

## SPECIES DESCRIPTORS FOR *MACROBRACHIUM LAR*

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**ACCESSION CODE. INDIA\_PRAWN\_CDP433**

### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

1.	<b>Name of the Finfish/Shellfish Species (Scientific Name)</b>	<i>Macrobrachium lar</i>
2.	<b>Name of the Variant</b>	NA
3.	<b>Local Name &amp; Language</b>	a. Mitha Pani ka Jhinga (Hindi) b. Glass or rock or monkey prawn
4.	<b>Background of the local name</b>	Prawn inhabits rocky areas in freshwater
5.	<b>Close related common species/variant</b>	<i>Macrobrachium rosenbergii</i>
6.	<b>Max. Size Reported</b>	a. Male size varies from 86mm to 112mm with weight of 32-40 gms. b. Female's size varies from 66-106 mm with weight of 14-20 gms.
7.	<b>Common Habitat</b>	a. Inhabit fresh water, <i>M. lar</i> stays in clear, transparent running water with rocky substrates. b. It is a peculiar prawn in its habits, it can move from freshwater canals to peak of the mountains where streams originate.
8.	<b>Native Distribution</b>	a. In India, <i>M. lar</i> is found only in streams of Andaman. b. <i>M. lar</i> (Fabricius, 1798) is found from the east coast of the Africa to the Central Pacific islands.
9.	<b>River basin/ Major River</b>	Galathea, Kalpong.
10.	<b>Reservoir/ Any other water body</b>	In a few seasonal and perennial streams and small reservoirs associated with the main rivers.
11.	<b>Local region of High Abundance (if any)</b>	Barma Nalla, Betapur, Rangat, Diglipur, Hut Bay, South Andaman and Campbell Bay.
12.	<b>Collection site (Name &amp; Lat. - Long., Altitude)</b>	a. CARI Channel (6° 45' N and 13° 41' N latitude and 92° 12' E and 93° 57' E) b. Barma Nalla (11° 55' N, 92° 73' E),

13.	Nearest Railway Station	Not available
14.	Specific Gear Used	Cast net, Dip net & Hand picking.
15.	Known Economic Importance	Food purpose
16.	Local Importance	Food Usage: Fresh unprocessed consumption
17.	Any specific use such as Medicinal / Local Dish & Recipe/Special occasions/Tribal	a. Used for table purpose. b. <i>M. lar</i> may be a candidate species alternate to <i>M. rosenbergii</i> in Andaman with potential in freshwater culture.
18.	Traditional knowledge (Give Details): Ref. In Local/Community/tribal mythology:	Not Known
19.	Restrictions/Protection/ Conservation / under any local Regional/Community /Religious sentiments.	Not Known

## II. DIAGNOSTIC TAXONOMIC CHARACTER ( Description)

i.	Morphological and Meristic Characters	<p>a. The rostrum is short, upturned distally before antennal flaps.</p> <p>b. First 2-3 rostral teeth are on the carapace.</p> <p>c. The rostral teeth formula is 6-8 / 2-4 (commonly 7-8 / 2-3).</p> <p>d. The first and second pair of peleopods is chelated.</p> <p>e. Yellow spot are found both sides of abdominal segments except 3<sup>rd</sup> abdominal segments.</p> <p>f. In case of male prawn, there will be a hard point on the ventral side by physical touch where as in case of female there is no hard point on ventral side of prawn like <i>M. rosenbergii</i>.</p>
iii.	Ref. Taxonomic Key	NA
iv.	Collected by	Dr. S.N.Sethi and Shri Nagesh Ram and Dr. R. Soundararajan. Post Box No.181, Central Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair-744101 A&N Islands

v.	Source/Reference	<p>Sethi S.N., Ram N., Roy S.Dam, Varghese B., &amp; Kohli.M.P.S. (2008) "<i>Macrobrachium lar</i> An Endemic Freshwater Prawn of Andaman". Fisheries Science Division, CARI, Port Blair.</p> <p>Sethi S.N., Nagesh Ram, S.Dam Roy, Benny Varghese and V.Mahendran. (2008) <i>Macrobrachium lar</i>, a candidate species of Andaman for freshwater aquaculture diversification Asian Fisheries Science (In press)</p>
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**INDIGENOUS FRESHWATER PRAWN OF ANDAMAN,**  
*Macrobrachium lar*