

Guide to some common copepods in the Benguela Current LME

Zooplankton Workshop Swakopmund, Namibia January 2007

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Foreword

Zooplankton occupy a key position in the pelagic foodweb, as they transfer organic energy produced by phytoplankton to higher trophic levels, including pelagic fish. In the coastal upwelling region of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) off southern Africa, data on zooplankton have been collected routinely, primarily in support of fisheries research, since the development of the pelagic fishing industry in southern Africa in the early 1950s. Zooplankton monitoring is ongoing in the region, and even if only the biomass distribution is usually investigated by applying bulk methods like volume or weight measurements, inspection of the species composition adds valuable information on the relative abundance, distribution and diversity of taxa. However, the BCLME region in general, and South Africa in particular, have over the past 2 decades suffered an enormous loss of expertise in zooplankton taxonomy at an exponential rate, to the extent that the very few experts remaining are on the list of 'Endangered Species'. Furthermore, such expertise has still to be developed in Namibia and Angola.

The dwindling of zooplankton taxonomic expertise over the years has restricted local scientists in their ability to study changes in zooplankton community structure in detail. Such knowledge is essential to understand and be able to predict the impact of environmental changes on fish stock fluctuations. In addition to the harvesting of marine living resources, the region is a hub of maritime activities, including oil and gas exploration and production, diamond mining, shipping, ports, and sovereignty and resource protection. The impacts of these activities on ecosystem health require judicious management at the ecosystem level, and the Benguela Current Commission (BCC) was recently established for that purpose. Detailed zooplankton taxonomic analyses will provide the BCC with practical applications to a range of policy issues such as climate change, biodiversity, the introduction of alien species, pollution and eutrophication in addition to fisheries.

To address this situation, a regional training course in zooplankton taxonomy and species identification was developed to upgrade institutional capacity in the BCLME region. Funds were sourced from the 2 regional capacity building programmes, BENEFIT and BCLME, as well as the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation (USA) through the Census of Marine Zooplankton, a project of the global Census of Marine Life. The course was facilitated by Dr Janet Bradford-Grieve, FRSNZ and world authority on copepod taxonomy from New Zealand. Five scientists and technicians from each of the 3 countries bordering the Benguela Current, viz. Angola, Namibia and South Africa, participated.

The course was held in Swakopmund, Namibia, during the period 8-19 January 2007. Practical sessions on taxonomy and microscope identification of different zooplankton groups were interspersed with lectures on the Benguela Current Ecosystem (Anja Kreiner, NatMIRC/MFMR), zooplankton ecology (Jenny Huggett, MCM/DEAT), sampling methodology and sample analysis (Hans Verheye, MCM/DEAT), copepod morphology, using keys, and copepod dissection and observation (Janet Bradford-Grieve). Material used for analysis included samples collected from the 3 respective countries.

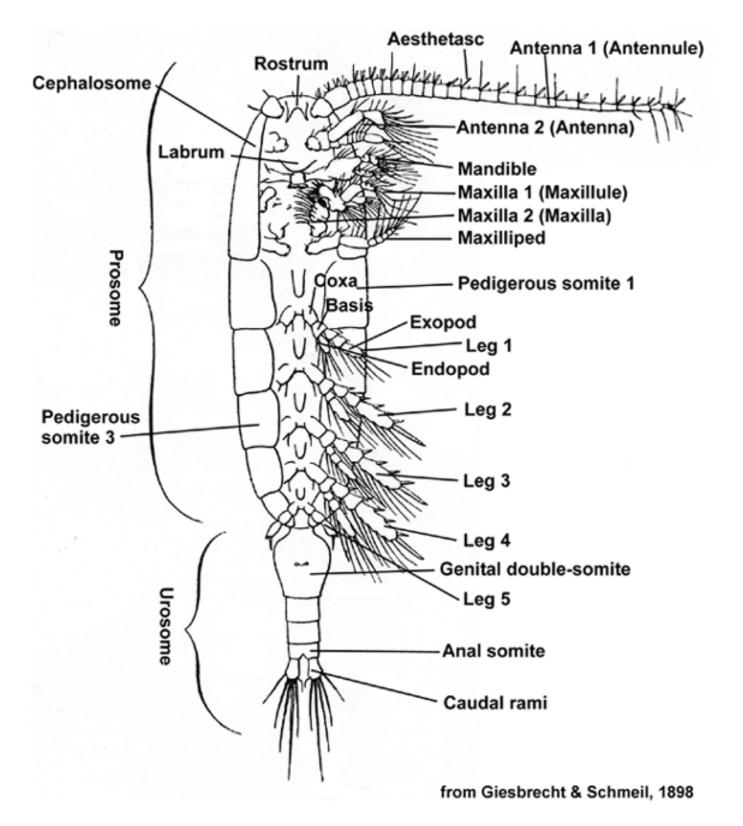
This guide to common copepods was compiled during the workshop as an informal and useful take-home tool for the participants. It highlights some of the key features used to distinguish some of the more abundant copepod genera and species in the region, drawing on a number of more comprehensive references listed at the end of this guide. It is by no means comprehensive and is intended to serve as a basis for further laboratory-based learning in each BCLME country. It is also envisioned as the first in a series of identification guides to other taxa examined during the workshop, including euphausiids, amphipods and chaetognaths, and important taxa not covered during the workshop, such as gelatinous zooplankton (jellyfish, ctenophores, appendicularians, salps, doliolids).

Course Convenors: Hans M. Verheye (MCM/DEAT) and Anja Kreiner (NatMIRC/MFMR)

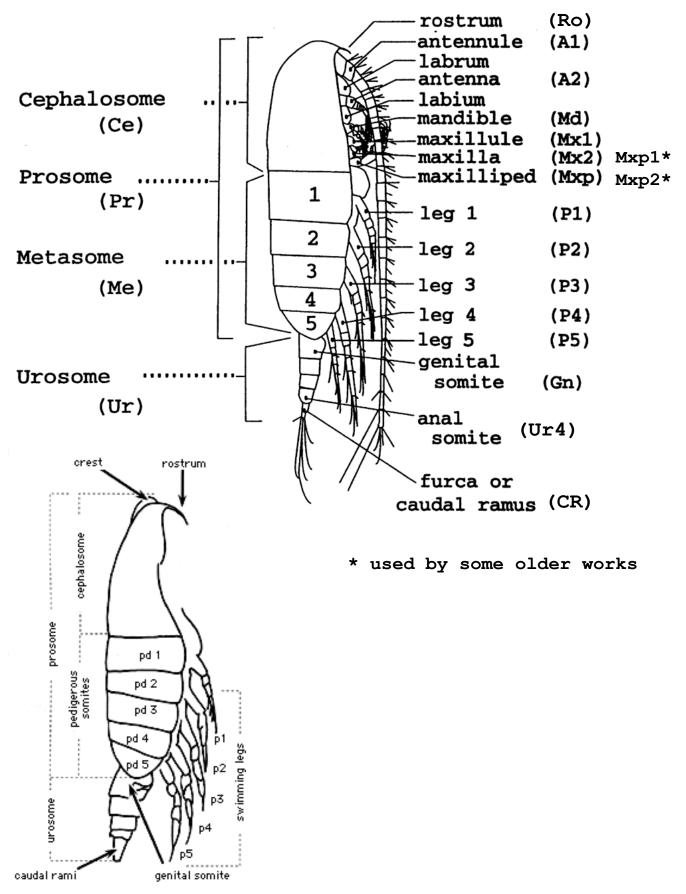
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Copepod form - ventral view



Copepod form – lateral view



Calanoid mouthparts

Antennule (A1)

Antenna (A2)

exopodite 3

exopodite 2 Exp2

exopodite 1

C

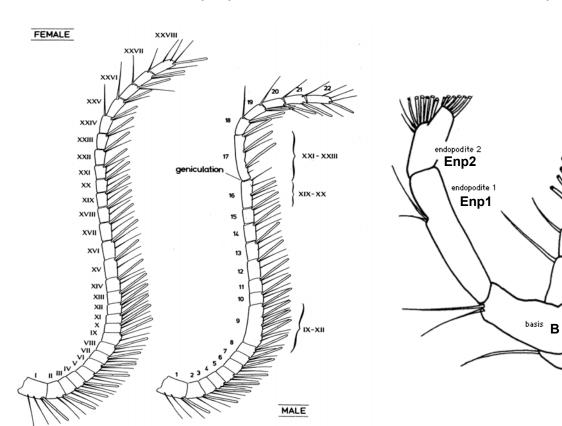
coxa

Exp3

Exp1

A2

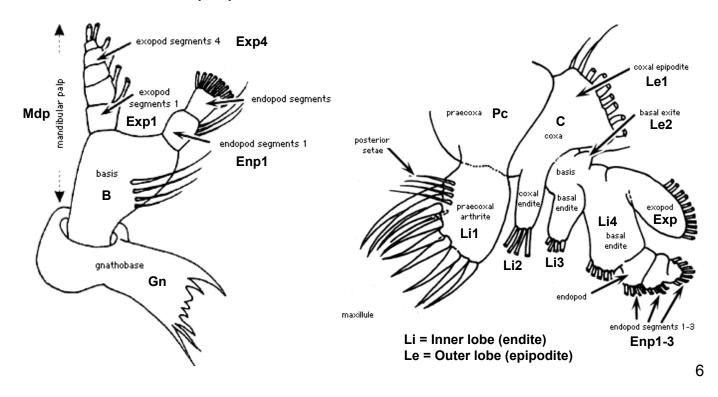
antenna



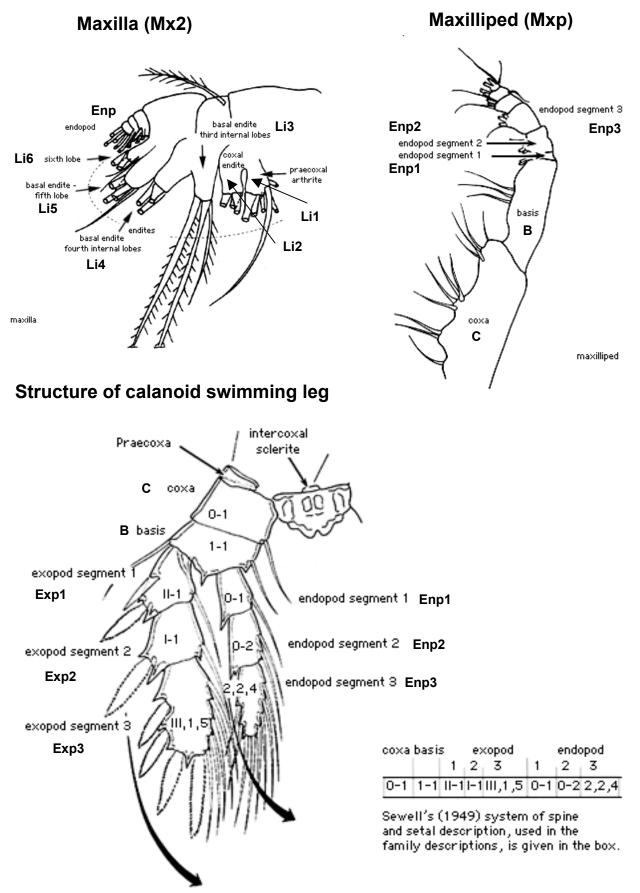
Maximum 28 segments in female A1

Mandible (Md)

