

## Distribution and abundance of small copepods off Luzow-Holm Bay, Antarctica

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The distribution and abundance of small copepods were studied off Luzow-Holm Bay in 2006 austral summer. Plankton samples were collected by vertical hauls (0-150 m), with Norpac nets of 0.33mm and 0.1mm mesh size. The zooplankton abundance was generally dominated by copepods in both nets. However, the mean abundance of copepods in the plankton samples collected through a 0.1mm mesh was 85 times higher than that collected through a 0.33mm mesh. The copepods collected with the 0.1mm mesh net were dominated by *Ctenocalanus citer*, *Microcalanus pygmaeus*, *oithona* spp. and *Oncaea* spp., which passed through a 0.33m mesh net, and they comprised more than 95 % of total copepod abundance. In terms of carbon biomass, these small copepods indicated to be almost the equal contribution with the large herbivorous copepods, *Calanus propinquus*, *Calanoides acutus*, *Rhincalanus gigas* and *Metridia gerlachei*.