



Environment

Freshwater: Yes/ No

Habitat: Marine

Salinity:33- 35 %

Brackish : Yes/No

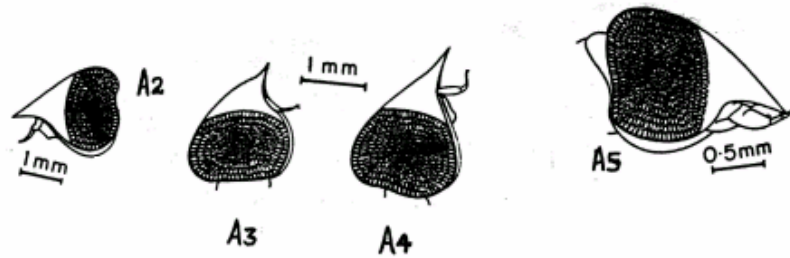
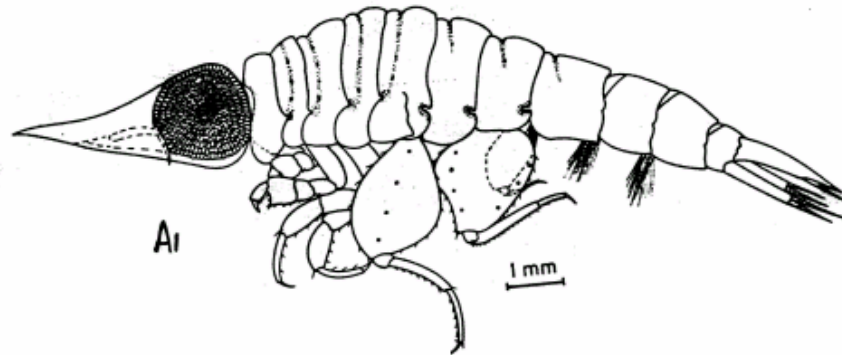
Migrations:

Temperature: 20-25°C

Salt Water : Yes✓/No

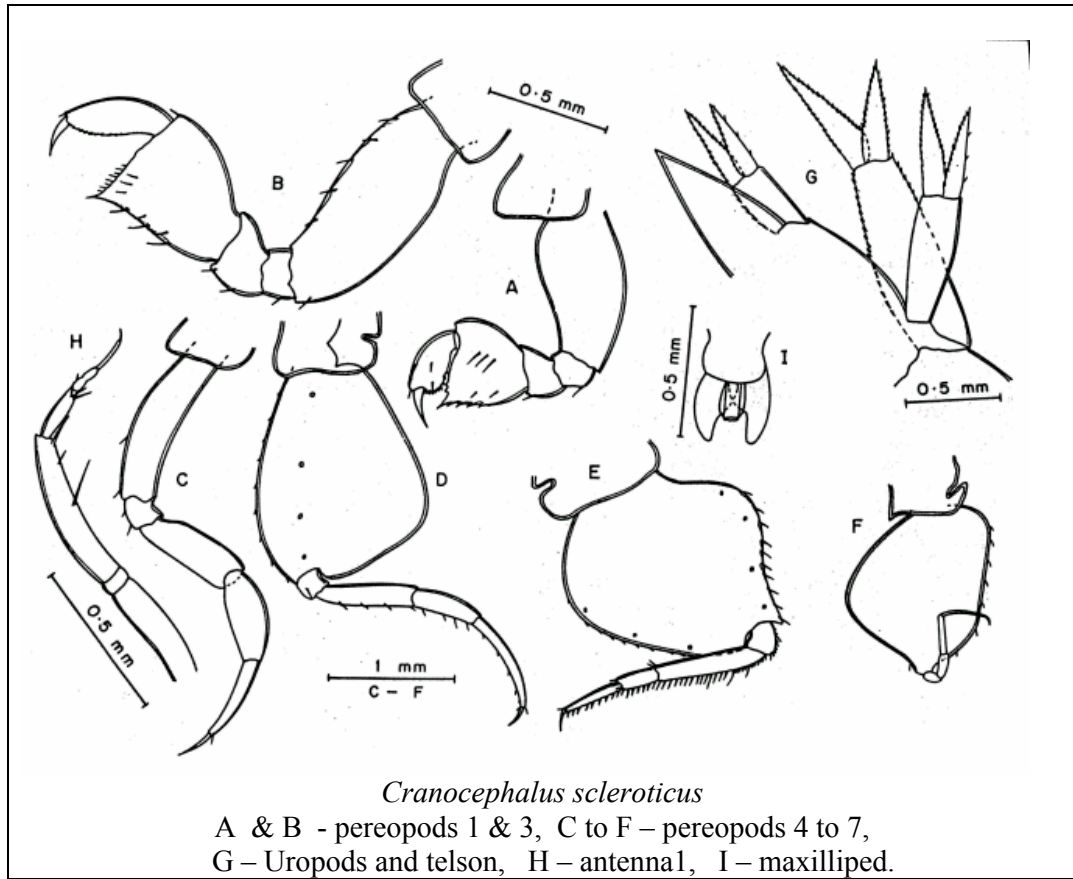
Depth range :0-200m

Picture (scanned images or photographs of adult or larval stages)



*Cranocephalus scleroticus*

M1 – Female, M2-M4 – Cephalon female, M5 – Cephalon juvenile male



*Cranocephalus scleroticus*

A & B - pereopods 1 & 3, C to F - pereopods 4 to 7,  
G - Uropods and telson, H - antenna, I - maxilliped.

