

AntIZ

One-stop shopping for Antarctic Invertebrates at the Smithsonian

<http://invertebrates.si.edu/AntIZ.htm>

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With nearly 19 million specimens, the United States Antarctic Program (USAP) collection at the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) is the most valuable tool we have for the study of Antarctic and Subantarctic marine invertebrates. The collection includes type and non-type material dating back to the U.S. Exploring Expedition of 1838-1842. In 2007, the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History and the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs launched a renewed cooperative agreement to transform the USAP collections and associated data into a modern resource that is easily available to a wide and diverse audience (e.g., general public, policy makers, conservation groups) as well as making it a useful tool for scholars.

AntIZ serves images, literature references and descriptions, maps or other data concerning any Antarctic invertebrate animal represented in the NMNH collections. Specimens from the Southern Ocean and nearby waters, as far North as 30° S, are included. See [History and Current Activities](#) to read about early Antarctic research expeditions as well as our latest visiting scientists and their work with the collection. Any species or higher taxon in our collections may be looked up through [Biodiversity](#), the various ice-breaking research vessels or expeditions through [Station Data](#), or the vast literature on the Antarctic under [Bibliography](#).

The screenshot shows the 'Biodiversity' section with a taxonomic tree and a 'Bibliography' section with a list of scientific references. A central navigation hub connects these sections to 'Species Page', 'Images', 'Descriptions', and 'Specimens'.

The screenshot shows the 'Station Data' section with a table of collection records and a 'Species Page' with detailed information about a specific specimen, including its original description and locality.

The screenshot shows a 'Distribution Map' of the Antarctic region with specimen locations marked, and a 'Bathymetric Specimen Dispersal' chart showing the depth distribution of specimens.

Catalog No.	Date Collected	Type Status	Location	Co
894498	2/6/1968		Weddell Sea	74.1°
896338	8/6/1962		Antarctic Ocean	62.8°
896346	8/11/1962		Antarctic Ocean	61.8°
896429	12/3/1962		Scotia Sea	53.1°
896494	1/2/1963		Antarctic Ocean	62.6°
896495	7/20/1962		Scotia Sea	56° S, 61.9° W
896829	7/16/1962		South Atlantic Ocean	56° S, 61.8° W
898144	1/15/1968		Ross Sea	73.8° S, 178.2° W
898151	1/26/1968		Ross Sea	78.4° S, 173.1° W
898769	1/6/1966		South Pacific Ocean	52.7° S, 74.5° W
898772	12/3/1962		Scotia Sea	53.1° S, 59.4° W
898793	12/31/1962		Antarctic Ocean	61.3° S, 56.1° W
898830	3/14/1963		Scotia Sea	51.9° S, 56.6° W
898834	3/14/1963		Scotia Sea	51.9° S, 56.6° W
899832	2/17/1972		Ross Sea	78.48° S, 164.57° W
899948	1/8/1972		Antarctic Ocean	62.93° S, 60.81° W
901047	2/19/1965		South Pacific Ocean	50.9° S, 166.7° E
901106	2/15/1972		Ross Sea	77.15° S, 159° W
901917	3/13/1969		Weddell Sea	73.87° S, 31.3° W

Good governance of living natural resources in the Antarctic depends on international cooperation and information sharing. Historical biodiversity and species distribution data are critical to today's global climate change research agenda. NMNH is committed to making its Antarctic data and holdings widely and easily accessible.

In our next funding cycle we plan to integrate USAP map data such as bathymetry, surface temperature and bottom type into the website to permit sophisticated ecological queries (eg.: show me where Parapagurid hermit crabs occur on sandy bottoms below 500 meters.) We also plan to incorporate data into AntIZ from partner institutions who wish to share their collections and associated data online. Specimens from partner collections will be coded by institution on map distributions and in specimen lists, and identified in their detailed records by institution name, contact info and url for additional online resources, if available. Please contact us* if you'd like to discuss details, attribution, and available technical support for data digitization and formatting.



AntIZ averages 272 unique hits per day, ~65% to taxon pages, ~8% to specimen pages (and the rest to maps, station data, history, bibliography, etc.)



Citing Antarctic Invertebrates
If you include data from the Antarctic Invertebrates site in a publication, please cite as follows:

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We welcome your feedback. Please let us know at Hammock@si.edu if you have suggestions for functions you'd like to see or if any functions fail to work.