## The early development and life history characteristics of Thysanoessa inspinata and T. longipes in the Oyashio region, western subarctic Pacific Ocean

親潮域におけるThysanoessa inspinataとT. longipesの初期発達と生活史

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As euphausiids, *Euphausia pacifica*, *Thysanoessa inspinata* and *T. longipes* predominate in the Oyashio region, but little has been studied on the latter two species. We analyzed the size structure and maturity composition of *T. inspinata* and *T. longipes* using seasonal field samples collected at a station (Site H) in the Oyashio region from August 2002 to August 2004. Samplings were made with Bongo-nets from 1000m to the surface. Judging from the occurrence of gravid females, the major spawning season was May-August for *T. inspinata* and March-May for *T. longipes*. The longevity of both species was estimated as 2-3 years. In addition to the analysis of field samples, laboratory-rearing experiments on eggs and hatched larvae revealed that the development time from egg through metanauplius via nauplius I and II at 3°C was 14-16 days for *T. inspinata*, and 14 days for *T. longipes*. Between-species differences in the morphology of eggs and nauplii were not noticeable, excepting for the greater body size of *T. longipes* than that of *T. inspinata*.