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**A review of the western Pacific species of the crangonid genus
Metacrangon Zarenkov, 1965 (Decapoda: Caridea),
with descriptions of seven new species**

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Abstract

A review of species of the crangonid genus *Metacrangon* Zarenkov, 1965 (Decapoda: Caridea) from the Northwest and tropical Southwest Pacific Ocean is presented. Twenty-one species, including seven new to science, are recognized: *M. asiaticus* (Kobjakova, 1955) from the Kuril Islands and Komandor Islands; *M. bythos* n. sp. from Japan; *M. clevai* n. sp. from the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu; *M. cornuta* Komai & Komatsu, 2009 from Japan; *M. holthuisi* Komai, 2010 from Japan; *M. karubar* n. sp. from Indonesia to Solomon Islands; *M. laevis* (Yokoya, 1933) from northern Japan and the Russian Far East; *M. longirostris* (Yokoya, 1933) from Japan; *M. miyakei* Kim, 2005 from Japan; *M. monodon* (Birshtein & Vinogradov, 1951) from the North Kuril Islands; *M. nipponensis* (Yokoya, 1933) from Japan; *M. obliqua* n. sp. from Japan; *M. ochotensis* (Kobjakova, 1955) from the South Kuril Islands; *M. proxima* Kim, 2005 from Japan; *M. punctata* n. sp. from Indonesia, Solomon Islands and New Caledonia; *M. robusta* (Kobjakova, 1935) from the Sea of Japan and the Sea of Okhotsk; *M. similis* Komai, 1997 from Japan; *M. sinensis* Fujino & Miyake, 1970 from the northern part of the East China Sea; *M. trigonostrois* (Yokoya, 1933) from Japan; *M. tropis* n. sp. from Japan; and *M. tsugaruensis* n. sp. from Japan. These species are classified into two informal species groups. The new species are fully described and illustrated. Some previously known species, for which detailed descriptions along modern standards are deemed necessary, are re-described. *Metacrangon asiaticus* is elevated from a subspecies of *M. variabilis* to full species status. A key to aid in the identification of the western Pacific species is provided. Bathymetrical and geographical distributions of the treated species are summarized. It is strongly suggested that each species is highly localized. The species richness is highest in waters around the Japanese Archipelago (17 of the 41 known species occur in the areas).

Key words: Crangonidae, Decapoda, *Metacrangon*, taxonomic review, new species, western Pacific