Maxillule (Mx1)

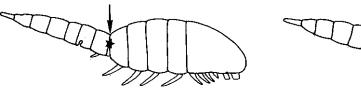


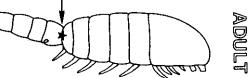
Calanoid mouthparts and swimming leg



Structure of calanoid swimming leg. Basic copepod swimming leg, showing the maximum setation of a second leg.

Major body articulation

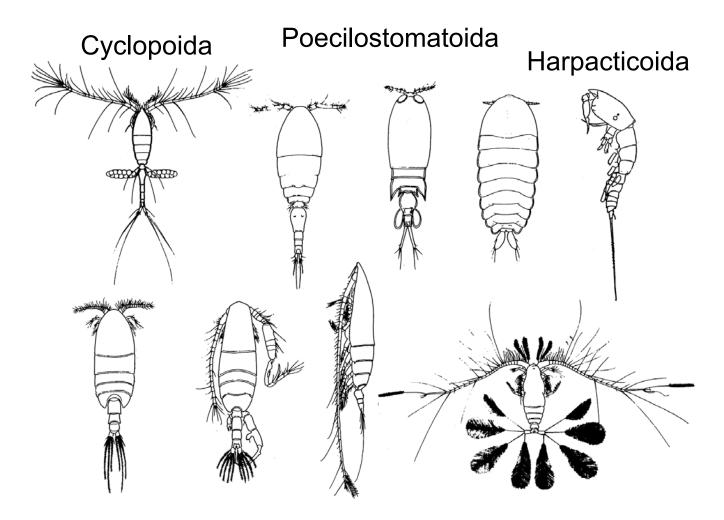




PODOPLEAN COPEPODS

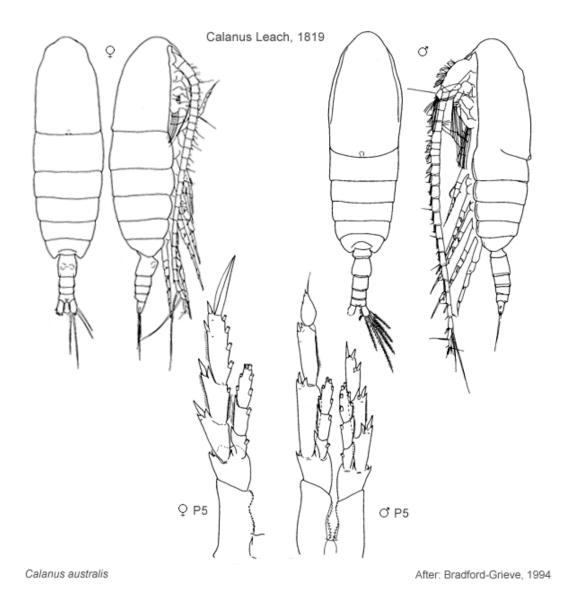
Cyclopoida Harpacticoida Poecilostomatoida

GYMNOPLEAN COPEPODS Calanoida



Calanoida

Calanoida: Family Calanidae



Family Calanidae

Genera: Calanoides, Calanus, Canthocalanus, Cosmocalanus, Mesocalanus, Nannocalanus, Neocalanus, Undinula

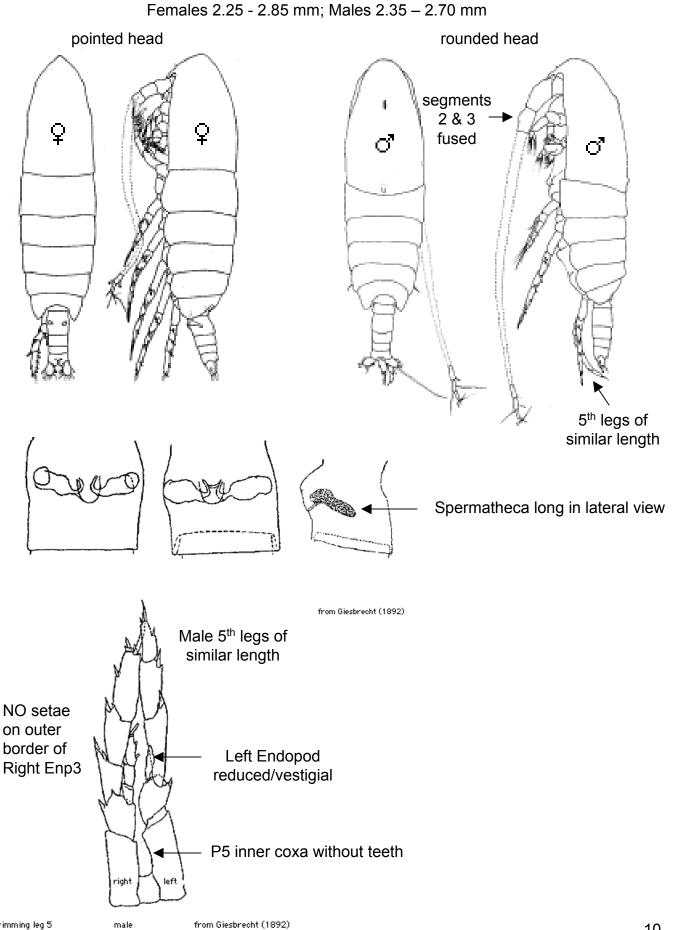
Females:

Ce and Pd 1 may be fused or separate. Pd4 and 5 always separate. Ur 4-segmented. P5 similar to P2-4. P5 Coxa with inner edge teeth in *Calanus*, *Nannocalanus* and *Cosmocalanus*.

Males:

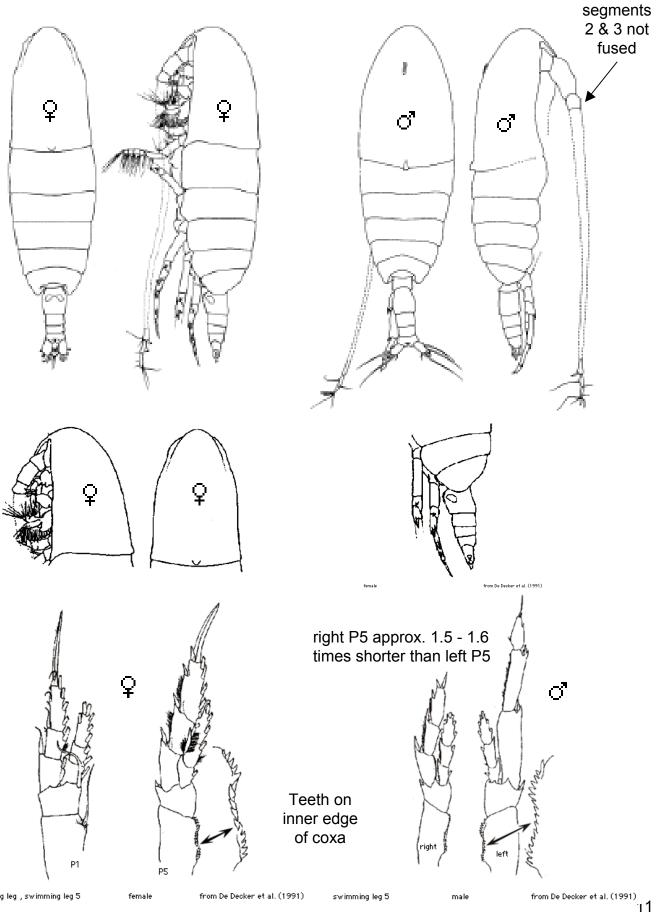
Ur 5-segmented. P1-4 as in female. P5 with both rami usually 3-segmented, right leg similar to other P, left leg variously modified. Enp sometimes reduced and devoid of setae on one or both sides.

