

Nauplius Larva

Classification

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Anthropoids

Subphylum: Crustacea



For Further details [link](#)

Habit and habitat

Planktonic: Nauplii are generally found drifting in the water column, propelled by their appendages.

Phototactic: Some nauplii are positively phototactic, meaning they swim towards light.

Diverse Feeding Habits: While some nauplii are non-feeding (lecithotrophic), others are active feeders, consuming detritus or other small particles.

Marine and Freshwater: Nauplii are found in both marine and freshwater environments.

Water Column: They are a key component of the zooplankton, inhabiting various depths of the water column.

Characteristics

- The free-swimming larva is oval and the body is divisible into three regions—head, trunk and anal region.
- A median frontal eye is present in the head region.
- Three pairs of appendages are present, of which the first pair are un-jointed and present in the head region. It develops into the antennule of the adult.
- The remaining two pairs are biramous and are present in the trunk region.
- The first pair of trunk appendages which act as locomotor organs in larvae, transform into antennae and the second pair become the mandibles of the adult.
- Mouth is present in between the two trunk appendages and is enclosed by a prominent labrum.
- Alimentary canal is straight and terminates at the posterior-most end of the anal segment through the anus.
- Larva is un-segmented and devoid of ventral nerve cord and heart.