

The role of the dorsal abdominal artery in providing elastic recoil of the heart of the  
American lobster  
Gina A. Fickera <sup>1</sup>

The cardiac neuromuscular system of *Homarus americanus* is a widely studied and relatively well understood model system. The neurogenic lobster heart consists of a single ventricle suspended by an array of arteries and ligaments within the heart cavity. During systole (contraction), the lobster heart supplies hemolymph to seven different arteries, then fills passively by means of valved openings (ostia) during diastole (relaxation).

One oo e 45 0 0oo e 6og ne(o) -15 0b ( ) 7 (424 90 591.6 cm BT .0135 Tc 45 0J ( ) oET Q q 0) 9n ( ) 5

