

# Marine Fisheries Information Service



Technical and  
Extension Series

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## First record of crangonid shrimp *Pontocaris lacazei* from deep sea off Chennai coast

A single female specimen of a rare crangonid shrimp, *Pontocaris lacazei* commonly known as 'hardshell shrimp' was obtained on 26-10-2006 from trawlers which operated off Chennai in the depth range of 150-200m.

The specimen measured 36mm in total length and 12mm in carapace length. The salient morphological characters observed are: rostrum

rounded; three rows of spines on carapace; 4 spines on lateral border of carapace; first and second abdominal segments with sharp ridge ending in a spine anteriorly; third and fourth segments with a sharp ridge; fifth and sixth segments with two ridges; telson pointed, a little shorter than uropods. This is first record of the species from Chennai coast. Earlier it was recorded from Marquesas (French Polynesia) from a depth of 300 metres.

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