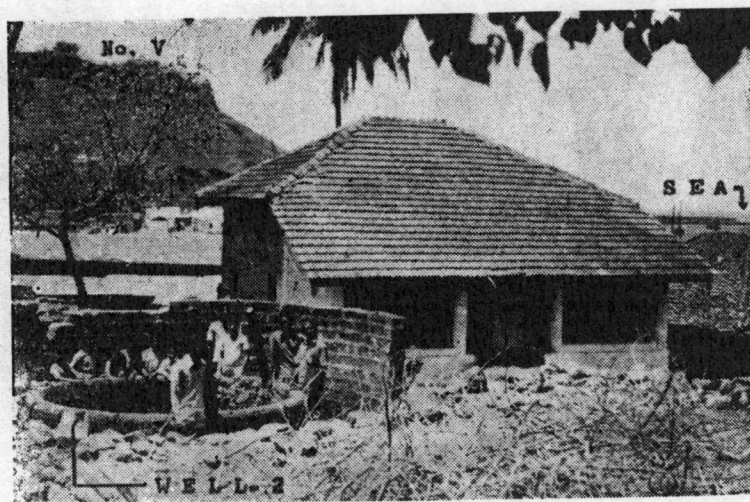


Inner view of Well-1 showing laterite wall, bottom covered with pebbles, stone pieces etc.



Showing Well-2 with sea in background.

It was found in captivity for observations on special techniques for purpose and the be dealt with in

COLOUR IN orange-red with the colouration body colour of t

TYPE LOCALITY well (13th centu giri, west coast c

TYPE MATERIAL being deposited : Zoological Survey

male and one fen U.S. National Mu Washington D. C

CHACE, F. A. JR. a summary c *Smithsonian*

FIGUEROA, A. V. nidae), de s: *Cienc. Del. l*

HOLTHUIS, L. B., (Crustacea, I *papers*, 12:

Crustacea; C *Zoologische Leiden*, 26:

It was found difficult to keep this prawn alive in captivity for more than a few days for live observations on behaviour, feeding etc. Hence special technique had to be developed for this purpose and these observations in captivity will be dealt with in a separate communication.

**COLOUR IN LIVE CONDITION:** Uniformly orange-red with slightly lighter pereopods. Even the colouration of eggs is matching with the body colour of the prawn.

**TYPE LOCALITY:** Northernmost old freshwater well (13th century?) in the fort area of Ratnagiri, west coast of India.

**TYPE MATERIAL:** i) Holotype and paratypes are being deposited at the Indian National Museum, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

ii) Other paratypes: One male and one female have been deposited in the U.S. National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D. C. under Reg. No. USNM 155288.

Also a male and a female paratypes have been deposited in Rijksmuseum Van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, Netherlands.

**REMARKS:** The new species is named as '*phreaticus*' based on the Greek word "*phrear*, — *atos*" meaning well or cistern, designating the source of the present material from a well.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are extremely grateful to the eminent Carcinologists Prof. Dr. L. B. Holthuis of Leiden Museum, Netherlands, and Dr. Fenner Chace, Jr. of the U. S. National Museum, Washington, for the incessant kind help and guidance and for providing the important references on troglobitic decapod crustaceans. Sincere thanks are also due to Dr. M. R. Ranade, Marine Biological Research Station, Ratnagiri, for facilities at his Station and to his field staff for their willing co-operation in collection work. Special gratitude is offered to Dr. P. C. Raje for his constant, enthusiastic and ungrudging help throughout in observations, collections, etc.

#### LITERATURE CONSULTED

- CHACE, F. A. JR., 1972. The shrimps of the Smithsonian — Bredin Caribbean Expeditions with a summary of the West Indian shallow water species (Crustacea: Decapoda: Natantia). *Smithsonian Contributions to Zoology*, 98: 17 & 24-25.
- FIGUEROA, A. V., 1971. Una nueva especie de *Troglocubanus* (Crustacea, Decapoda, Palaemonidae), de san Luis Potosi, Mexico. *An. Inst. Biol. Univ. Nat. Auton. Mexico*, 42, ser. *Cienc. Del. Mar.* 4 *Limnol* (1): 1-6.
- HOLTHUIS, L. B., 1952. Subfamily Palaemoninae. Part II in a General Revision of the Palaemonidae (Crustacea, Decapoda, Natantia) of the Americas. *Allan Hancock Foundation Occasional papers*, 12: 143-153.
- , 1955. The recent Genera of the Caridean and Stenopodidean shrimps (Class Crustacea; Order Decapoda: Supersection Natantia) with keys for their Determination. *Zoologische Verhandelingen Vitgegeven door het Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie te Leiden*, 26: 1-157.

