

# CORAL SHRIMPS FROM MADANG, PAPUA NEW GUINEA HARLEQUINS OF THE SEA



Among the many marine animals associated with coral reefs are the small colourful shrimps commonly called coral shrimps, known to scientists as pontonines or palaemonoids in general. Before the Papua Niugini expedition, 65 species of pontonine shrimps had been recorded in Papua New Guinea. The expedition found more than 140 species from just around Madang, as compared to about 80 recorded from the northern Great Barrier Reef, 90 from East Kalimantan and 120 from Vietnam. Madang is thus the center of the world for pontonine shrimps, which speaks for the quality and diversity of its marine habitats.