Calanoides cf. carinatus



Calanus agulhensis

Females 2.45 - 2.95 mm; Males 2.74 - 3.00 mm

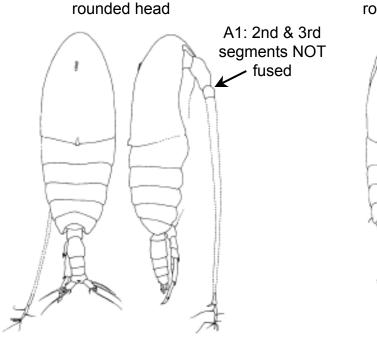


Calanus agulhensis males vs. Calanoides cf carinatus males

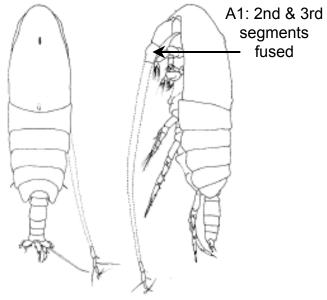
- TL = 2.72 mm West Coast of SA
- TL = 2.55 mm Agulhas Bank (SA)

TL = 2.16 mm - Agulhas Bank (SA) TL = 2.42 mm (2.08-2.60) - Ivory Coast TL = 2.3 mm (2.2-2.5) – Conway et al. 2006

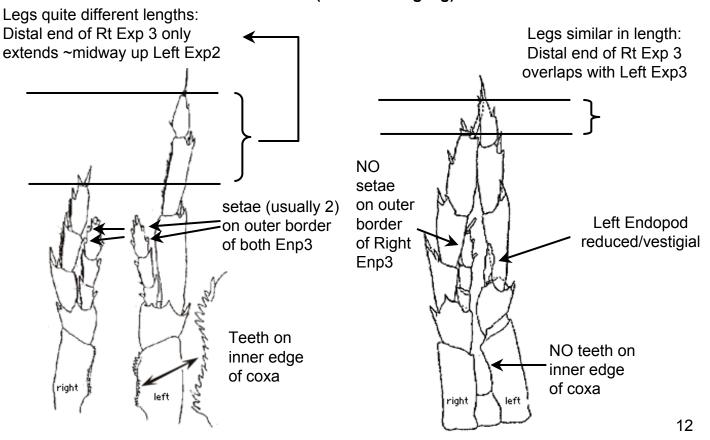
Calanus is usually bigger than Calanoides, but there is a size overlap, so length not definitive



rounded head, not pointed as in female

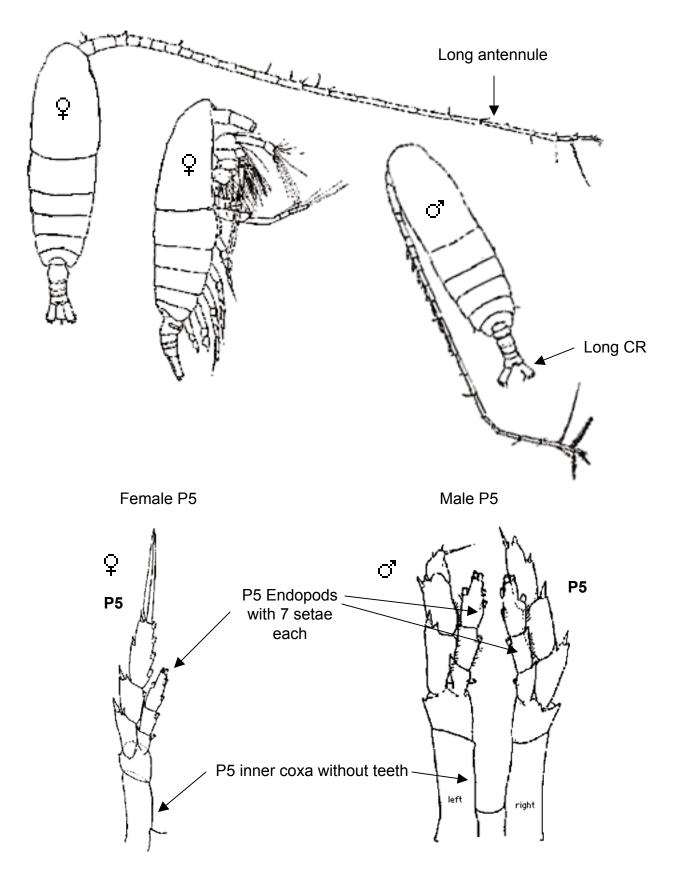


Male P5 (5th swimming leg)



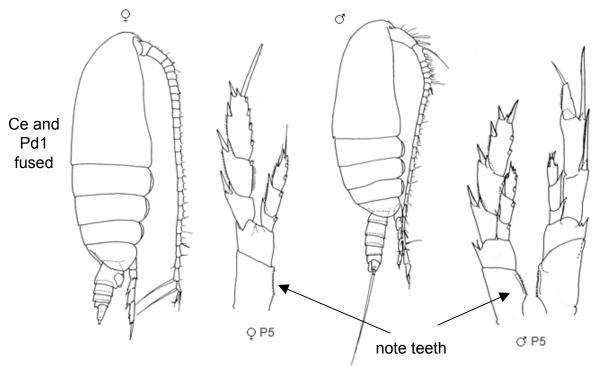
Mesocalanus tenuicornis

Females 1.80 - 2.40 mm; Males 1.70 - 2.20 mm



Nannocalanus minor

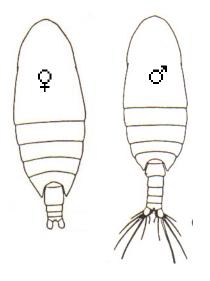
Females 1.80 - 2.25 mm; Males 1.20 - 1.80 mm



Nannocalanus minor

After: Bradford-Grieve, 1994

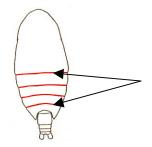
In dorsal view, note that posterior margin of metasome extends into two points, giving it a "notched" look



As with *Calanus*, the inner sides of the coxa on the 5th swimming legs (both male and female) are lined with small teeth.

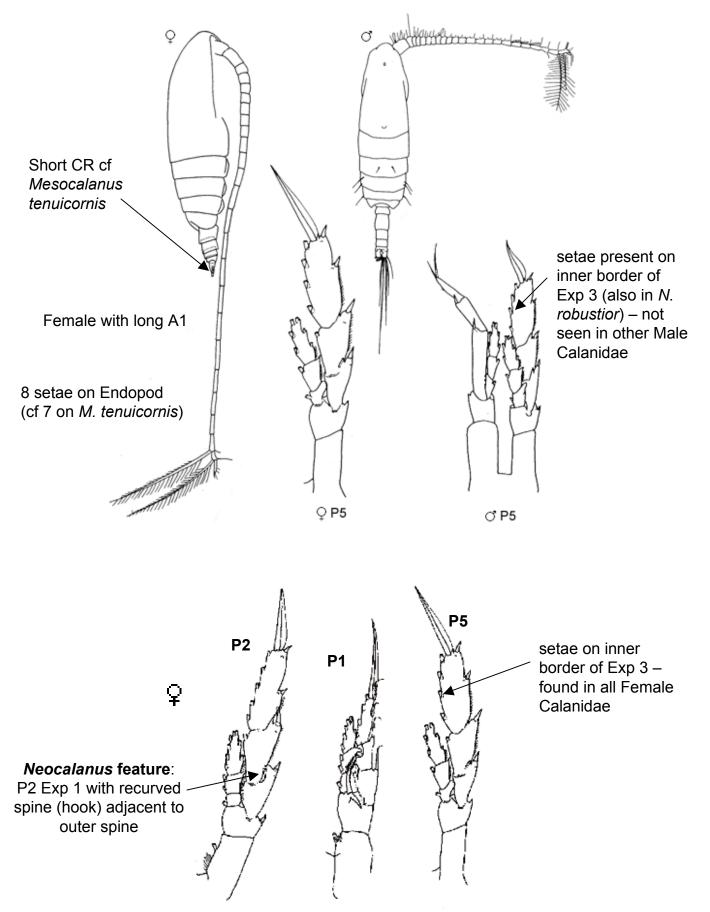


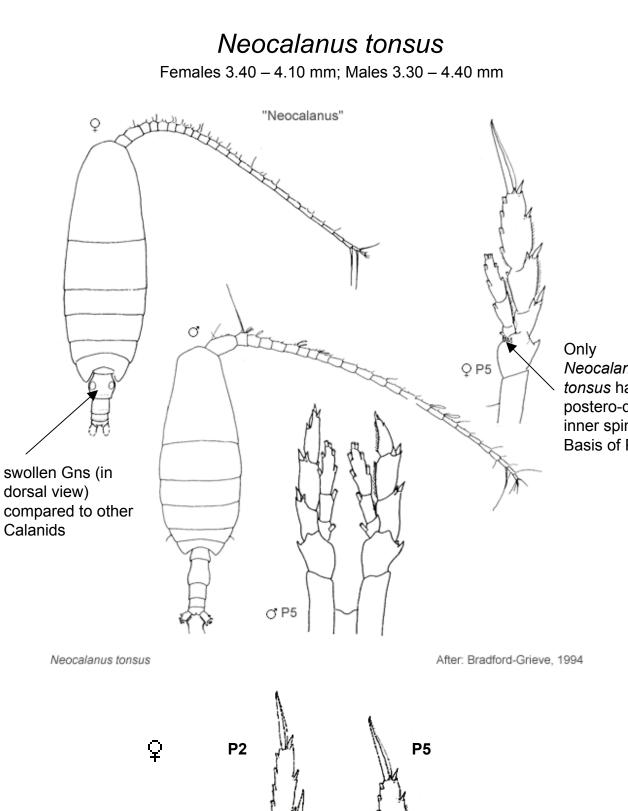
Additional note: Margins of segments on prosome often have red colouration.



