



Southern California Association of
Marine Invertebrate Taxonomists

3720 Stephen White Drive
San Pedro, California 90731

May 1988

Vol. 7, No. 3

OFFICIAL SCAMIT INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY

JULY MEETING CANCELLED

NEXT MEETING: Gastropoda, provisional species
DATE: August 8, 1988
LOCATION: Cabrillo Marine Museum

MINUTES FROM MEETING ON JUNE 13, 1988:

May's meeting was held in the Times-Mirror Room of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History to discuss and examine ostracods with Dr. Anne Cohen. Dr. Cohen gave an excellent slide presentation and talk on several aspects of ostracod biology. She also demonstrated a clever technique for dissecting ostracods using a blade on a glass slide. Afterwards she had arranged for a guided tour of the museum's new "compactor" housed marine invertebrate collection given by the collection manager Hans Kuck.

Ostracods can range in size from 0.1 mm to as large as a golf ball (32 mm) in the open ocean. Depth ranges for ostracods covers everything from intertidal to 7000 m! Ostracods are important and abundant in the fossil record, and also inhabit freshwater and even moist terrestrial environs. Certain groups are known to possess a poison gland. The modified seventh limb

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The SCAMIT newsletter is not deemed to be a valid publication
for formal taxonomic purposes.

has been observed making sweeping runs over the external surface of the carapace to keep it clean of debris and hitch-hikers.

Other ostracods, particularly *Vargula*, are bioluminescent. In the Caribbean habitats this bioluminescence is observed during a two week lunar phase as a result of large aggregations of male specimens. These ostracods were cultured, collected and packed in vials by the Japanese military in World War II for use by their soldiers as batteryless lights!

Despite their generally small adult size, certain ostracod species possess the largest sperm cells in the animal kingdom! The sperm are considerably longer than the entire adult male! Whales, elephant, and tapirs are no match, either in actual length of the sperm or length relative to the respective adult body.

SCAMIT would like to thank Dr. Cohen for this interesting and very successful meeting.

Ostracod news can be followed through the ostracod newsletter, *Cypris*. This is an international publication that can serve to keep you in touch with most active workers and their respective research. You may contact them by writing to:

Mervin Kontrovitz
Department of Geosciences
Northeast Louisiana University
Monroe, LA 71209 USA

SCAMIT has begun to make plans for an amphipod workshop with Dr. J. L. Barnard. The meetings will be held September 13-15. We will convene at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History; so pull out all those beasts that have succeeded in providing you with so much TROUBLE! We also are interested in hearing about any life history or ecological information on amphipods as this information is often important for understanding the taxonomic features. SCAMIT will send out a separate announcement about this upcoming meeting later this summer. If anyone would like copies from last year's Barnard Amphipod Workshop, please submit your request to Tom Parker, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (213) 775-2351 ext 394.

Tony Phillips is making an extended call for loans of any specimens that are recognizable as the amphipod *Ampelisca* sp. A. He would like any data on habitat, depth, etc. that is available. Please send to Tony at:

Biology Laboratory
Hyperion Treatment Plant
11900 Vista del Mar
Playa del Rey, CA 90293

SPECIMENS EXAMINED ON JUNE 13, 1988

MBC 70 Philomedes sp. A SCAMIT, 1988
HYP 78 Eusarsiella sp. A SCAMIT, 1988

SIXTH ANNUAL SCAMIT PICNIC

WHEN: Saturday, September 10, 1988

WHERE: Doheny State Beach (see map)

TIME: 10:00 am until the kids get cranky.

PROVIDED: Entree, soft drinks, plates etc.

BRING: One pot-luck dish per family. Call Larry Lovell (619) 436-5494 for suggestions. Alcoholic beverages are permitted in the park so you may BYO if you are so inclined.

ACTIVITIES: Traditional SCAMIT jungle volley ball, beach sports, lots of grass and sand for child's play (there's room for the kids to play also).

