

SCAMIT CODE: MBC 64

Date Examined: 14 September 1987
Voucher by: Carol Paquette

SYNONYMY: *Megaluropus agilis* Hoek 1889 of Barnard 1963 (plate)
Megaluropus ? agilis Hoek 1889 of Barnard 1963 (text)

LITERATURE: Barnard, J. L. 1963. Los Anfipodos Bentonicos Marinos de la Costa Occidental de Baja California, Revista de la Sociedad Mexicana de Historia Natural, Vol. 24.

Thomas, J. D., and J. L. Barnard. 1986. New Genera and Species of the *Megaluropus* Group (Amphipoda, Megaluropidae) From American Seas. Bull. Mar. Sci. 38(3).

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

1. Eye lobe large, produced antero-ventrally between 1st and 2nd antennae; eye confined to lobe in female, extending to dorsum of head in adult male.
2. Gnathopods 1 and 2 slender, similar; male and female similar, article 6 not expanded in male, without a defined palm; article 4 not produced postero-distally, and article 5 not expanded.
3. Peduncle of uropod 1 with an interramal spine, approximately 1/4 length of rami.
4. Rami of uropod 3 flat, paddle-shaped, inner (dorsal) ramus asymmetrically truncate.
5. Telson deeply cleft, lobes notched, with large spines.
6. Ventral margin of pleonal epimeron 3 toothed.
7. Accessory flagellum with 2 articles.

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

1. *Gibberosus myersi* (McKinney 1980) and *G. devaneyi* Thomas and Barnard 1986 have a postero-distally projecting lobe on article 4 and expanded article 5 of gnathopod 2; head without a produced eye lobe, but with a cusp.
2. *Resupinus coloni* Thomas and Barnard 1986 has article 5 of gnathopod 2 distally expanded; lacks interramal spine on peduncle of uropod 1; accessory flagellum has only one article. *R. coloni* distribution is Panama to Costa Rica and West Coast of Baja California (Bahia de Sebastian Vizcaino), at depths of 0-21 m.
3. *Megaluropus agilis* Hoek 1889 lacks the interramal spine on the peduncle of uropod 1; telson lobes are not notched and telsonic spines are small; ventral margin of pleonal epimeron 3 is not toothed; article 5 of gnathopod 2 is expanded disto-ventrally. The genus *Megaluropus* is confined to the Old World (Thomas & Barnard 1986).

DEPTH RANGE: 50-98 m fine sand. Best specimens collected using an epibenthic plankton sampler.

DISTRIBUTION: San Diego, California to Bahia de San Cristobal, Baja California (Pacific Coast).

NOTES: The female of this species has been illustrated previously by Barnard (1963, given as *Megaluropus agilis*); the male illustrations in the same plate, also given as *M. agilis*, are actually of *Resupinus coloni*. The occurrence of *R. coloni* off west Baja California greatly extends the range of Panama to Costa Rica given by Thomas and Barnard (1986).

