

SCAMIT Code: MBC 18

Date Examined: 9 May 1988
Voucher by: Paul Scott (SBMNH)

Synonymy: Mysella sp. C (MBC, Hyperion, Scott)

Literature: Dall, W.H. 1899.
Scott, P.H. 1987.

Diagnostic Characters:

1. Shell small (4 mm length), thin, juveniles less than 1.5 mm length without external sculpture, specimens greater than 2 mm with closely spaced concentric sculpture.
2. Shape ellipsoid, moderately inflated, inequilateral with anterior much longer.
3. Beaks prominent, almost to posterior margin, opistogyrate.
4. Cardinal teeth small; anterior tooth longer than posterior.

Comparisons:

Mysella sp. C is closest to Mysella tumida (Carpenter, 1864). The ellipsoid, inflated shape, and posterior beaks of the former differentiate the two species.

Distribution: Santa Barbara Channel, Santa Maria Basin, California (150-360 ft); Gulf of California, Mexico; possibly Los Angeles Harbor.

Remarks:

Only specimens less than 2 mm in length have been collected in southern California.

