



**Southern California Association of
Marine Invertebrate Taxonomists**

3720 Stephen White Drive
San Pedro, California 90731

December 1987

Vol. 6, No. 9

NEXT MEETING: January 11, 1988. To be held at
Cabrillo Marine Museum in San Pedro

SPECIMEN EXCHANGE GROUP: Polychaete provisional species.

TAXONOMIC TOPIC: Cumacea provisional species.

MINUTES FROM MEETING ON DECEMBER 14, 1987:

We returned this month to the Allan Hancock Foundation's Worm Lab to take advantage of its holdings of literature and specimens. Paratype specimens for most of the Eteone species recorded from the west coast of the US are available at the AHF. This afforded us the opportunity to compare participant's specimens from San Diego, Long Beach Harbor, and Palos Verdes to the paratypes of Eteone fauchaldi, Eteone spilotus, and Eteone lighti. There are several features that should be noted on each specimen of Eteone identified. The shape of the prostomium is usually a consistent feature that basically expressed as being cone-shaped, trapezoidal or abruptly tapered. The degree to which the prostomial tentacles are separated (widely vs narrowly) should be noted.

Dorsal and ventral cirri need to be examined as the size and shape typically changes from anterior to posterior segments. Whether the cirri are larger than the parapodium and at what region of the body the cirri become lanceolate need to be noted. The symmetry of the cirri as well as the angle to which they are held in reference to the acicula can also assist in identification. Pigment patterns can be grouped as being unpigmented, diffusely pigmented with or without a central

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pigment patch, or heavily pigmented with a central patch darker than the lateral margins.

Dorsal and ventral cirri also are critical for identification and should be examined along the body wall from the anterior to the posterior segments. Cirri shape and size typically changes along this longitudinal dimension. Particular notice should be made on whether they are larger than the parapodium and at what region the cirri become lanceolate. The symmetry of the cirri as well as the angle to which they are held in reference to the acicula also can assist in diagnostic reviews. Additionally pigment patterns should be noted and can be grouped as being unpigmented, diffusely pigmented with or without a central pigment patch, or more heavily pigmented with the central patch darker than the lateral margins.

Helpful Hints:

Leslie Harris demonstrated an effective technique for handling Eteone specimens. Individual worms are arranged under the dissecting scope in a small petri dish with a minute amount of alcohol covering the body. Forceps are used to straighten and flatten the body down in the dish. A cover slip is then placed over the specimen to hold it in place. Additional alcohol is then poured over the cover slip to reduce glare. In this way the specimen is flattened to a degree which better shows the shape and size of dorsal cirri, antennae and tentacles.

BOOKS, BOOKS, OBBKS:

The British Museum of Natural History has recently distributed a new catalogue of books for 1988. Listed for sale are a three volume reference guide to source literature used in the identification of animals. Also available are Burton's Calcareous Sponges monograph; Lincoln's British Marine Amphipoda; Ingle's monograph on British crabs; The Echinoderms of Southern Africa by Clark; and A Monograph on the Polyclad Turbellaria by Prudhoe, 1985 (this is the first comprehensive work on this group since the 1800's). Other publications include molluscs, copepods, and tunicates.

For local orders contact: Rudolph Sabbot
5239 Tendilla Ave
Woodland Hills CA
(818) 346-7164

Otherwise, just drop into the museum the next time you wander that way!

Additional Information

Some confusion exists concerning the two specimens of Eumida which were examined last month. Eumida sp. A SCAMIT, 1987 (LACO 80) is Eumidasp. 2 of Hamilton and Eumida "sanguinea" ex acutore form southern California.

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Eumida cf bifoliata (Moore, 1909) is Eumida sp. 1 of Hamilton and Eumida sp. A of others. This is how the information was listed in the last newsletter and it is correct, contrary to what was discussed at the December meeting.

Specimens examined on December 14, 1987:

PL 75 Etenoe cf alba Webster, 1879

LACO 82 Eteone sp. A SCAMIT, 1987

Specimens from various collection locales and listed under the names Eteone californica, E. ? pacifica, E. cf lighti, and E. cf longa were compared and all appear to be the same indeterminate species. Discriptions and a voucher sheet for this species will be forthcoming soon.

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