Aoroides spinosa Conlan & Bousfield 1982
Aoroides sp A SCAMIT 1996 §
Bemlos audbettius (J. L. Barnard 1962)
Bemlos concavus (Stout 1913)
Bemlos macromanus Shoemaker 1925
Columbaora cyclocoxa Conlan & Bousfield 1982
Grandidierella japonica Stephensen 1938
Paramicrodeutopus schmitti (Shoemaker 1942)

Key to the Aoridae Reported from the Southern California Bight, SCAMIT, Edition 14
D. Pasko 18May2017 (Rev. 5Dec2023)

INFRAORDER COROPHIIDA
Superfamily Aoroidea
FAMILY AORIDAE
Subfamily Ampithoinae
Aoroides columbiae Walker 1898
Aoroides exilis Conlan & Bousfield 1982
Aoroides inermis Conlan & Bousfield 1982
Aoroides intermedia Conlan & Bousfield 1982
Aoroides secunda Gurjanova 1938

Key to the SCB Aoridae

4. Uropod 3 uniramous; female gnathopod 2 transverse, weakly parachelate
   .............................................................................................................................. Grandidierella japonica
   – Uropod 3 biramous; female gnathopod 2 not parachelate ................................................................. 5
5. Mandibular palp slender, article 3 cylindrical; antenna 1 accessory flagellum a minute button
   .............................................................................................................................................. Aoroides
   – Mandibular palp robust, article 3 broadened; antenna 1 accessory flagellum multi-segmented.
   .......................................................................................................................................................... 6
6. Mandibular palp, article 3 nearly twice as long as article 2; male gnathopod 1 merus produced into elongated distal tooth/process; male coxa 1 circular, enlarged to encircle head; female coxa 1 distinctly smaller than coxa 2 .......................................................... Columbaora cyclocoxa
   – Mandibular palp, article 3 subequal to or shorter than article 2; male gnathopod 1 subchelate or parachelate; male coxa 1 not circular, not grossly enlarged; female coxa 1 subequal to or only slightly smaller than coxa 2 ....................................................................................... 7
7. Accessory flagellum 2–3 articles; pleonites without paired dorsal setae; male gnathopod 2 parachelate; female gnathopod 1, article 5 produced into postero-distal tooth
   ..................................................................................................................................................... Paramicrodeutopus schmitti
   – Accessory flagellum of 8 articles; pleonites 3 & 4 with paired dorsal setae; male gnathopod 2 subchelate; female gnathopod 1, article 5 not distally produced into acute tooth..... Bemlos
   8. Male coxa 1 produced strongly forward; male sternum with 6 ventral processes (pereonites 2–7); epimeron 1–3 without oblique ridge and weak distal tooth................. Bemlos audbettius
   – Male coxa 1 weakly produced; male sternum with 0 or 2 ventral processes (pereonites 2–3); epimeron 1–3 with oblique ridge and relatively strong distal tooth.................................................... 9
9. Male sternum with 2 ventral processes (pereonites 2–3); telson emarginate; male gnathopod 1 transverse; female gnathopod 2 oblique, finely toothed............................. Bemlos macromanus
   – Male sternum without ventral processes; telson posterior margin straight; male gnathopod 1 oblique; female gnathopod 2 transverse ......................................................... Bemlos concavus
10. Male ............................................................................................................................................. 11
   – Female ........................................................................................................................................ 17
11. Gnathopod 1 basis posterior margin bare ...................................................................................... 12
   – Gnathopod 1 basis posterior margin setose .................................................................................... 16
Key to the SCB Aoridae

