Cistenides brevicoma (Johnson, 1901)  
Amphictenidae (=Pectinariidae)  

SCAMIT Code: AHF 36C  
Date examined: 13 May 1985  
Voucher by: Leslie Harris

Literature:  
Hartman 1941, 1969; Banse and Hobson, 1968; Hobson and  
Banse, 1981; Pettibone, 1954

Diagnostic characters:  
1. Tube of moderately coarse sand, black and white,  
   arcuate.  
2. 12-13 pairs of brassy-yellow cephalic spines; each  
   short and blunt except for outermost which are shorter  
   and taper to acute tips.  
3. 12 uncinigers. Uncini with single row of 3-4 larger  
   teeth above a series of much smaller ones at the base.  
4. Dorsal rim of cephalic plate smooth. Antennular  
   membrane with 28-30 marginal papillae.

Related species and differences:  
1. Cistenides granulata (Linnaeus, 1767).  
   - Tube of coarse sand grains, arcuate.  
   - 7-10 pairs of yellow cephalic spines; tips blunt  
     or short, straight, hairlike.  
   - 30 to 50 marginal papillae on antennular membrane.  
   - Arctic; North Atlantic.

Additional notes:  
1. Cistenides is often considered a subgenus of  
   Pectinaria. (Hartman, 1941.)  
2. Some authors (Pettibone 1954, Banse and Hobson 1968,  
   Hobson and Banse, 1981) regard C. brevicoma as a  
   synonym of C. granulata because of variability in their  
   distinguishing characteristics.  
3. Banse and Hobson (1968) found that small specimens may  
   have uncini with their large teeth in two rows as well  
   as in one row.

Distribution:  
Southern California north to western Canada; shallow  
subtidal to 90 fms; in gravel and sand.