

**Zooplankton**

Sheet 98

**CEPHALOPODA**

**ORDER: OCTOPODA**

**SUB-ORDER: CIRROMORPHA**

**Families: Cirroteuthidae**

**Stauroteuthidae**

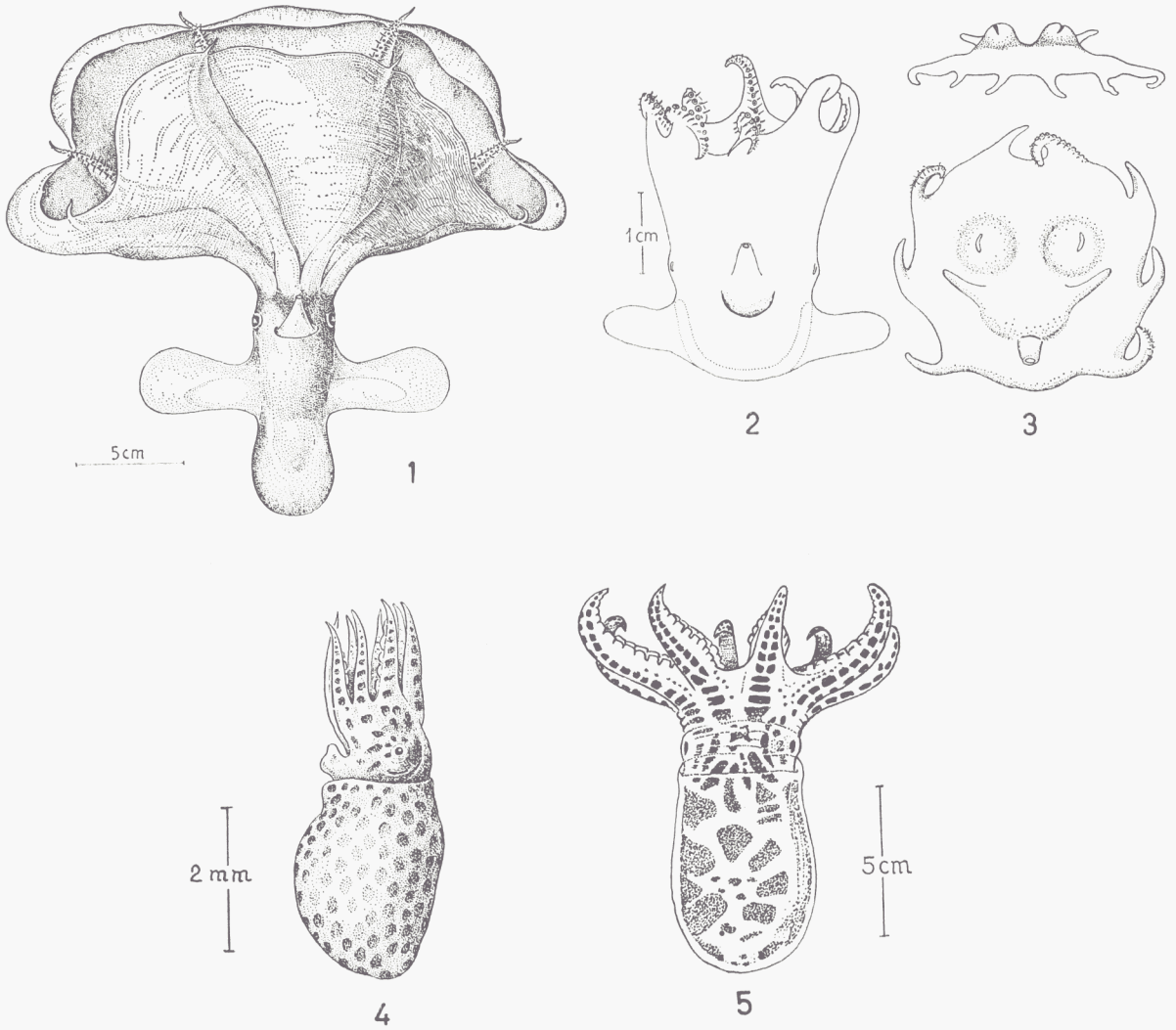
**Opisthoteuthidae**

**SUB-ORDER: INCIRRATA**

**Family: Octopodidae**

(BY B. J. MUUS)

**1963**



1. *Cirrotheuthis mülleri*. — 2. *Grimptoteuthis* sp. — 3. *Opisthoteuthis* sp.; dorsal and front view. — 4. *Eledone cirrosa*. — 5. *Octopus vulgaris*.  
(Fig. 1 from MUUS; Figs. 2 and 3 from GÜNTHER and DECKERT; Figs. 4 and 5 from REES).

## ORDER OCTOPODA<sup>1)</sup>

With eight arms. Suckers not stalky and without chitinous armature. Head and mantle fused dorsally leaving open a more or less restricted ventral mantle aperture.