12. Uropod 2 peduncle lacking distal median process between rami or process exceedingly small (<1/6 rami) and difficult to view .................................................................................................................. 13
- Uropod 2 peduncle with distal median process between rami clearly visible (≥1/5 rami) ...... 14
13. Uropod 2 without distal median process between rami; antennae and gnathopod 1 basis with dense, plumose setae ................................................................. *Aoroides secundus*
- Uropod 2 with tiny distal median process between rami; antennae and gnathopod 1 basis with simple setae ................................................................................................. *Aoroides sp A*
14. Gnathopod 1 carpus dorsally with only one or two distal setae, dorsal marginal clusters of multiple setae absent ................................................................. *Aoroides columbiae*
- Gnathopod 1 carpus dorsally with multiple (4–15) setal groups or clusters of setae............ 15
15. Gnathopod 1 carpus dorsally with 8–15 setal clusters, gnathopod 2 carpus and propod with long setae; body speckled with clusters of concentrated pigment in peronite hind corners .................................................................................................................. *Aoroides inermis*
- Gnathopod 1 carpus dorsally with 5–7 setal bundles, gnathopod 2 carpus and propod with only short setae; body speckled but rarely or weakly with concentrated spots in peronite hind corners ................................................................................................................................. *Aoroides intermedius*
16. Gnathopod 1 basis anterior margin with sparse, short setae; gnathopod 2 carpus with dense setal clusters dorsally, setae longer than article width ........................................ *Aoroides spinosus*
- Gnathopod 1 basis anterior margin with numerous, long setae; gnathopod 2 carpus with sparse thin setal clusters dorsally, setae shorter than article width ................................. *Aoroides exilis*
17. Uropod 2 peduncle lacking distal median process between rami or process exceedingly small (<1/6 rami) and difficult to view .................................................................................................................. 18
- Uropod 2 peduncle with distal median process between rami clearly visible (≥1/5 rami) ...... 19
18. Uropod 2 without distal median process between rami; gnathopod 1 basis with 1 or more long distal, plumose setae .............................................................................. *Aoroides secundus*
- Uropod 2 with tiny distal median process between rami; gnathopod 1 basis with single very short, simple distal seta ............................................................................... *Aoroides sp A*
19. Gnathopod 1 basis anterior margin with multiple long setae distally; mandibular palp, article 2 with one or more distal setae ............................................................................. 20
- Gnathopod 1 basis anterior margin bare or with only a single distal cluster of short setae; mandibular palp, article 2 bare ..................................................................................... 22
20. Gnathopod 1 basis with many long setae anterodistally; marginal teeth along outer plate of maxillipede strongly serrated (practically visible with dissecation scope), lower teeth with 1–4 cusps each; body pigmented in broad bands, with parts of head and peronite 6 and 7 dorsally bare ................................................................................................................................. *Aoroides columbiae*
- Gnathopod 1 basis with few long setae anterodistally; marginal teeth along outer plate of maxillipede weakly serrated (typically not visible with dissecation scope), lower teeth with 0–1 cusps each; body pigmentation typically speckled ................................................................................................................................. 21
21. Pereopod 7 basis narrow; marginal teeth along outer plate of maxillipede with lower teeth smooth (below the upper 3); body speckled with clusters of concentrated pigment in peronite hind corners ................................................................................................................................. *Aoroides inermis*
- Pereopod 7 basis broad; marginal teeth along outer plate of maxillipede with 0–2 cusps on lower teeth; body speckled but rarely or weakly with concentrated spots in peronite hind corners ................................................................................................................................. *Aoroides intermedius*
22. Gnathopod 1, medial margin of propodus with three or fewer setal bundles, all of similar length; anterior margin of gnathopod 2 basis nearly bare, but for a few short distal setae; oostegite large, notably longer than coxal gill; body pigmented in broad bands, with parts of head and pereonites 6 and 7 dorsally bare..........................Aoroides exilis

– Gnathopod 1, medial margin of propodus 5 or more setal bundles, proximal setae shorter than distal groups; anterior margin of gnathopod 2 basis bearing multiple short setae; oostegite relatively small, generally not exceeding coxal gill; body diffusely speckled throughout ...............

.................................................................Aoroides spinosus

\(^1\) This key was adopted from Myers & Lowry 2003; Conlan & Bousfield 1982; Cadien 2004 and 2023.

REFERENCES:
Cadien, DB. 2023. Key (decision tree) to separation of Aoroides spp in the NEP – dbcadien 2May2023 (based in part on the key in Conlan and Bousfield 1982, with the addition of other characters drawn from the text or illustrations in that paper)