NATIONAL BIORESOURCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Dept. of Biotechnology

Government of India, New Delhi

MARINE BIORESOURCES

FORMS DATA ENTRY**:** Form- 1(general**)** Ref. No.:

(Please answer only relevant fields; add additional fields if you require)

For office use:

Fauna : √ Flora Microorganisms

General Category : Invertebrata (Zooplankton), Pelagic amphipoda

Scientific name &Authority: *Oxycephalus piscator* Milne – Edwards

Common Name (if available):

Synonyms:	Author(s)	Status
Oxycephalus piscator	Milne – Edwards	1840 , p.100,pl.30 ,fig. 10
Oxycephalus piscatoris	Milne –Edwards	1830 ,p.396
Orio ornithoramphus	Cocco	1832 ,p.205
Orio ornithoramphus cocci	Natale	1850 ,p.12
Oxycephalus oceanicus	Guerin	1836 ,p.10,pl.18,fig.2
Natalius candidissimus	Costa	1864 ,p.88
Oxycephalus bulbosus	Streets	1878 ,p.280 ,pl.2,fig.2
Oxycephalus edwardsi	Thompson	1883 ,p.238
Oxycephalus similis	Claus	1887 ,p.71,pl.33,fig.9

Classification:

Phylum: Arthropoda Sub- Phylum:Mandibulata

Super class: Class: Crustacea Sub- Class: Malacostraca

Super Order:Peracarida Order: Amphipoda Sub Order: Hyperiidea

Super Family: Platysceloidea Family: Oxycephalidae Sub-Family:

Genus:*Oxycephalus* Species: *piscator*

Authority: Milne Edwards

Reference No.: Milne Edwards, H., 1840. *Histoire naturelle des Crustaces, comprenant l'anatomie, la physiologie, et la classification de ces animaux,* **3**: 1-638, pls. 1-42.

Geographical Location: This circum tropical species was found in Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Ocean as well as in the Mediterranean. The form *O. bulbosus* was more specific to areas of high temperature (Nair,1992).The northern and southern limit of this species in the Indian Ocean appeared to be

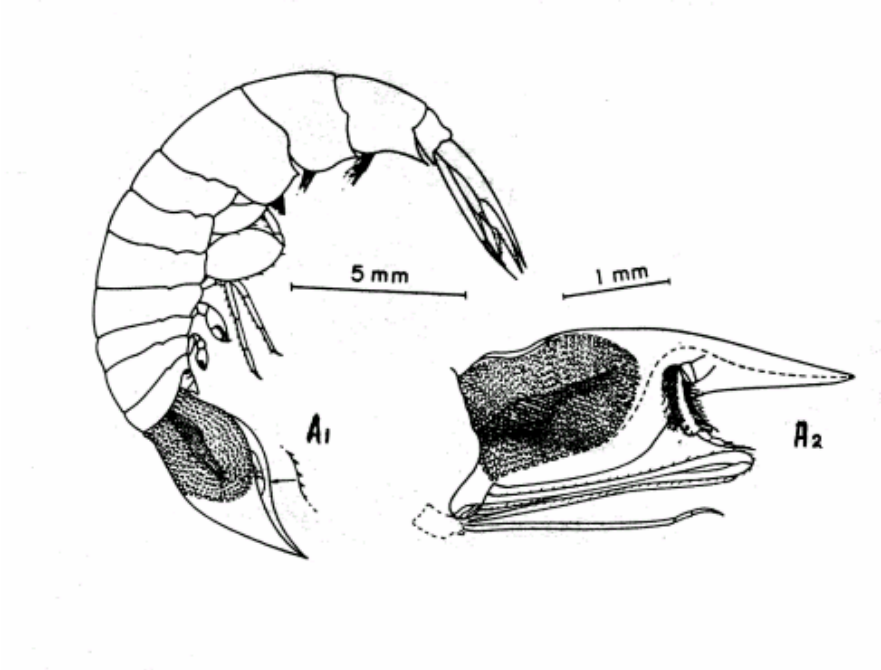
Latitude:25°W to 120°E Place:

Longitude: 30° N to 35°S State:

