

**GNATHIIDAE (CRUSTACEA, ISOPODA) FROM THE ANDAMAN SEA, THAILAND:
NEW RECORDS AND A NEW SPECIES**

Jörundur Svavarsson

Institute of Biology, University of Iceland, Grensásvegur 12, 108 Reykjavík, Iceland

ABSTRACT

Gnathiid isopods (Crustacea) were collected during BIOSHELF cruises in shallow waters in the Andaman Sea around Phuket Island, Thailand. Three species of gnathiids are recorded: *Gnathia alces* Monod, 1926, *Gnathia mortenseni* Monod, 1926 and *Caecognathia andamanensis* sp. nov. *G. alces* and *G. mortenseni* have previously been reported from Thai waters. *Caecognathia andamanensis* is characterised by the semi-pentagonal shape of the cephalosome, the shape of the uropods and in the absence of large projections on the anterior faces of ischium to carpus of the pereopods. It is most closely related to a group of species only known in Australian waters, in particular to *C. branchyponera* Cohen and Poore, 1994. *C. andamanensis* was found at depths between 40 and 82 m on sandy mud or muddy sand bottoms.