KEY TO THE SPECIES OF CIROLANA KNOWN FROM CALIFORNIA

Richard C. Brusca, 1989

1. Uropodal rami without deep apical notch; margin of pleotelson with 10-36 spines; pleotelson of male with a pair of submedian dorsal tubercles ........... C. harfordi
   - Both uropodal rami with deep apical notch; margin of pleotelson with 8-10 spines; pleotelson of male without dorsal tubercles ................. 2

2. Penes small, set well apart on sternite 7, each set in line with the middle of the peduncle of the right and left first pleopods; apex of male appendix masculinum bluntly round to subacute; pleotelson with 8-10 spines; left maxilliped with 1 coupling hook, right with 2 coupling hooks ......................... C. diminuta
   - Penes small, set close together on sternite 7, each set in line with the medial margin of the peduncle of the right and left first pleopods; apex of male appendix masculinum acute, often tapering to a filamentous distal thread; pleotelson with 8 spines; left maxilliped with 2 coupling hooks, right with 1 coupling hook ............. C. parva