

SCAMIT Code: AHF21

Date examined: August 13, 1984

Literature:

- Moore, P. 1904, New Polychaeta from California. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Pa. 56 : 484-503.  
Hartman, O. 1969, Atlas of Sedentariate Polychaetous Annelids from California. Allan Hancock Foundation, University of Southern California Press, Los Angeles, CA: 1-312

Diagnostic charaters:

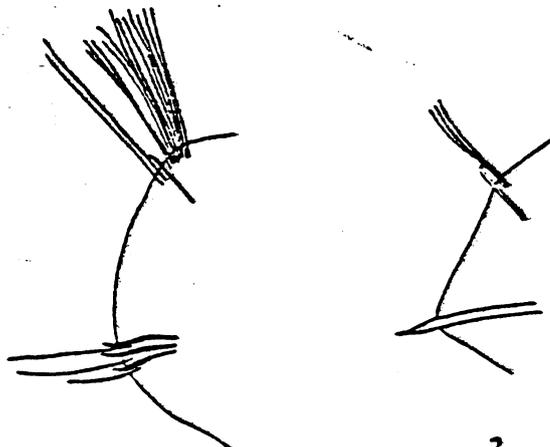
Transverse row of tentacular cirri present on setiger 4 or 5. Color drab-yellow to reddish brown, with black spines. Length 60-100 mm; width to 4.5 mm in anterior third of body; setigers 300-400. Body linear with dorsum arched and ventrum concave. Prostomium rounded in front, wider than long, without eyes. Buccal region triannulate, inflated, about twice as long as prostomium. Segments much wider than long, uniannulate. Dorsal tentacles form a dense tuft on setiger 4, number 12-14 pairs. Branchiae present from first setiger, usually a pair to a segment, the first inserted immediately above notopodium, and increasingly higher to be inserted nearer middorsum than to notopodia in posterior segments; branchiae usually not coiled. Parapodia small, papillar, with only capillary setae in first 30 segments. Dark to black spines (fig. 1) in neuropodia from setiger 31, and in notopodia from about setiger 50, number 1-3 in a series, accompanied by capillary setae in all notopodia but not in posterior neuropodia. Dark spines may number only one in a ramus (fig. 2) in posterior neuropodia.

Variability:

Dark spines noted in Moore's and Hartman's descriptions do not develop until worms are older.

Related species and character differences:

*Cirriiformia spirabranhia* (Moore, 1904)- tentacular cirri are on setiger 6 or 7. *Cirriiformia tentaculata* Montague, 1908 is a European species that does not occur in this area.



Distribution:

Central and southern California, intertidal to 10 fms, in rocky and mixed sediments.

