

These long-legged Prawns (*Nematocarcinus*) are essentially free-swimming forms, that probably pass their lives in mid-water, at an average depth of 1000 fathoms. The largest number of specimens at the largest number of stations have been taken between 500 and 2000 fathoms, while at one station there were fifteen specimens taken at 28 fathoms in the shallow waters of the Arafura Sea. In every instance of their capture the trawl was used, although in some instances the dredge was employed also, and it is probable that they only occasionally come into contact with the sea-bottom, and the greatest depth at which they have been taken is 2150 fathoms off the Celebes Islands, or about two miles from the surface. The second deepest range is south of Japan, at a depth of 1875 fathoms, or about one mile and one-eighth. Off Juan Fernandez in the Pacific, specimens were taken at two stations at an average depth of one mile.

In this genus there are several species which depart from each other in characters apparently so unimportant that it is difficult to fix on any salient points of sufficient importance to determine specific features. Thus *Nematocarcinus longicarpus*, *Nematocarcinus parvidentatus*, *Nematocarcinus paucidentatus*, and *Nematocarcinus serratus* are chiefly determinable by the form and number of the teeth on the rostrum, which bear a relation to one another as to number and position on the upper and lower margin, as shown below:—

<i>Nematocarcinus parvidentatus</i> ,	Japan,	$\frac{24}{0}$
„ <i>paucidentatus</i> ,	Fiji,	$\frac{9}{1}$
„ <i>serratus</i> ,	New Zealand,	$\frac{30}{0}$
„ <i>tenuipes</i> ,	Japan, Admiralty Islands,	$\frac{20}{1}$

Again, if we turn to another group which is remarkable for having a long rostrum, and for being larger when adult, we find that the external variations are but small and apparently unimportant beyond the numerical value of the teeth on the rostrum, which may be tabulated as follows:—

<i>Nematocarcinus altus</i> ,	Philippines,	$\frac{15}{2}$
„ <i>lanceopes</i> ,	Antarctic,	$\frac{26}{8}$
„ <i>longirostris</i> ,	Japan,	$\frac{40}{5}$
„ <i>proximatus</i> ,	Marion Island, Valparaiso, Arafura Sea, Japan,	$\frac{34}{1}$

These four species have been taken at very distant localities. *Nematocarcinus longirostris* was found only on the south coast of Japan, *Nematocarcinus altus* only near the island of Celebes, and *Nematocarcinus proximatus* at two stations off the western