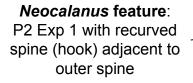
Neocalanus gracilis

Females 2.43 – 4.00 mm; Males 2.30 – 3.10 mm

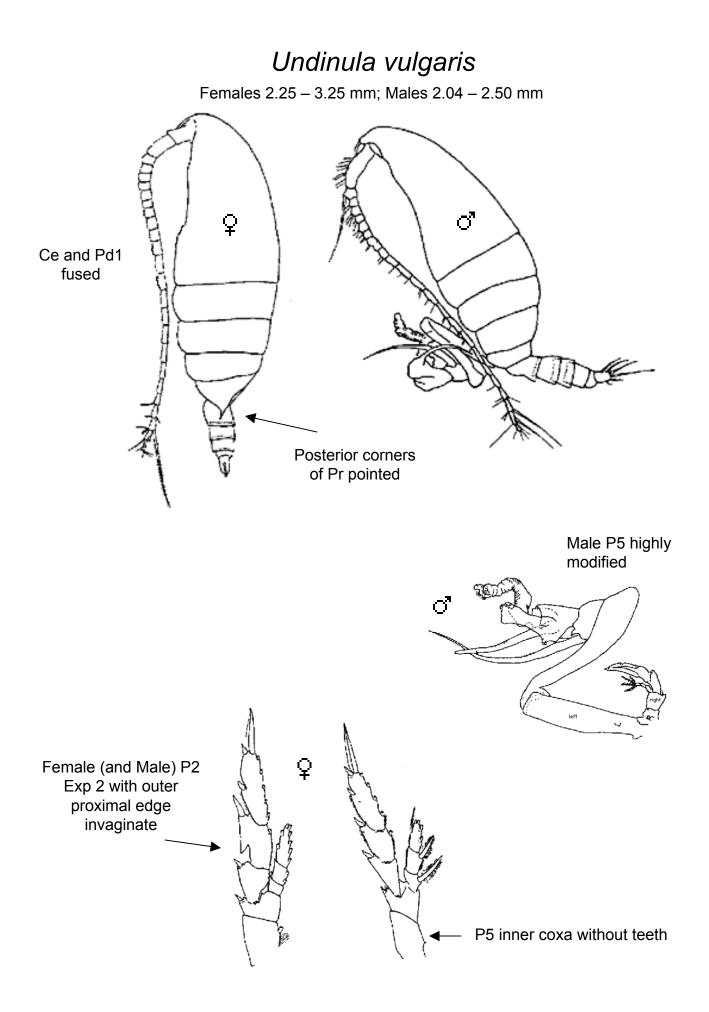




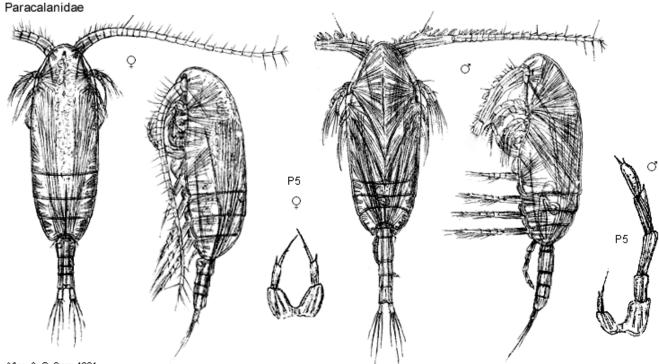
Neocalanus tonsus has postero-distal inner spines on Basis of P2-4







Calanoida: Family Paracalanidae



After: G. O. Sars, 1901

Family Paracalanidae

Genera: *Acrocalanus, Bestiolina* (not recorded in the South Atlantic), *Calocalanus, Delius, Paracalanus, Parvocalanus*

Females:

Ce and Pd 1 usually fused. Pd4 and 5 fused or separate. Ur 2-4-segmented. Anal somite usually longer than any somite between it and Gns. R of 2 filaments (*Acrocalanus, Calocalanus, Paracalanus*); 2-pointed, solid (*Delius*); or massive (*Parvocalanus*). P5 uniramous, absent or vestigial (*Acrocalanus*), present on left only (*Delius*). If both P5 present then symmetrical, 2segmented (or 3-segmented) (*Paracalanus, Parvocalanus*) or 3-4-segmented (*Calocalanus*).

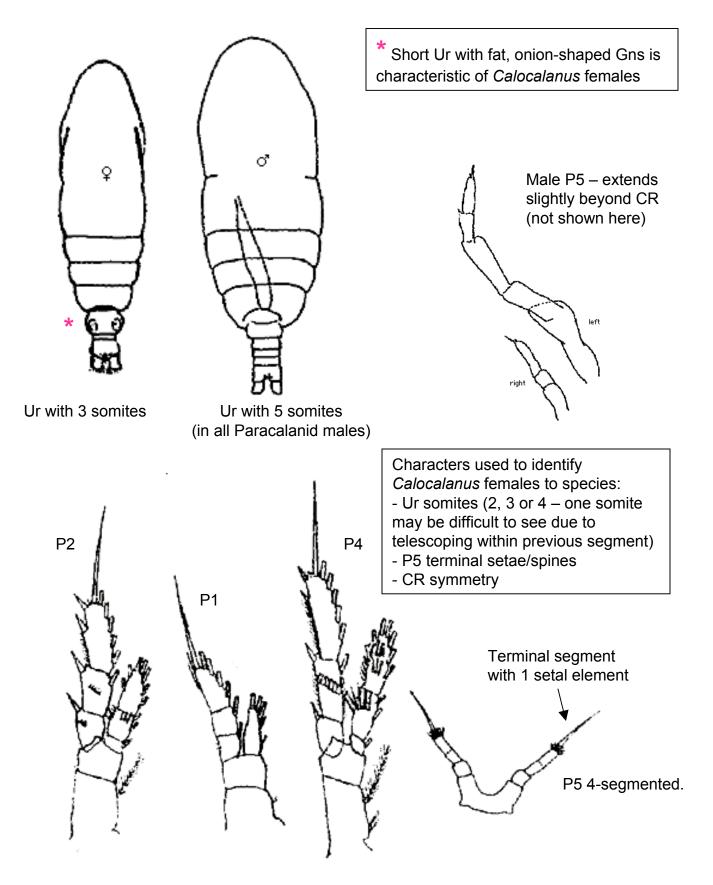
Males:

A2 terminal Exp(7) very short and without 3 terminal setae (as seen in females). Ur 5-segmented. Cephalic hump present (*Acrocalanus*, *Paracalanus*) or absent. Right P5 may be absent (*Acrocalanus, Delius*), or present as 2-3-segmented (*Paracalanus, Parvocalanus*), or 3-4-segmented (*Calocalanus*).

