

## Current status and trends of Antarctic krill in the east Antarctica

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Many studies on the ecology of Antarctic krill (*Euphausia superba*) have been carried out since the Discovery expeditions (Marr, 1962); however, most of the survey efforts have been concentrated in the Southwest Atlantic sector (e.g., Watkins et al., 2003). Recent paper suggested decline of krill density in Southwest Atlantic sector during period between 1976 and 2003 and this has been related to reduction of winter sea-ice cover, but no clear trends were observed in the Indian Ocean sector (Atkinson et al. 2004). Discussing trends in krill dynamics in the Indian Ocean sector is still an enormous challenge due to its extensive areal scale; Most of the survey efforts for krill dynamics in this area are scattered and sporadic. In this presentation, by using pelagic database that Australia and Japan are currently collating, we describe the status and general characteristics of krill distribution in the east Antarctic area (30-150E) in relation to physical attributes; The northern limit of krill distribution seems to be related to SACCF in Prydz Bay region and west (Kawaguchi et al., 2010), but related to SBACC towards east of Prydz Bay region (Nicol et al., 2000). We will further extend our discussion try looking into possible changes that may have occurred since 1970s by using various sources of krill information including records of historical krill fishery positions to infer the patterns of krill distribution in early days (1970-80s).

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