Euchone sp. A SCAMIT
Sabellidae

SCAMIT Code: MBC 46
Date examined: April 14, 1986
Voucher by: Leslie H. Harris (MBC)

SYNONYMY: Euchone sp. A Harris
Euchone sp. A Lovell

LITERATURE: Banse 1957
Banse 1970
Banse 1972
Hartman 1969

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

1. Body minute, ovigerous female 2mm long without branchial crown; radioles almost always missing.

2. Abdomen has 3 anterior (pre-funnel) setigers and 3 depression setigers.

3. Large oblique collar, higher ventrally than dorsally; no midventral notch or noticeable lateral notches; narrow dorsal gap.

4. Thoracic notosetae 3 kinds: (a) long, limbate in all setigers; (b) very short, fine geniculate in first 2-3 setigers; (c) short, in setigers 2-8, appear limbate rather than subspatulate.

5. No ventral shields.

6. Faint postsetal glandular girdle on 1st abdominal setiger (very hard to distinguish).

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

Euchone trilobata (Banse 1957) is the closest species to Euchone sp. A, both having a total of 6 abdominal setigers, and both lacking distinct subspatulate setae. Sp.A's anal depression consists of 3 setigers, its collar is oblique and conceals the branchial basis, and the abdominal uncini have broad bases and large rostra. Trilobata has 4 setigers in its anal depression, the collar is level and doesn't cover the branchial basis,
and the uncini are pectinate. The small species of *Euchone* found locally are compared with *trilobata* and sp.A in the following table.

**REMARKS:** This species has often been identified as *E hancocki* or *incolor* juveniles because of its small size and 3 depression setigers. Juveniles may not have the full number of depression setigers, and the best character to use for identification is the number of anterior abdominal (pre-depression) setigers, which remains constant in small species (Banse 1970).

**DISTRIBUTION:** Point Conception to Point Loma, 20 to 150m; patchy abundance in soft sediments.