Calocalanus Female P5 3-4-segmented Male Right P5 4-segmented

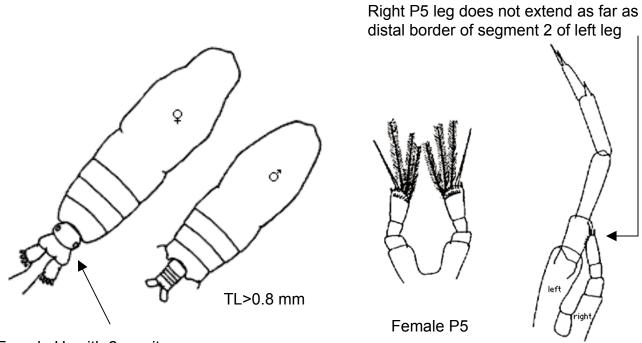
Calocalanus namibiensis

Females 0.66 - 0.70 mm; Males 0.50 - 0.52 mm



Calocalanus pavo

Females 0.88 - 1.20 mm; Males 0.91 - 1.04 mm

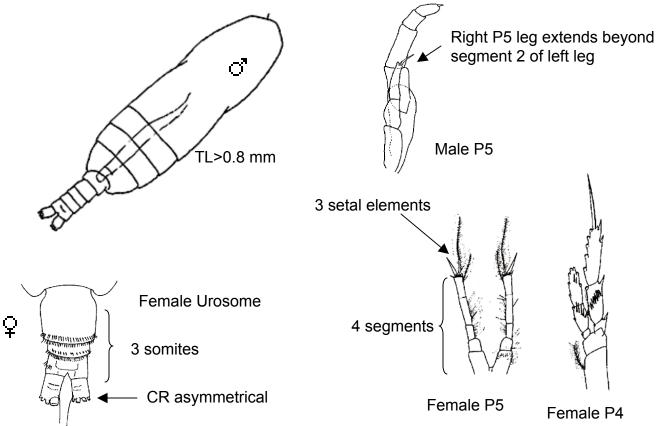


Female Ur with 2 somites

Male P5

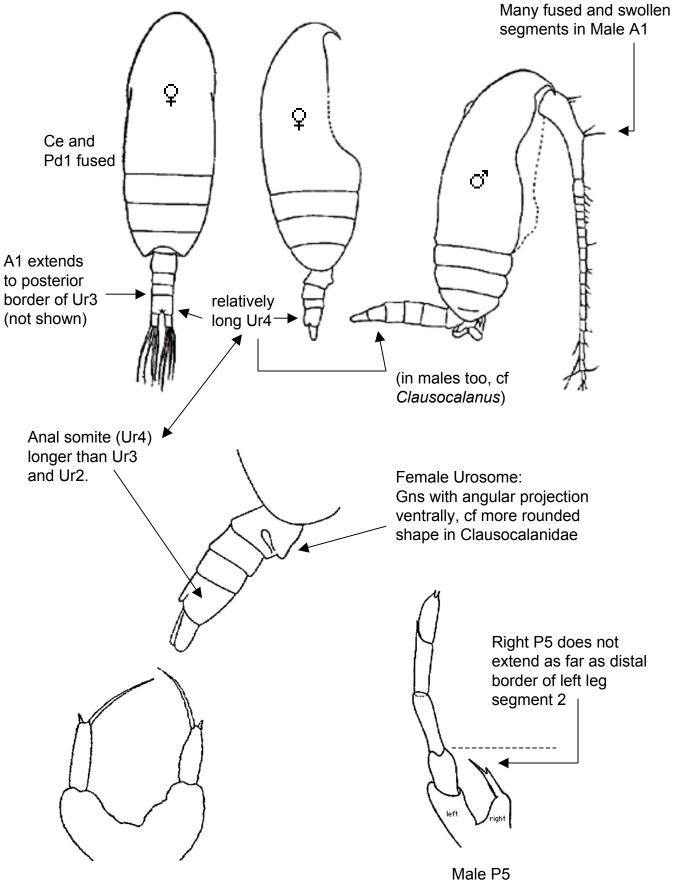
Calocalanus plumulosus

Females 0.93 - 1.20 mm; Males 0.83 - 0.90 mm



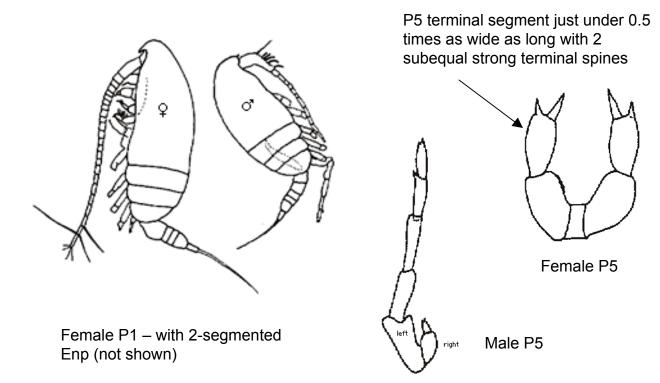
Paracalanus parvus

Females 0.70 - 1.30 mm; Males 0.74 - 1.40 mm



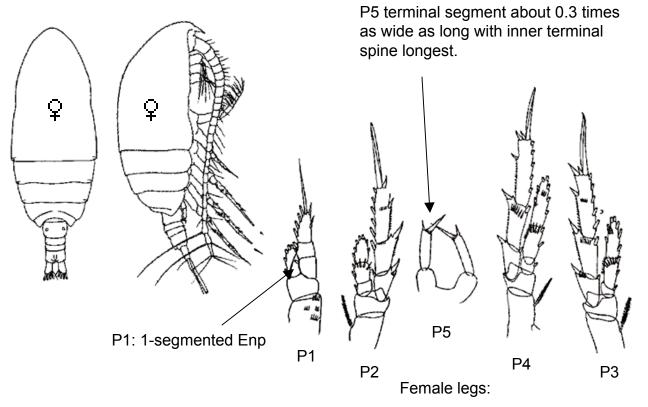
Parvocalanus crassirostris

Females 0.47 - 0.55 mm; Males 0.35 - 0.39 mm



Parvocalanus scotti

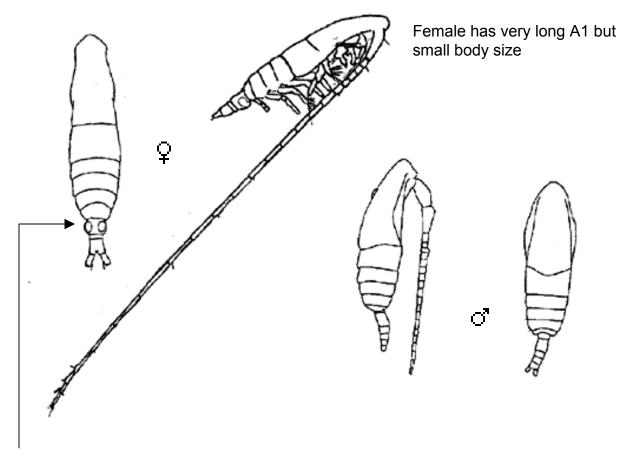
Females 0.64 - 0.67 mm; Males unknown



Calanoida: Family Mecynoceridae

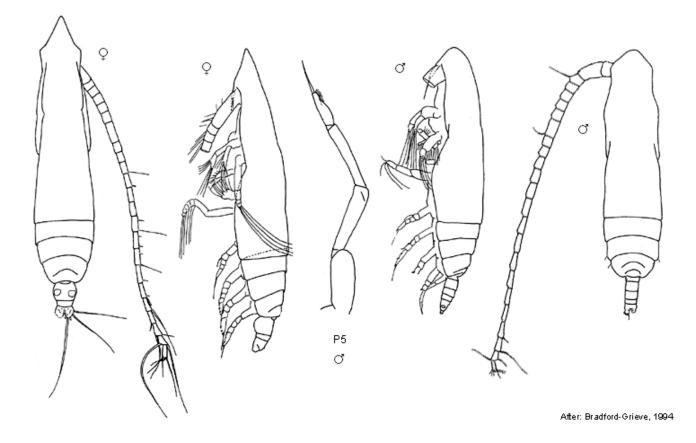
Mecynocera clausi

Females 0.92 - 1.21 mm; Males 0.94 - 1.12 mm



Female has globular Gns with obvious spermathecae

Calanoida: Family Eucalanidae



Family Eucalanidae

Large copepods with elongated and transparent bodies. In dorsal view, most have a typical triangular anterior cephalosome.

Genera: Eucalanus, Pareucalanus, Subeucalanus, Rhincalanus

Females:

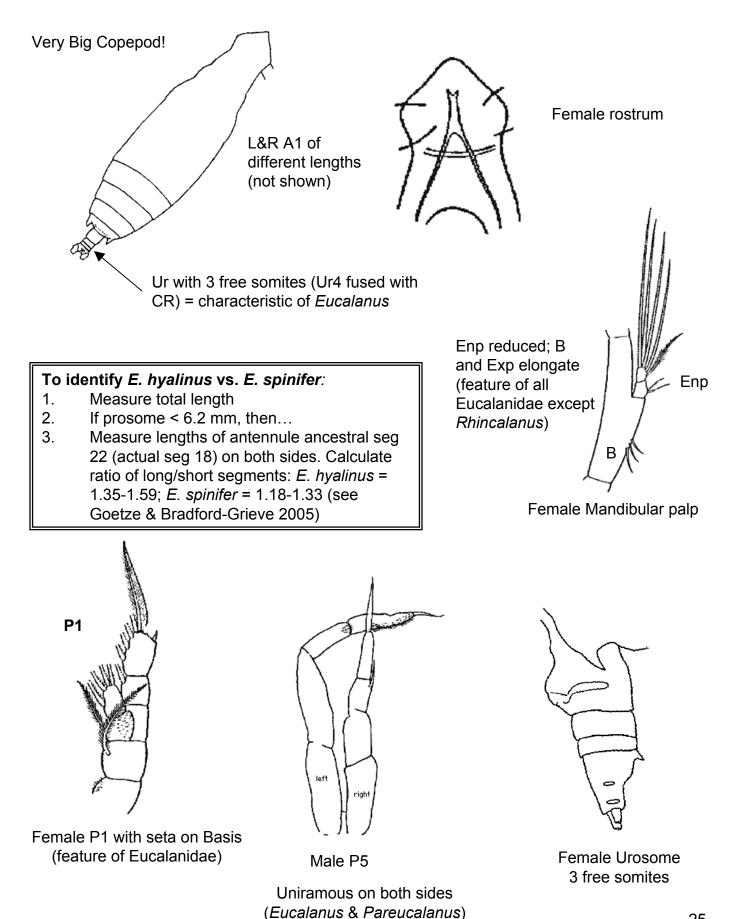
Ce & Pd1 fused; Pd4 & 5 partially fused. Urosome very short, 3- or 4segmented. Genital segment usually broad. CR usually fused to anal somite. P5 absent in *Eucalanus*, *Pareucalanus* & *Subeucalanus*. P5 with 3 segments in *Rhincalanus*

Males:

Ur 5-segmented. CR usually fused to anal somite. P5 uniramous both sides (*Eucalanus*, *Pareucalanus*), biramous on left (*Rhincalanus*) or absent on right (*Subeucalanus*).

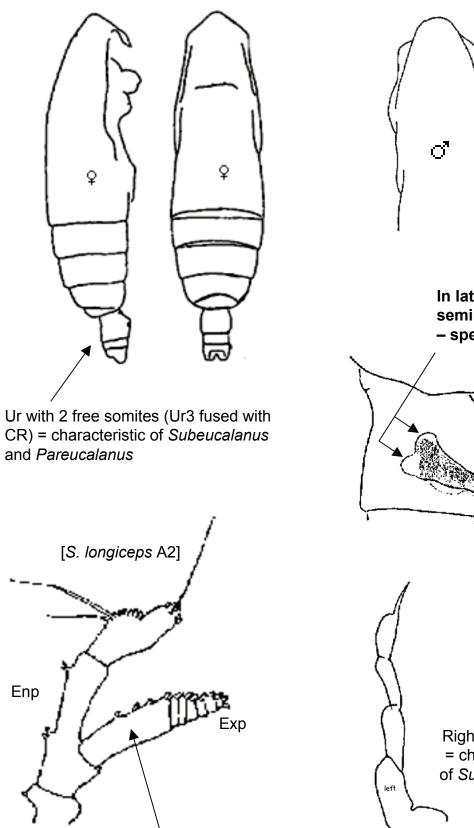
Eucalanus hyalinus s.l.

Females 5.10 - 7.10 mm; Males 4.70 - 6.25 mm

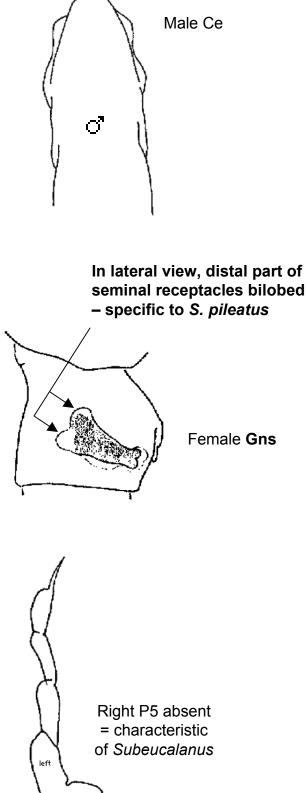


Subeucalanus pileatus

Females 1.95 - 2.50 mm; Males 1.80 - 2.25 mm

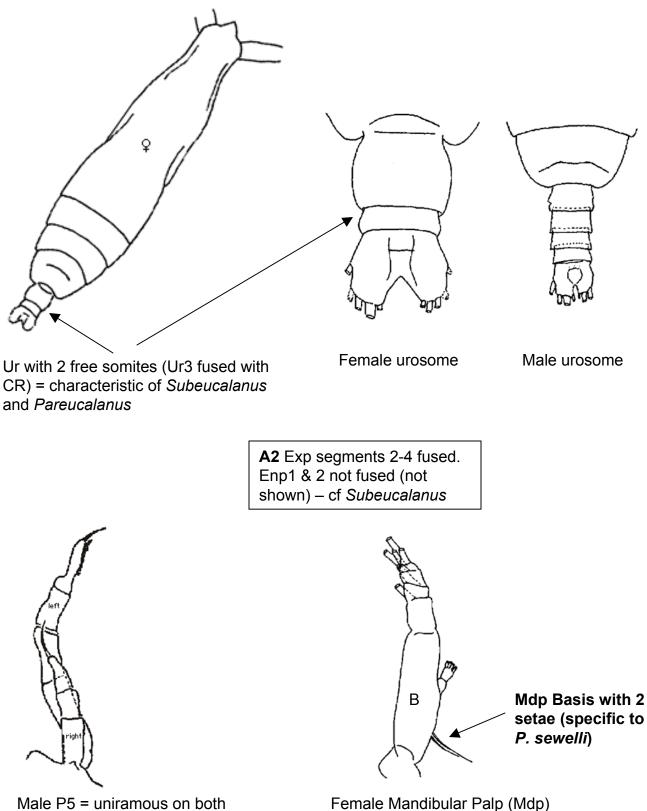


A2 Exp segments 1-4 fused. (Fusion of Exp1 & 2 = characteristic of *Subeucalanus*)