DATA ENTRY FORM: Form -2 (Fish/ Shell fish/ Others ) Ref. No.:  
(Please answer only relevant fields; add additional fields if you require )

**IMPORTANCE**

Landing statistics (t/y) : from                      to                      Place :                      Ref. No.:  
Main source of landing : Yes/ No                      Coast: east/ west  
Importance to fisheries :  
Main catching method :  
Used for aquaculture :yes/ never/ rarely  
Used as bait: yes/no/ occasionally  
Aquarium fish: yes/ no/ rarely  
Game fish: yes/ no  
Dangerous fish: poisonous/ harmful/ harmless  
Bioactivity: locally known/ reported/ not known                      Details:  
Period of availability: Throughout the year – yes/ no                      If no, months:

**SALIENT FEATURES:**

Morphological:

Diagnostic characteristics:

Cephalon regularly narrowing to the tip of the rostrum, latter apically acute. Coxal plates fused with the pereon, the line of fusion indicated by a prominent incision and a forwardly directed large rounded lobe. First antenna in female long and slender, 7 to 8 segmented; in male, the lower distal part of the first flagellar segment produced into a blunt lobe. Maxillpede distally with three lobes, two laterals and one median. Carpus of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> pereopod regularly widening distalwards, inner distal part expanded inwards ending in a strong spine in the case of 1<sup>st</sup> pereopod, in the case of second pereopod the spine is weak. Telson strongly narrowing to the tip in the case of the female, but blunt in male. First uropod just stopping short of the tip of the telson.

Sex attributes: Dimorphic

Descriptive characters:

Male: The 1<sup>st</sup> segment of the flagellum of antenna 1 in males has a characteristic projection in the distal part of the anterior margin.

Female: First antenna reduced, second absent.

Meristic characteristics:

Feeding habit: Feeds on microzooplankton.

Main food:

Feeding type:

Additional remarks: The wide variation in size and also external morphology exhibited by this species prompted the early workers to describe this species under different names. This species was named *O. scleroticus* by Streets because the original specimen had a coriaceous exoskeleton.

Size and age :

Maximum length (cm ) (male/ female/ unsexed)

Ref. No.:

Male 8.64 to 13.42, Female 5.44 to 12.28, Juvenile 3.2 to 5.86

Average length (cm) (male/female/unsexed)

Ref. No.:

Maximum weight: (g) (male/female/unsexed)

Ref. No.:

Average weight: (g) (male/female/unsexed)

Ref. No.:

Longevity (y) (wild) : (captivity)

Ref. No.:

Length/ weight relation ships:

Eggs and larvae: Eggs are stored in the brood pouch and fully developed juveniles hatch out from the brood pouch. Ref. No.:

Characteristics:

Abundance:

Biochemical aspects:

Proximate analysis: moisture/ fat/ protein/ carbohydrate/ash

Ref. No.:

Electrophoresis:

Ref. No.:

#### SPAWNING INFORMATION:

Locality:

Main Ref:

Season:

Fecundity:

Comment:

#### MAJOR PUBLICATIONS (INDIAN):

(Include review articles, monographs, books etc.)

Pillai, N.K., 1966a. Pelagic Amphipoda in the collections of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, India, Part 1, Oxycephalidae. In *Proceedings of the Symposium on Crustacea, I. Marine. Biological. Association of India*: 169-204.

Nair, K.K.C. and K.V. Jayalakshmy, 1992. Distribution of oxycephalidae (Hyperiidia – Amphipoda) in the Indian Ocean – A Statistical Study. *Oceanography of the Indian Ocean*, Oxford and IBH Publications, 201-210. Ed. By B.N. Desai.

Nair, K.K.C (1995) Taxonomic Features And Identification Of Oxycephalidae, *Mahasagar*, Vol.28. No 1&2.

#### LIST OF INDIAN EXPERTS (Name, address, phone, fax, e-mail etc.)

Dr.K.K.C.Nair  
Scientist-In-Charge  
R.C. of NIO,  
Post Box-1616  
Kochi – 682 014

Dr. N. Krishna pillai  
“Radhika”  
65- Champaka Nagar  
Bakery Junction  
Trivandrum-695 001

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

(List of persons who contributed, modified or checked information)