

A closer examination of the comparative size and structure revealed that it was a fully developed andricum. The usual distal lobes are normally developed as described by Alcock (1906) and George and Rao (1968). The structure and size of the additional lobe were found to be similar to the normal distal lobes of the petasma on either side. From its position, it would appear that the tip of the left endopodite, at the time of differentiation of the distal lobes (42 mm. size, George and Rao, *op. cit.*) got bifurcated into 2, each one undergoing the normal development. As the endopodite gradually attained the adult petasmal characters, the outer lobe occupied the usual transverse position and the inner one developed straight giving a trilobed appearance at the tip. The abnormality being confined to the petasma, its teratological nature is of interest in view of the importance given to the characters of external genitalia in taxonomic studies in prawns.

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