Pareucalanus sewelli

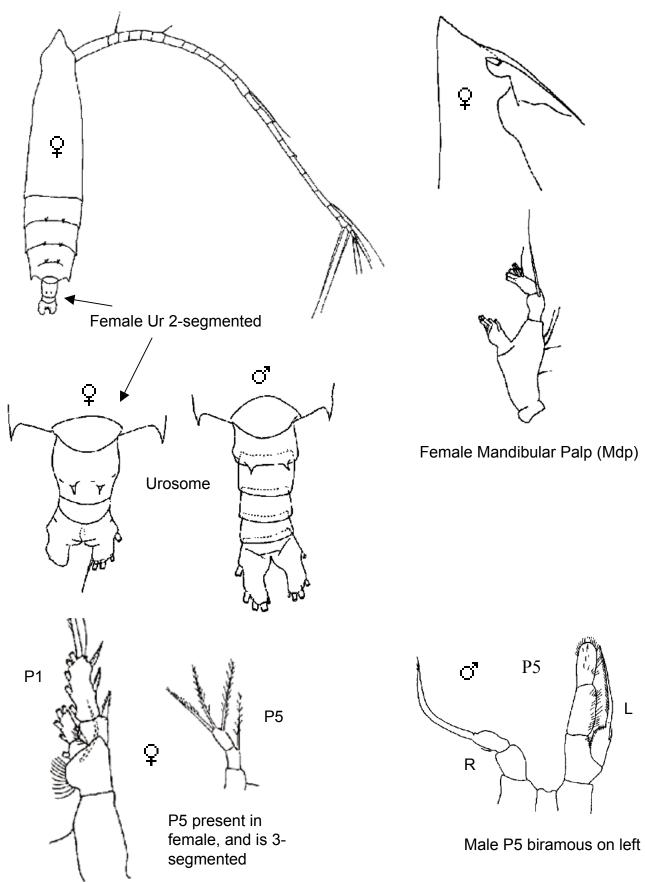
Females 3.86 - 6.10 mm; Males 2.89 - 4.58 mm



Male P5 = uniramous on both sides (also in *Eucalanus*). Right P5 is 3-segmented.

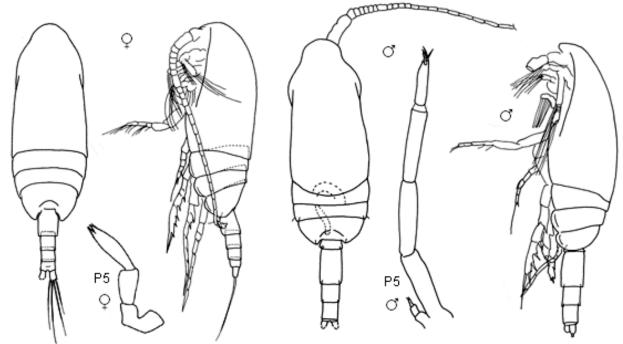
Rhincalanus nasutus

Females 3.90 - 5.30 mm; Males 2.70 - 4.30 mm



Calanoida: Family Clausocalanidae

Clausocalanidae



After: Bradford-Grieve, 1994

Family Clausocalanidae

Anal segment usually short relative to Gns, sometimes telescoped inside previous segment in the males. At least 6 genera, with *Clausocalanus, Ctenocalanus, Drepanopus* and *Farrania* found in the South Atlantic. *Microcalanus, Pseudocalanus* and *Spicipes* not yet recorded in S. Atlantic. The genus *Clausocalanus* was revised by Frost & Fleminger (1968).

Clausocalanus:

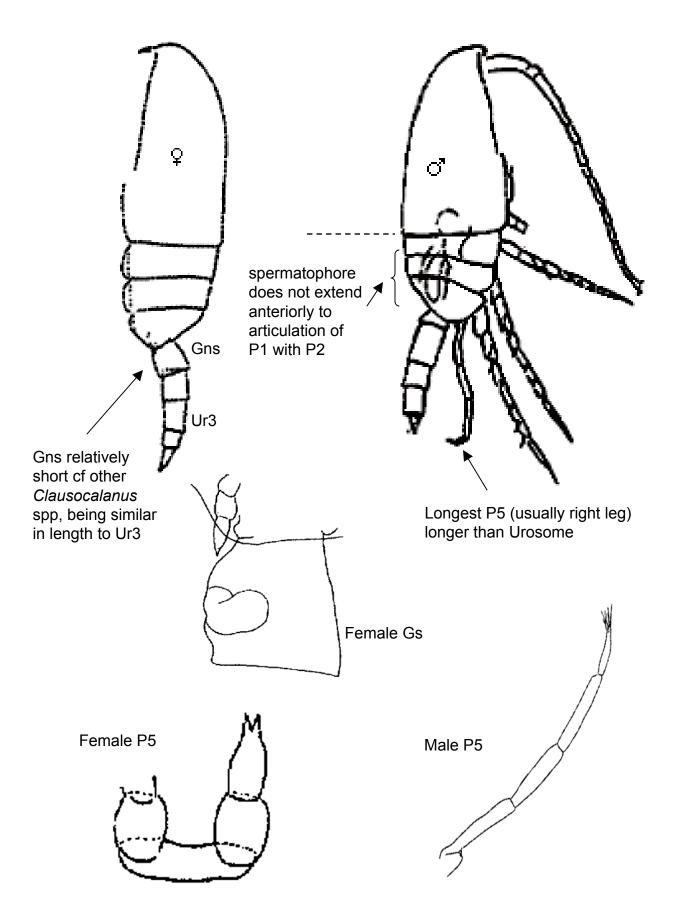
Females: P5 uniramous on both sides, symmetrical, 3-segmented terminally produced into short bifid pointed processes. Males: P5 present on both sides, but unequal in length, uniramous. Longer leg nearly always on left, 5-segmented; shorter leg 3-segmented, less than half length of Coxa of other leg.

Ctenocalanus:

Females: P5 consisting of very small appendage, developed only on the left and of 2-4 segments. Males: P5 as in *Clausocalanus*.

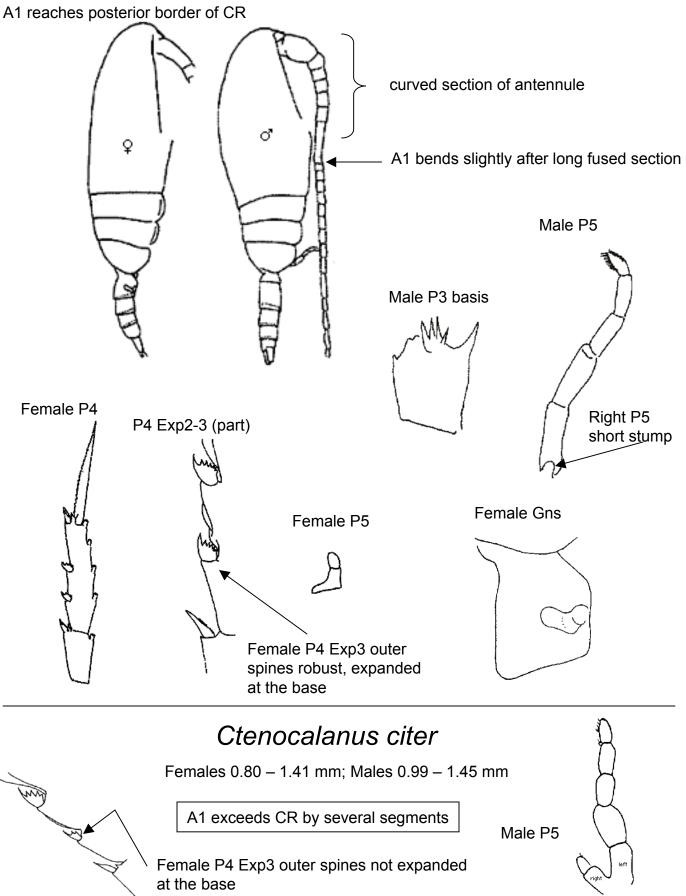
Clausocalanus furcatus

Females 0.94 - 1.31 mm; Males 0.70 - 0.92 mm



Ctenocalanus vanus

Females 0.92 - 1.16 mm; Males 1.20 - 1.26 mm



Small copepods – P5 comparison

Clausocalanidae

Clausocalanus spp.

Female Ur4 usually relatively **short**. Female: P5 uniramous on both sides, symmetrical, 3-segmented terminally produced into short bifid pointed processes.

Male: Both P5 present, uniramous. Left leg 5-segmented, much longer than 1-3segmented right leg. Right P5 with terminal spinules on distal segment.

Ctenocalanus vanus

Female Ur4 similar in length to Ur3. Female: P5 consisting of very small appendage, developed only on the left and of 2-4 segments.

Male: P5 present on both sides, uniramous. Long leg 5-segmented, right leg short stump lacking spines and spinules.

Paracalanidae

Female Ur4 usually relatively long

Paracalanus parvus

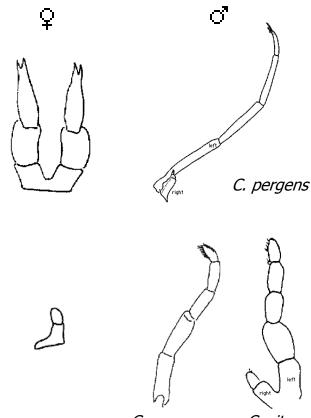
Female: Both P5 developed, symmetrical 2segmented.