### SUB-ORDER CIRROMORPHA

Body short and saccular. With one pair of fins. The mantle aperture reduced to a narrow slit at the base of the funnel – in some species totally absent. For most of their length the arms are connected by a thin membrane forming a web. Arms with a single row of suckers. Alternating with the suckers are paired cirri.

#### Family Cirroteuthidae

Mantle aperture narrow but not completely closed round the base of the funnel. The arms are directly connected with the web at their bases and tips only. The middle part of the arms are secondarily connected with the web by means of septa. Inner shell-vestige which supports the fins is saddle-like.

##### Genus CIRROTEUTHIS Eschricht

With the characters of the family.

1. *Cirroteuthis mülleri* Eschricht. The fins are usually longer than the head is wide. The cirri are 5–7 times as long as the diameter of the suckers (Fig. 1).

#### Family Stauroteuthidae

Mantle aperture closely fitting the funnel or absent. The web is simple or “secondary”. Inner shell-vestige U- or V-shaped.

##### Genus GRIMPOTEUTHIS Robson

The web is simple. The cirri are usually only little longer than the diameter of the suckers. The large number of badly known species within this genus makes safe identification impossible. *G. grimaldii* (Joubin) has been recorded from the Faroe-Iceland area.

2. *Grimpoteuthis* sp. (Fig. 2).

#### Family Opisthoteuthidae

The body is flattened, lens-shaped. The fins are much reduced. The shell-vestige is a simple rod. The length of the cirri hardly exceeding the diameter of the suckers.

##### Genus OPISTHOTEUTHIS Verrill

With the characters of the family. This genus includes several badly known species and the reader is referred to the literature. *O. agassizi* Verrill has been taken off Ireland.

3. *Opisthoteuthis* sp. (Fig. 3).

### SUB-ORDER INCIRRATA

The body has no fins. The web is usually shallow. The arms devoid of cirri.

#### Family Octopodidae

The radula usually with multicuspidate rhachidian and simple laterals. Most species with a W- or VV-shaped funnel organ.

##### Genus OCTOPUS Lamarck

With suckers in two rows. Ink-sac present.

4. *Octopus vulgaris* (Lamarck). Only the larvae are pelagic.

##### Genus ELEDONE

With suckers in one row. Ink-sac present.

5. *Eledone cirrosa* Lamarck. Only the larvae are pelagic.

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1) Most bathypelagic octopods are insufficiently known and their taxonomy is in a hopeless state of confusion. Occasional captures of other octopods than here mentioned are to be expected.

Further Information on Identification

1. *Cirroteuthis mülleri*: ROBSON, 1932, p. 130.
2. Genus *Grimpoteuthis*: ROBSON, 1932, p. 136.
3. Genus *Opisthoteuthis*: ROBSON, 1932, p. 167.
4. *Octopus vulgaris*: NAEF, 1923, p. 695, Textfigs. 400–402, 412. REES, 1950, p. 361, Pl. 1–2.
5. *Eledone cirrosa*: JAECKEL, 1958, p. 562. REES, 1956, p. 283, Pl. 10, Figs. 5, 6.

References to Work on Biology

(Numbers after references give species referred to)  
 GRAVELY (1908) 5. RACOVITZA (1894) 4. REES (1950)  
 4. REES (1956) 5. REES and LUMBY (1954) 4.

Distribution

Species  
 (Species in brackets occur  
 only exceptionally)

Gulf of Bothnia.....	—
Gulf of Finland.....	—
Baltic proper.....	—
Belt Sea.....	—
Kattegat.....	5
Skagerak.....	5
Northern North Sea.....	(4), 5
Southern North Sea.....	4, 5
English Channel (eastern)...	4, 5
English Channel (western)...	4, 5
Bristol Channel and Irish Sea	4, 5
South and West Ireland and Atlantic.....	2, 3, 4, 5
Faroe-Shetland Area.....	5
Faroe-Iceland Area.....	1, 5
Norwegian Sea.....	1, 5
Barents Sea.....	—

References

GRAVELY, F. H., 1908. Mem. Manchester Lit. Phil. Soc., <b>53</b> : 1–14.	RACOVITZA, E. G., 1894. Arch. Zool. Exp. Gén., <b>2</b> : 23–49.
JAECKEL, G. A., 1958. Tierwelt d. Nord-und Ostsee, Lief. 37, Teil 9, b <sub>3</sub> : 479–723.	REES, W. J., 1950. J.mar. biol. Ass. U.K., <b>29</b> : 361–78.
NAEF, A., 1923. Fauna e Flora d. Golfo d. Napoli, 35. Monogr., Teil 1, <b>1</b> : 1–863.	— 1956. Bull. Brit. Mus. Nat. Hist., <b>3</b> : 283–93.
	— & LUMBY, J. R., 1954. J.mar. biol. Ass. U.K., <b>33</b> : 515–36.
	ROBSON, G. C., 1932. Monogr. Recent Cephalop., Part 2: 1–359.