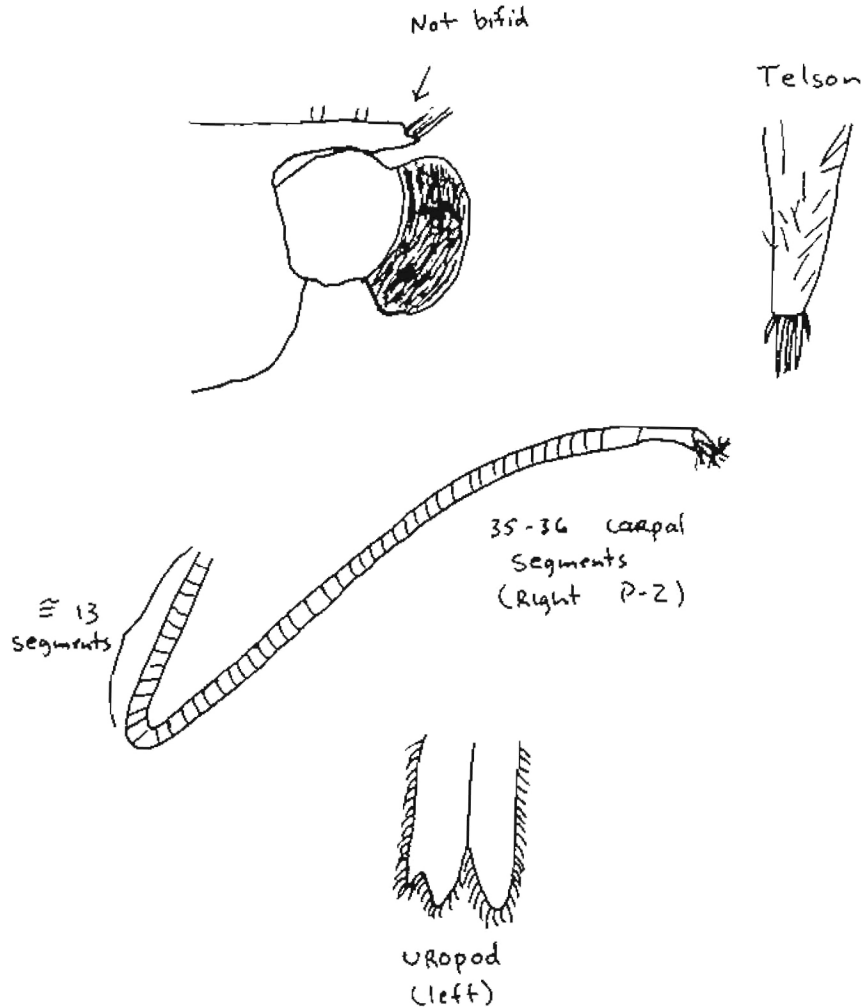
RSVP: Larry Lovell (619) 436-5494 as soon as possible so we can determine food needs.

CAMPING: An overnight camping area is located adjacent to the park. Camping costs and reservations are available through Mistix at (800) 446-7275. Info about the campground is available from park headquarters (714) 496-6171.

DIRECTIONS: A map is enclosed.



Jim Laughlin (SCCWRP) reports the collection of a caridean shrimp that appears to be a member of the genus Processa (fam. Processidae). The single individual was taken in a benthic grab from Santa Monica Bay at 100 m depth in sandy silt. The date of collection was September 1987. Jim has determined that the animal is similar to Processa bermudensis and has provided a list of distinguishing characteristics and figures. Anyone who has information on or has collected this or similar carideans can reach Jim at 213-435-7071.



Processa cf. bermudensis

- Rostrum simple
- No antennal spine
- Lower orbital angle acute
- Right P1 chelate
- Left P1 simple
- Right P2 carpus with approx. 35 segments, merus with approx. 13 segments
- Left P2 shorter than right, carpus with approx. 20-22 segments
- P4 merus without spines on posterior margin, similar in appearance to P3
- Telson with many (25+) dorsal setae

SCAMIT Code: HYP 78

Date examined: June 13, 1988
Voucher by: Tony Phillips

Synonymy: Sarsiella sp. H of Myers, Hyperion
Sarsiella sp. F of MBC
Sarsiella sp. B of Pt. Loma

Literature:

Kornicker, L.S. 1986. Sarsiellidae of the western Atlantic and northern Gulf of Mexico, and revision of the Sarsiellinae (Ostracoda:Myodocopina). Smith. Contr. Zool., No. 415:1-217.

