

**Synonymy:** *Nereis procera* of authors NEP, not Ehlers 1986      **Examined:** 08 Mar 07  
*Nereis* nr. *procera* of Hyland *et al.*, 1990      **Examined by:** Bill Furlong  
*Nereis* nr. *procera* of Lissner *et al.*, 1986      LACSD  
*Nereis* sp B of Lissner *et al.*, 1986

**Literature:**

1. Hartman, O., 1968. Atlas of the Errantiate Polychaetous Annelids of California. pp. 1-828
2. Hilbig, B., 1997. Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and the Western Santa Barbara Channel. Vol. 4, Chp. 12, pp. 291-316.
3. Johnson, H.P. 1901. The Polychaeta of the Puget Sound region. Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History 29(18): 381-437.
4. SCAMIT Newsletter, August, 2002. Vol. 21, No. 4, pgs. 2-5.

**Diagnostic Characters:**

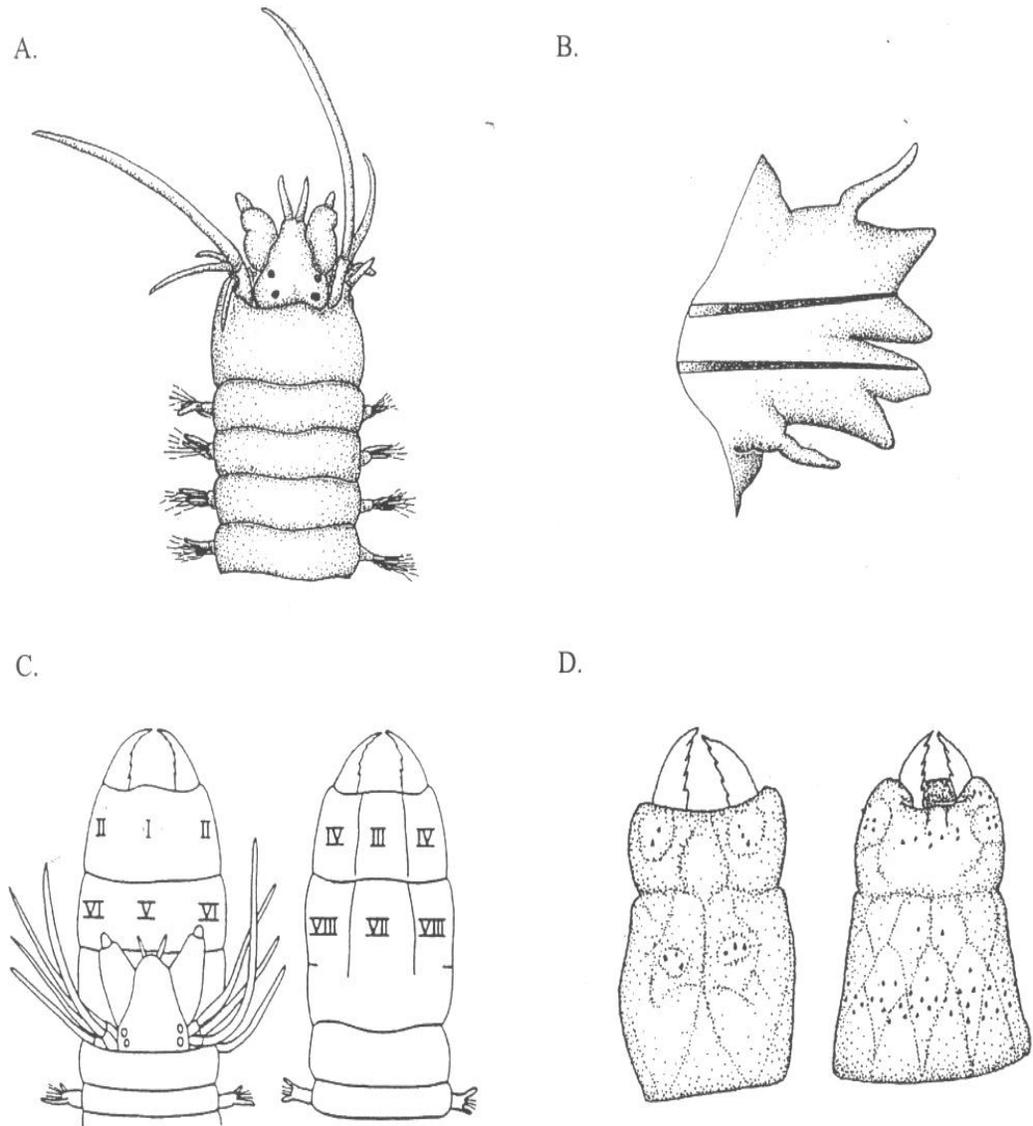
1. Ventral cirri single throughout
2. Two pairs of small round eyes
3. Conical paragnaths on both rings of proboscis, absent on Areas I and V
4. Notopodia with homogomph falcigers

**Discussion:**

At a SCAMIT meeting in August, 2002, Leslie Harris reported on her examination of Ehler's type specimen of *Nereis procera* (SCAMIT Newsletter, Vol. 21, No.4), which is from the Gulf of Georgia and was approximately 120mm long and 4mm wide. Leslie noted 8-9 teeth on the jaws and that the paragnaths were tiny, colorless, and present on all eight regions of the prostomium. Soft bottom specimens from the southern California region also have 8-9 teeth on the jaws and the paragnaths are also often small and inconspicuous. Local specimens, however, differ in being much smaller (typically less than one sixth the length of the type) and paragnaths are absent from Area's I and V of the prostomium. Thus, it was recommended by Leslie and agreed upon by present SCAMIT members to erect a *Nereis* sp A designation for specimens previously referred to as *Nereis procera* in the southern California area.

**Depth Range:** Reported 23m to 305m by LACSD

**Habitat and Distribution:** Silt and silt mixed with sand from western Canada to southern California.



**Figure 1.** *Nereis* sp A of SCAMIT: A. anterior, dorsal view; B. middle parapodium, anterior view; C. areas of proboscis; D. dorsal and ventral view of proboscis and paragnath pattern (A,B after Johnson, 1901; C,D after Hilbig, 1997).



Figure 2. Ventral view of paragnaths on partially everted proboscis (Photo courtesy of Rick Rowe, CSD).