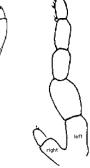
Male: Long 5-segmented left leg. Right P5 2-segmented, does not reach distal border of left leg segment 2

Parvocalanus crassirostris

Female: P5 2-segmented Male: Long 5-segmented left leg. Right P5 2-segmented, does not reach distal border of left leg segment 1

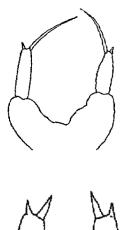
Acrocalanus spp. (not shown) Female: P5 absent or vestigial Male: Right P5 absent, or 1-segmented

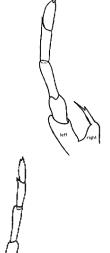




C. vanus

C. citer

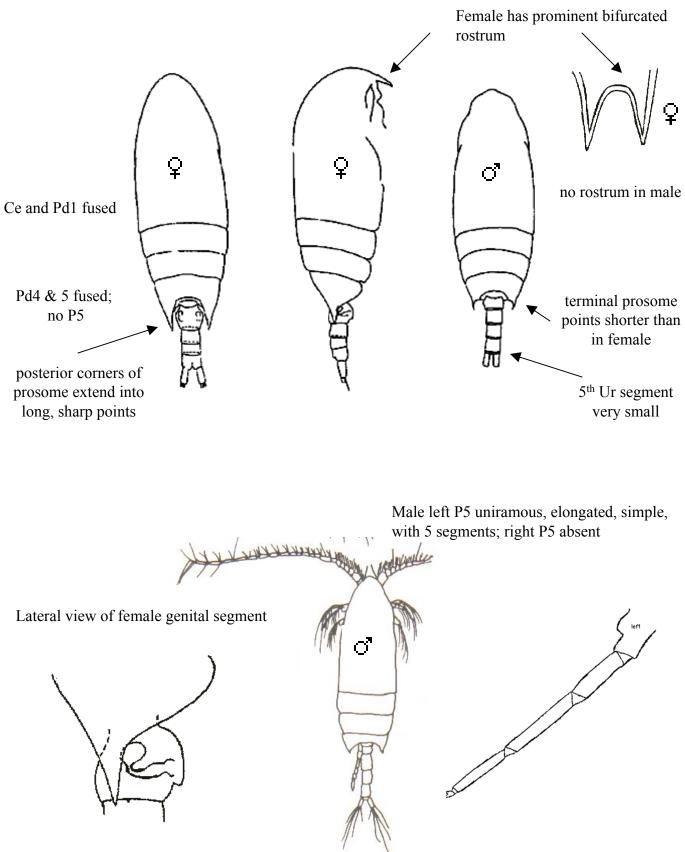




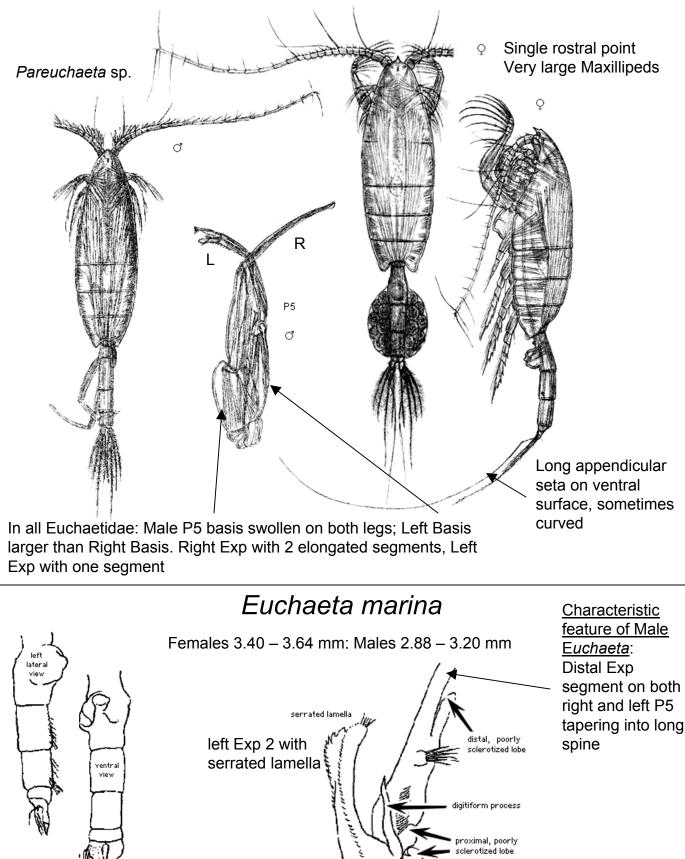
Calanoida: Family Aetideidae

Aetideus armatus

Females 1.60 - 2.00 mm; Males 1.30 - 1.53 mm



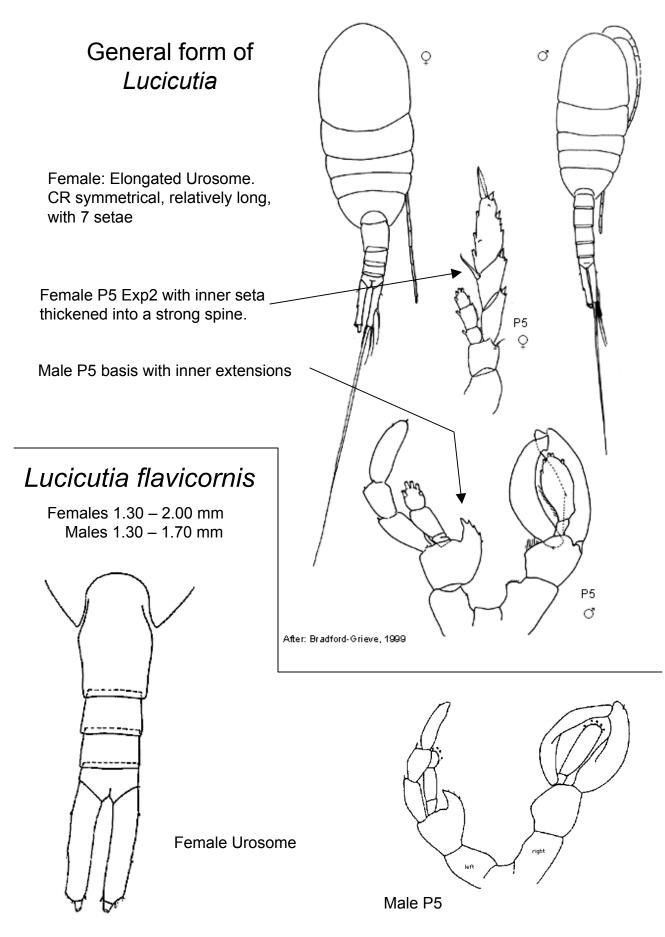
Calanoida: Family Euchaetidae



Female Gns distinctive shape, asymmetrical with rounded protrusion, triangular in dorsal view

Terminal part of Male Left P5

Calanoida: Family Lucicutiidae



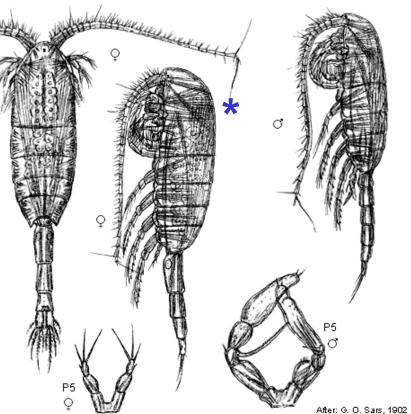
Calanoida: Family Metridinidae

Females:

Ce & Pd1 separate. Ur of 3 somites. Pd1 with dark pigmented spot on one side in Pleuromamma. Enp segment 1 of P2 typically incised and ornamented with 1 or more hook-like spinous processes.

Males:

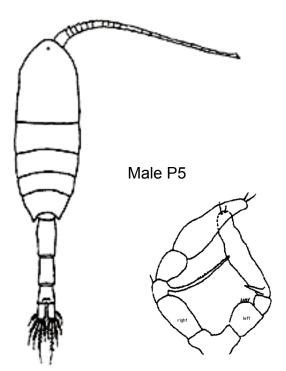
Ur of 5 somites. A1 prehensile on one side only (usually left). P5 asymmetrical. Left P5 Exp 1 with curved inner process, distal segment swollen, often curved or claw-like.



Metridia lucens

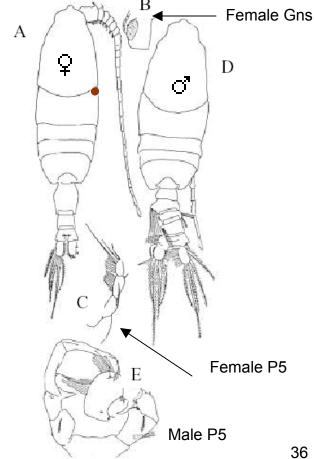
Females 2.39 – 2.93 mm; Males 1.62 – 2.30 mm

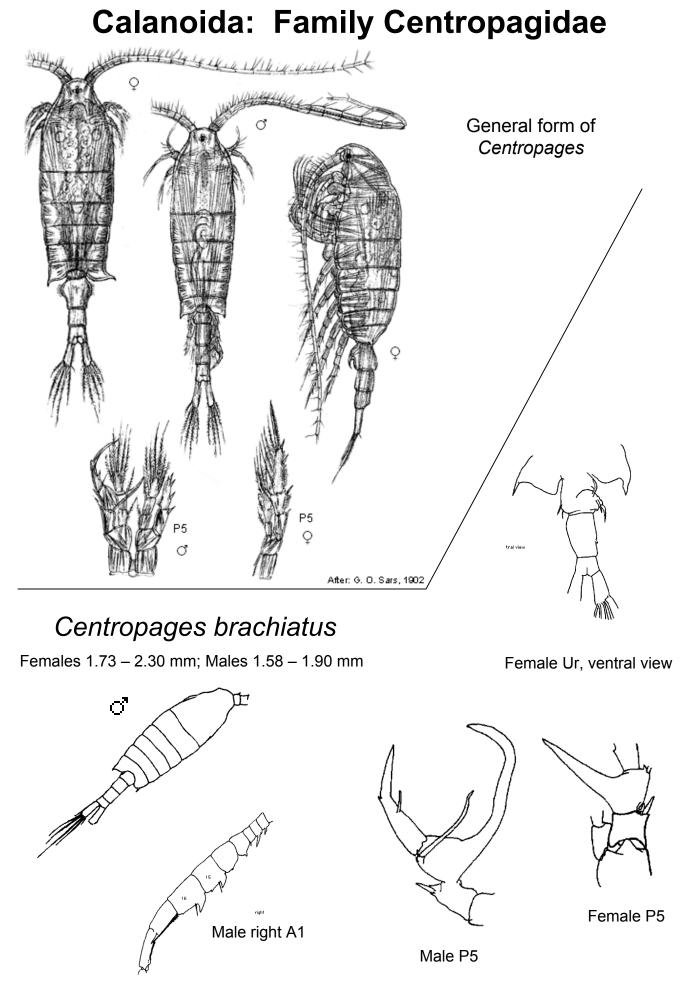
Has distinctive sloping head of Metridia in lateral view. Also distinctive long, narrow Urosome.



