

*Alpheus floridanus* Kingsley, 1878  
Sand Snapping Shrimp

Order Decapoda  
Suborder Pleocyemata  
Infraorder Caridea  
Family Alpheidae

Return specimens of *Alpheus* to the laboratory for identification verification.

References used: Chace (1972)

**Diagnostic characters:** Rostrum very short, only slightly extends beyond eyes; chela of first leg always predominant, large, usually asymmetrical, major first chela up to 6 times as long as broad, minor first chela up to 10 times as long as broad;

**Habitat:** Mud or sandy-mud bottoms; 0 to 37 m.

**Range:** Gulf of Mexico to Brazil; east Atlantic, Guinea to Congo

**Remarks:** Chace (1972) describes two forms of this species, one found in shallow waters and one located on the shelf. Specimens caught in routine SEAMAP sampling are usually of the shelf form. Most likely this will be separated as a distinct species upon further study.