Diagnostic Characters: Unique carapace sculpture that is distinctly different from other southern California species (Figure 1).

Distribution: Santa Monica Bay (60 meters), Los Angeles Harbor (14 meters), Pt. Loma (90 meters).

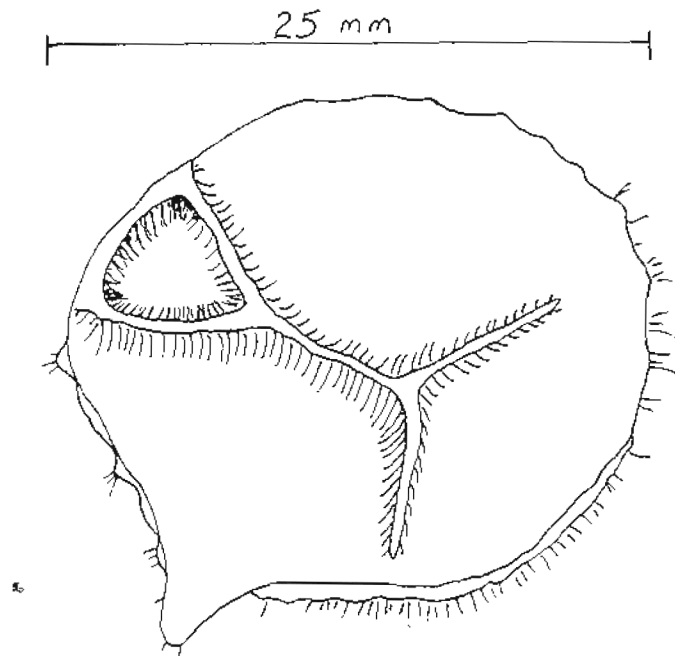


Figure 1

SCAMIT Code: MBC 70
(dissected specimens retained at
LACMNH--remainder at CMM)

Date examined: 13, June 1988
Voucher by: Dr. Anne Cohen
(LACMNH)

Synonymy: None

Literature: Kornicker, L.S. 1988. Myodocopid Ostracoda of the Beaufort Sea, Arctic Ocean. Smithsonian Contribution to Zoology. No. 456.

Poulsen, E.M. 1962. Ostracoda-Myodocopa, 1: Cypridiniformes Cypridinidae. In Dana Report, 57: 1-414. Copenhagen: Carlsberg Foundation.

Diagnostic Characters and differences from Philomedes dentata:

1. Mandible basis, ventral margin with 8 bristles (not 7). Proximal medial bristles with 3 toothy claws and 2 (not 3) bristles.
2. Mandible second joint, proximal group with 4 bristles (not 3) and at least 2 with long hairs (not 0)
3. Fifth limb's first joint with more teeth than listed for described species.
4. Fifth limb's second joint, on the inner margin, with 2 tiny cusped teeth and 1 bare tooth (not 2 blunt teeth).
5. Fifth limb's fourth and fifth joint with 6 bristles (not 5).
6. Seventh limb has very long central peg. 8 short pegs(not just 8 short pegs) and terminal comb of 1 long and 16 short (8/side)teeth (twice as many short teeth).

Comments:

This animal has been mistakenly identified in the past as Philomedes dentata from collections in Southern California. SCAMIT has re-examined specimens from north of Pt. Concepcion and also from the Orange County coast and Palos Verdes Coast and determined that the anatomical differences between this provisional species and P. dentata are both numerous and consistent. Any records of P. dentata from these regions should be compared to this voucher material.

Figure 1. a. Tip of 7th limb. b. Carapace outline
c. Left mandible

