

Male abdomen with ultimate segment triangular, a little broader than long, with bluntly rounded apex; penultimate segment with strongly convex lateral margins, length a little more than half greatest width; segments one to five with a distinct transverse ridge across middle of segment, ridges on second and third segments edged proximally with a dense fringe of hairs, penultimate segment with incomplete transverse ridge in midline only; third segment with a rather distinct, low, rounded boss on each side of midline distal to transverse ridge. Surface of abdomen, sternum and ventral surface of body and appendages in general covered with a very short, fine, pale tomentum.

First pleopod of male stout proximally, bent outwards almost at a right angle $\frac{1}{3}$ length from tip, strongly curved laterally, distally tapering, blunt; distal section twisted spirally so that the shallow groove runs across abdominal surface proximally and curves across lateral surface to become sternal on bent distal portion; a broad band of closely spaced spinules extending along lateral surface proximally, passing across sternal surface with twist of distal section to extend along mediolateral surface and to surround terminal part of abdominal surface.

Colour

Carapace and dorsal surface of chelipeds mainly purplish-red with areas of pink iridescence and some regularly patterned paler areas especially on the posterior half of the carapace. Walking legs and ventral surface of body and appendages pale off-white to dirty cream in colour. Fingers of chela not distinctly pigmented. Main areas of iridescence in large specimens are across the front of the carapace from the frontal margin, the orbits and the anterolateral margins as far posteriorly as the protogastric ridges; along each anterolateral margin in an irregular broad band to the level of the fourth tooth; along the anterior side of each epibranchial ridge in a narrow band, and over the entire dorsal surface of the wrist, palm and free finger of each cheliped. Small specimens show less iridescence, have more tomentum on the carapace and have the various structures and ridges of the carapace marked out in dark red.

Measurements

Measurements of the male and female study specimens are given in Table I following the description of *N. antarcticus*.

Remarks

The differences between *N. bennetti* and *N. antarcticus* are discussed following the description of the latter species.

Distribution

Auckland and Campbell Islands, 10–22fms. (Mr E. W. Dawson informs us that there is additional material in the N.Z. Oceanographic Institute collections from a depth of 108fms off the Auckland Ids.). Chatham Rise, east of Banks Peninsula, 140m (Takeda and Miyake, 1969).

Nectocarcinus antarcticus (Jacquinot, 1853) Figs. 1b; 2b, e; 3c, d. Pl. 2.

Portunus antarcticus Jacquinot, in Jacquinot and Lucas, 1853: 51, pl. 5, figs. 1–5.

Nectocarcinus antarcticus; A. Milne Edwards, 1860: 220; 1861: 407. Miers, 1874: 2, pl. 1, fig. 2 (*Portunus antarcticus* in caption); 1876: 30. Hutton, 1879: 340. Filhol, 1886: 383. Hodgson, 1902: 229. Wilson, 1907: 65. Chilton, 1909: 608; 1911: 291. Thomson, 1913: 237. Rathbun, 1918: 3. Thomson and Anderton, 1921: 98, 2 figs. (of zoea). Stephensen, 1927: 293. Chilton and Bennett, 1929: 754. Young, 1929: 151. Powell, 1937: 375, 377, 387. Richardson, 1949: 31, fig. 1. Ralph and Yaldwyn, 1956: 74, fig. 42 (5th leg only). ?Yaldwyn, 1958: 125. Dell, 1960: 5. Stephenson, 1962: 315. Dell, 1963a: 44, fig.; 1963b: 253. Bennett, 1964: 65, fig. 130. ?Inoue, Arai and Abe, 1968: 135, 137.

Localities previously recorded

(Some specimens of *N. bennetti* may be included here as well as *N. antarcticus*.)

NEW ZEALAND: New Zealand (Miers, 1876). 10 miles NW of Cape Maria van Diemen; off Little Barrier Id., 35fms; Colville Channel; The Watchman, Hauraki Gulf (Chilton and Bennett). Waitemata Harb., Auckland; Northcote, Waitemata Harb.; Motuihi Channel, Waitemata Harb.; between Kaipara and New Plymouth (Bennett). Off Stokes Pt., Northcote, 8fms; $\frac{3}{4}$ mile N of Rangitoto beacon, 8fms; of NE coast of Motutapu Id., 9 fms; $\frac{1}{2}$ mile NW of Tiri Tiri wharf, off Whangaparoa Peninsula, 7fms, all Auckland area bottom community dredgings (Powell). Castlecliff; Wellington; Cloudy Bay, Cook Strait, 19fms (Chilton and Bennett). Between Foxton and Wanganui, 50fms (Griffin and Yaldwyn, 1965). Wellington Harb., 3–10fms (Bennett). Cook Strait; E coast of South Island (Filhol). C.I.E. Stas. 1 and 2, Mernoo Bank, Chatham Rise, 60–100fms (Dell, 1960). Lyttelton Harb.; Sumner, Banks Peninsula (Bennett). *Nora Niven* Sta. 30, 18 miles ENE of Oamaru, 35fms; Sta. 26, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$