

SCAMIT Code: LAC033

Date examined: August 13, 1984

Literature:

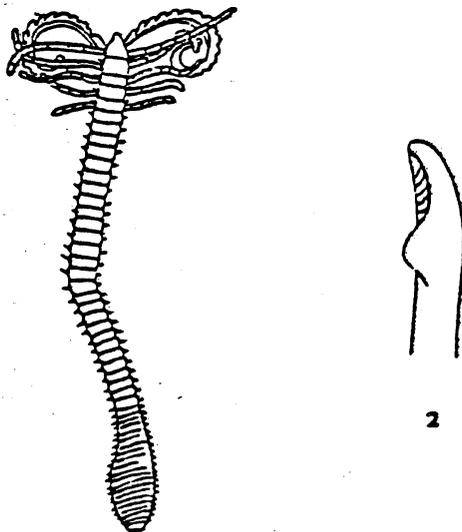
- Fauvel, P. 1927. Polychaètes Sedentaires. Addenda au Errantes, Archiannélides, Myzostomaires. Faune de France, 16: 1-494.
Hartman, O. 1969, Atlas of Sedentariate Polychaetous Annelids from California. Allan Hancock Foundation, University of Southern California Press, Los Angeles, CA: 1-812.

Diagnostic charaters:

Excavate acicular setae present in both rami in median and posterior segments. Body generally dark. Bores in calcareous shells. Branchiae on set 3-5. Body dark greenish brown to black; subcylindrical, truncate (fig. 1). Length 20-50 mm; width about 2 mm; setigers number 45-80. Prostomium small, triangular, without eyes; with a pair of nuchal organs near posterior end. Buccal segment short, triannulate, with a pair of large, thick, longitudinally grooved palpi surpassing branchiae in length and thickness. Paired branchiae present on first 3-5 setigers, each slender, filamentous, decrease in length posteriorly. First 6-7 setigers with capillary setae, the notosetae the longer. Thick, distally excavate spines present in both rami in median and posterior segments, the tip spoon-shaped (fig. 2); accompanied with capillary setae. Posterior end of body somewhat inflated, tapers to a blunt pygidium without appendages. Penetrating calcareous shells and rocks, in littoral zone.

Related species and character differences:

Separable from *Dodecaceria fewkesi* Berkeley and Berkeley, 1954 primarily by habitat. *D. fewkesi* constructs calcareous matrices of tubes. If a large number of branchiae are present (on setigers 3-11) this character may also be used to differentiate the two species.



Distribution:

Western Canada to southern California,
in intertidal rocky areas; cosmopolitan.