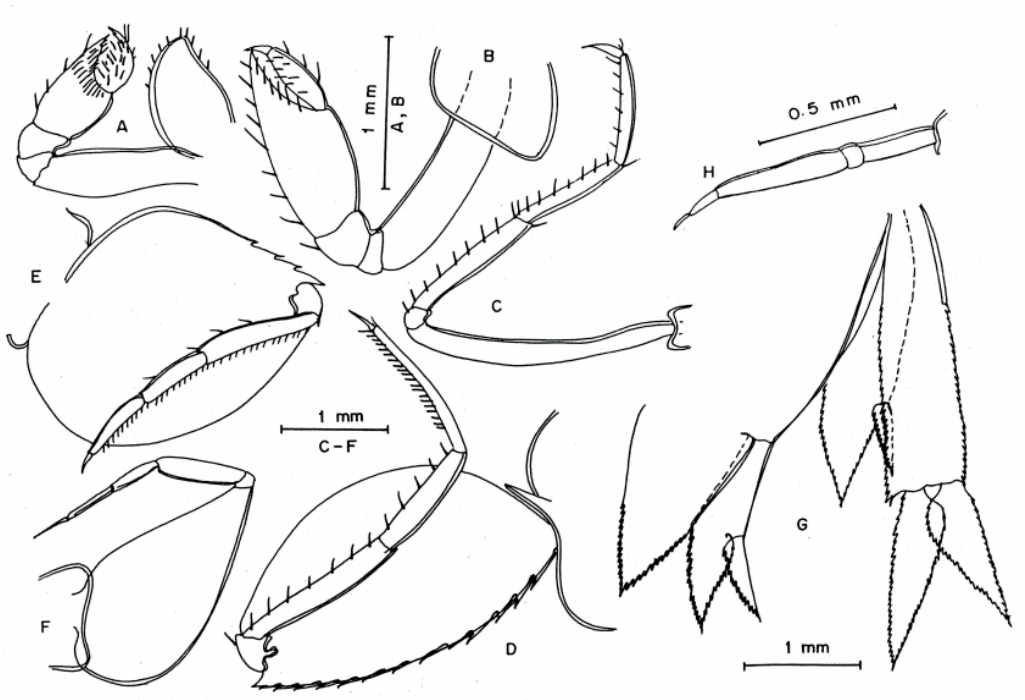
Environment

Freshwater: Yes/ No	Habitat: Marine	Salinity:33-35%
Brackish : Yes/No	Migrations:	Temperature: 20-28°C
Salt Water : Yes√/No	Depth range :0-200m	

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



Oxycephalus piscator
A1 – female, A 2 – cephalon (male).



Oxycephalus piscator
A & B – pereopods 1 and 2, C to F – pereopods 4 to 7,
G – Uropods and telson, H – antenna 1.

DATA ENTRY FORM: Form –2 (Fish/ Shell fish/ Others) Ref. No.:
(Please answer only relevant fields; add additional fields if you require)
Form- 1 Ref. No.:

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: Body rather elongated ,rostrum relatively short . First 3 pleon segments sub equal in length, but becoming successively deep, postero-lateral angles drawn out into spines becoming more and more prominent backwards

Telson relatively wider and apically acute, Uropod 1 reaches beyond the tip of the telson. The outer border of the carpus of pereopod 1&2 lacks a distal spine or tooth. Carpus and propodus with very few stiff setae. Basis of 5^{th} &6^{th} pereopods broadly ovate. Basis of pereopod 7 broadest at the base and steadily narrowing distally. Telson relatively wider and apically acute, Uropod 1 reaches beyond the tip of the telson. The outer border of the carpus of pereopod 1&2 lacks a distal spine or tooth . Carpus and propodus with very few stiff setae . Basis of 5^{th} &6^{th} pereopods broadly ovate. Basis of pereopod 7 broadest at the base and steadily narrowing distally. Pleon segments sub equal in length ,but becoming successively deep, ostero-lateral angles drawn out into spines becoming more and more prominent backwards.

Sex attributes : Dimorphic
Male: The 1^{st} 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.
Descriptive characters:

Meristic characteristics:
Feeding habit: Feeds on micro zooplankton
Main food:
Feeding type:
Additional remarks: *O. piscator* can be readily distinguished from *O. clausi* by the absence of a second spine-like process at the posterolateral portion of the first three pleon segments . Another salient character of *O piscator* is the cutting edge of the chela of the second pereopod of the female is feebly serrated or crenulate.
Size and age :
Maximum length (cm) (male/ female/ unsexed) Ref. No.:
Average length (mm) (male/female/unsexed) Ref. No.:
Male 7.01-23, Female 7.4 to 19, Juvenile 1.38 to 6.9
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: Ref. No.:
Eggs are stored in the brood pouch and fully developed juveniles hatch out from the brood pouch.
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 (Hyperiidea – 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., 1992. Distribution, ecology and polymorphic behaviour of the genus Oxycephalus (Hyperiidea, Oxycephalidae) in the Indian ocean. In: *Oceanography of the Indian Ocean,* edited by B.N.Desai, Oxford and IBH, New Delhi, 129- 142.

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

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