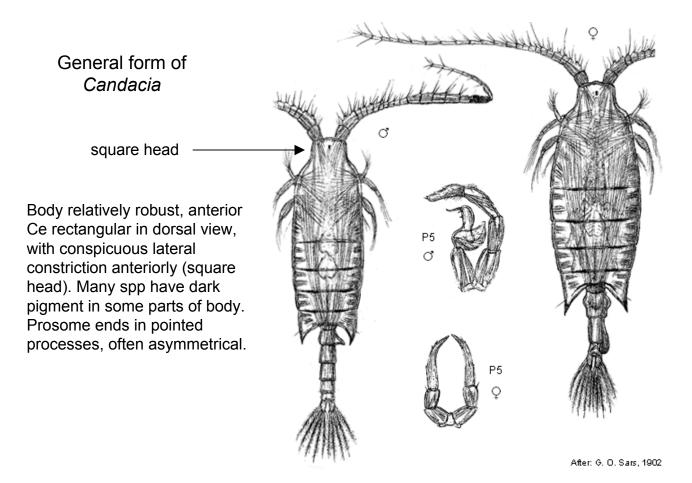
Pleuromamma abdominalis

Females 2.40 - 3.70 mm; Males 2.75 - 3.50 mm



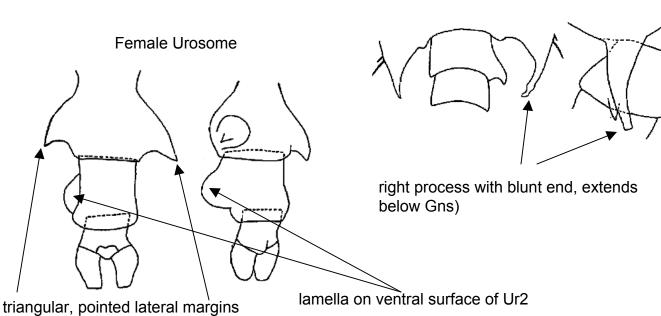


Calanoida: Family Candaciidae



Candacia bipinnata

Females 2.35 - 2.65 mm; Males 2.15 - 2.50 mm

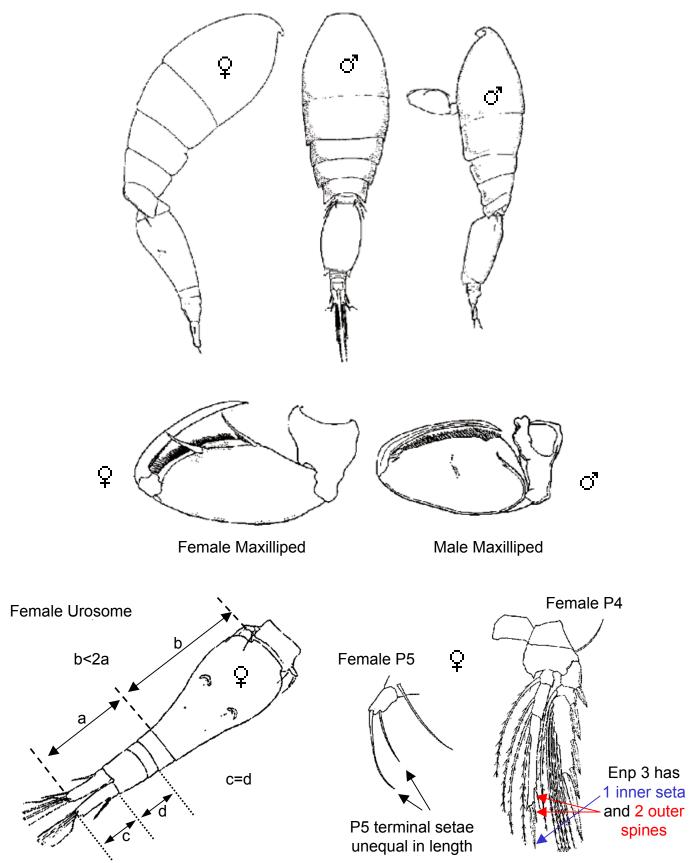


Male Genital segment

Poeicilostomatoida: Family Oncaeidae

Oncaea mediterranea

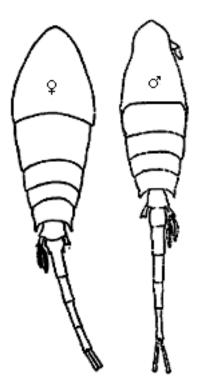
Females 1.14 - 1.26 mm; Males 0.74 - 0.97 mm



Some other Poeicilostomatoida

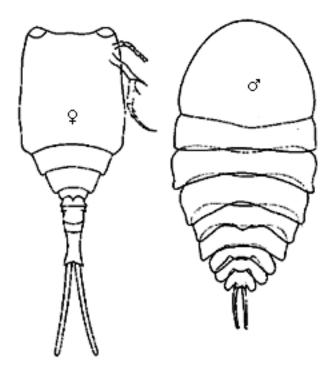
Lubbockia aculeata

Females 2.21 – 2.30 mm; Males 2.35 mm



Copilia hendorffi

Females 3.90 - 5.10 mm; Males 5.50 - 8.30 mm

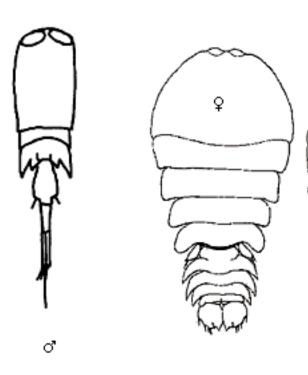


Corycaeus agilis

Q

Sapphirina opalina-darwinii

Females 0.92 – 0.98 mm; Males 0.70 – 0.77 mm Females 2.13 – 4.17 mm; Males 2.42 – 4.36 mm

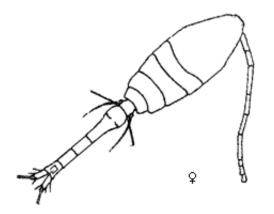


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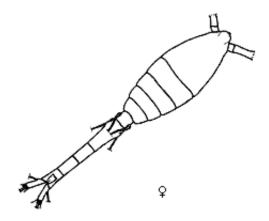
Cyclopoida: Family Oithonidae

Oithona similis

Females 0.68 – 0.96 mm; Males 0.67 – 0.70 mm Females 1.06 – 1.51 mm; Males 0.59 – 0.68 mm



Oithona plumifera

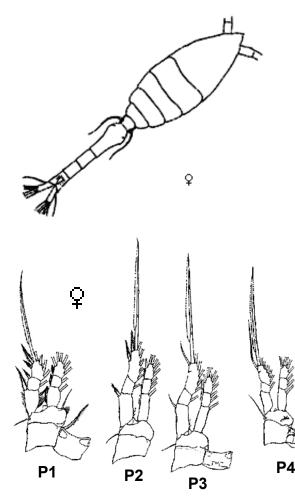


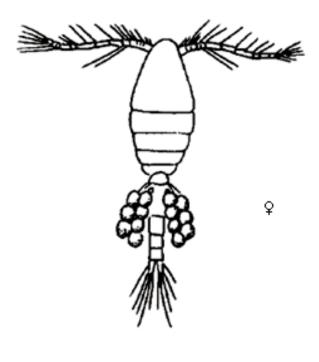
Oithona atlantica

Females 1.00 – 1.43 mm; Males 0.82 mm

Oithona minuta

Females 0.45 - 0.65 mm; Males 0.42 - 0.50 mm





Harpacticoida

Clytemnestra scutellata

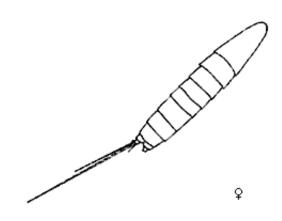
Females 1.00 – 1.24 mm; Males 1.05 – 1.30 mm Females 0.50 – 0.75 mm; Males 0.50 – 0.56 mm



Clytemnestra rostrata



Microsetella norvegica Females 0.35 - 0.53 mm; Males 0.33 - 0.42 mm



Euterpina acutifrons



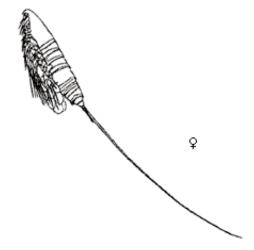
Macrosetella gracilis

Females 0.60 – 1.00 mm; Males 0.80 – 0.90 mm Females 1.40 – 1.50 mm; Males 1.13 – 1.16 mm



Microsetella rosea

Females 0.64 - 0.85 mm; Males unknown?



Glossary

Technical word	English	Portuguese
pedigerous	with legs	com patas
somite	body segment	corpo segmentado
seta(e)	articulated spine or hair- like structure	espinha (pelo) articulado que sai do segmento
truncate	chopped off	truncado
dorsal	top side (back)	dorsal
ventral	underside (tummy)	ventral
anterior	towards/in front	anterior
posterior	towards rear	posterior
ramus (i)	branch	ramificar
biramous	two branches	ramificado em duas partes
distal	away from point of origin	distante
proximal	close to point of origin	proximo
endo-	inside	interior
exo-	outside	exterior
blade	blade (flattened)	lamina
symmetrical	same both sides	simétrico
asymmetrical	not same both sides	assimétrico
vestigial	not well-developed	vestigio
protrusions	things sticking out	saliência do corpo
bifid	divided by a deep cleft into 2 parts	dividido em duas partes com uma fenda no meio
denticle	small tooth-like projection	pequena espinha (pelo)
pectinate	toothed like a comb	saliências tipo serra

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