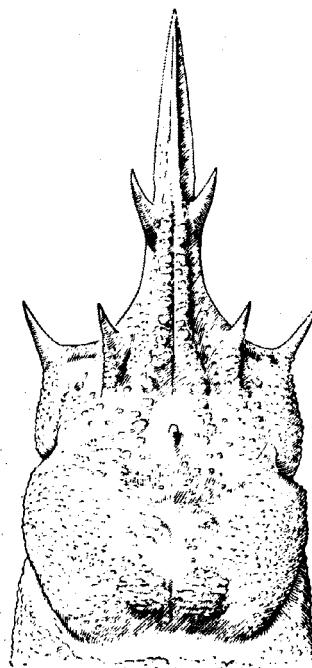
Fig. 61

NEPH Nephps 12

*Nephropsis acanthura* Macpherson, 1990, Mémoires Muséum National d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, (A) 145:311, figs. 5d, 9d-f, 11 a,b, 16d

FAO Names : En - Spinetail lobsterette.

Type : Type locality: Philippines, 13°53.7'N 119°56.3'E, 970 m. Holotype male, MP no AS 546.



anterior part of carapace (dorsal view)  
(from Macpherson. 1990)

Fig. 61

**Geographical Distribution** : Indo-West Pacific region: Madagascar, Philippines, Australia (E. of Queensland), Chesterfield Islands, New Caledonia (Fig. 62).

**Habitat and Biology** : Deep sea between 850 and 1250 m.

**Size** : Carapace length, including rostrum: 1.6 to 3 cm (male), 1.5 to 3 cm (female).

**Interest to Fisheries** : None so far.

**Literature** : Macpherson, 1990:311-312.

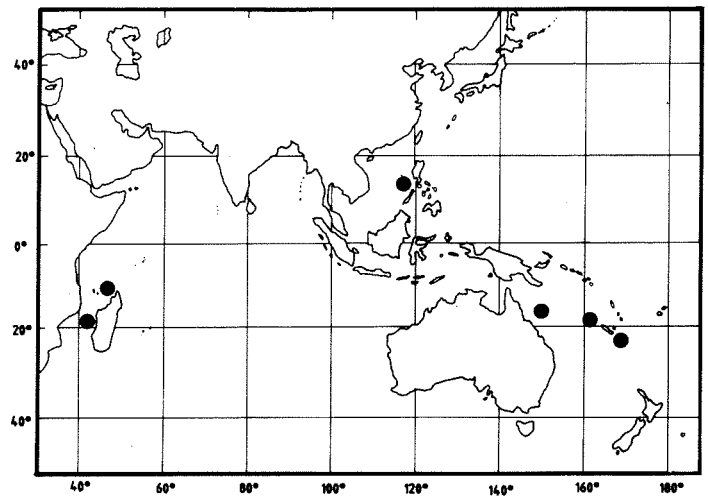


Fig. 62

***Nephropsis aculeata*** S.I. Smith, 1881

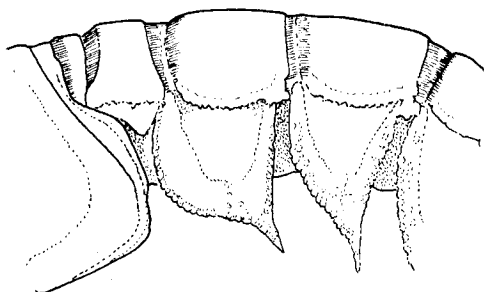
Fig. 63

NEPH Nephps 1

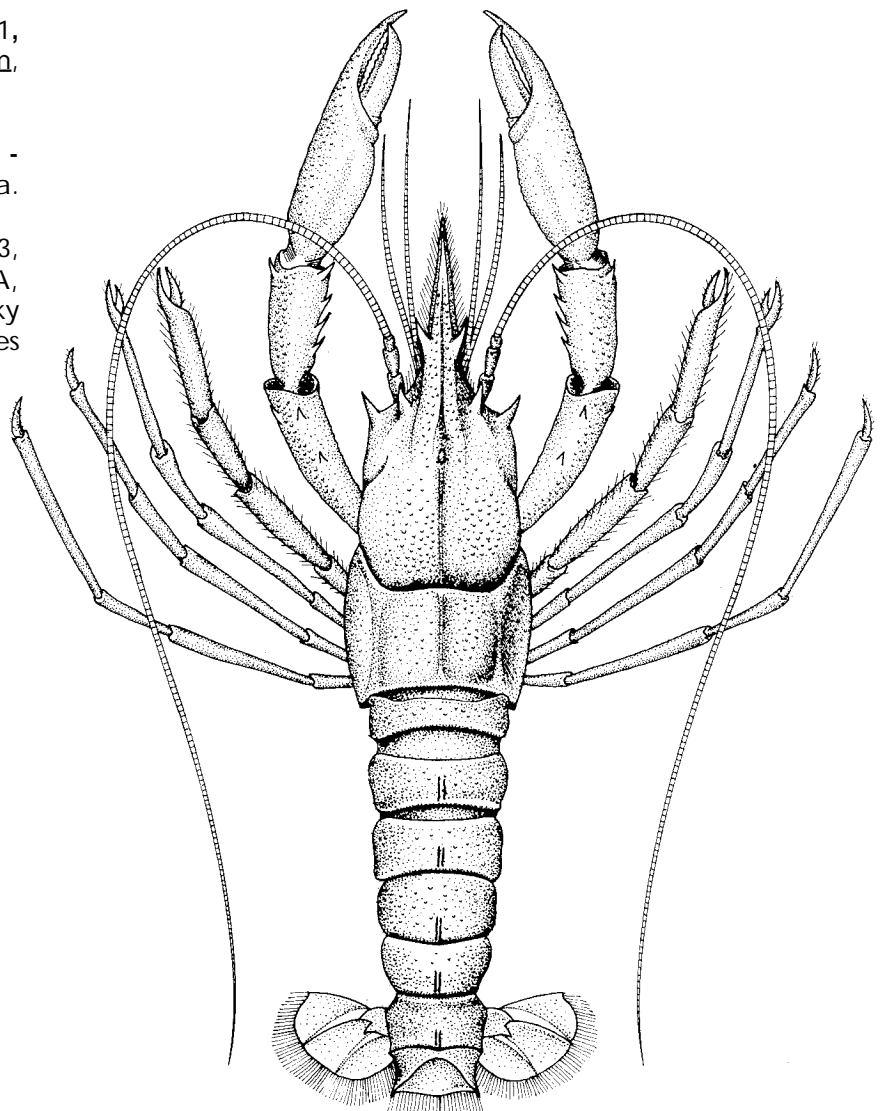
***Nephropsis aculeatus*** S.I. Smith, 1881, Proceedings United States National Museum, 3:431.

**FAO Names** : **En** - Florida lobsterette; **Fr** - Langoustine de Floride; **Sp** - Cigala de Florida.

**Type** : Type locality: "Fish Hawk" Station 873, off Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, USA, 40°02'N 70°57'W, depth 182 m, bottom soft sticky mud. Lectotype (no. 20923) and 3 paralectotypes in USNM.



**abdomen (lateral view)**  
(after Holthuis, 1974)



**dorsal view**

Fig. 63