

See Mackie 1991 - Polychaeta

Specimen Code: PL51

Date examined: September 10, 1984

Synonym:

Scalibregma inflata Hartman and Fauchald, 1971.

Literature:

Hartman, 1969;
Blake, 1981;
Kudenov and Blake, 1978;
Hobson and Banse, 1981;
Fauvel, 1927;
Fauchald, 1972;
Imajima and Hartman, 1964.

Important characters:

T-shaped prostomium, lack of anterior acicular spines, branched gills on setigers 2-5 and prominent dorsal and ventral cirri in posterior parapodia. Overall appearance very distinctive. Preserved color rusty to bright orange.

Related species and character differences:

The genus *Scalibregma* is monotypic. However the genus *Sclerobregma* Hartman is closely related, differing mainly in the presence of acicular spines in anterior setigers. *Sclerobregma* may occur off western Mexico (see "comments" for further discussion).

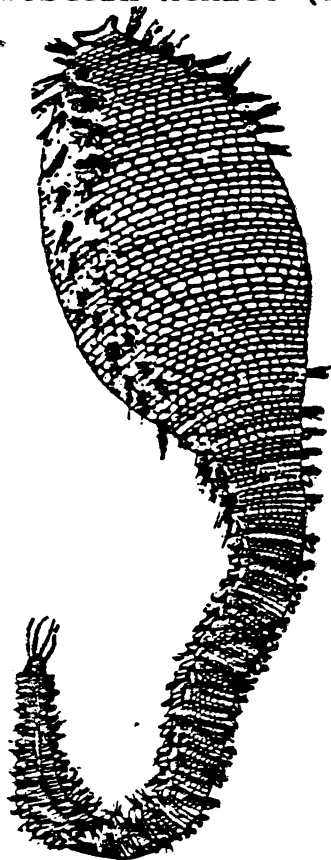


Fig. 1 *Scalibregma inflatum* entire organism

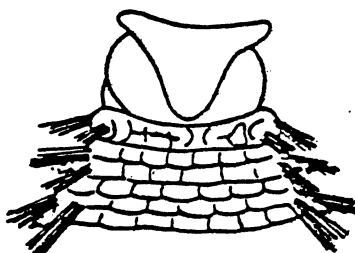


Fig. 2 Anterior end, dorsal view

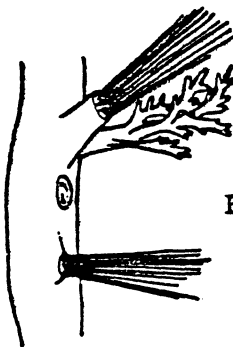


Fig. 3 Branchiate parapodium
(setigers 2-5)

Distribution:

Hartman, 1969: Western Canada south to southern California, in shelf, slope, canyon, and basin depths; in coarse sand and shelly sediments.

Fauchald, 1972: World-wide areas including mainland slope of Central American Trench.

Ecology:

"...live in galleries in soft sediment ... as much as 30-60 cm below the surface ... active burrowers and feed on detritus found in the sediment ...

Scalibregma inflatum may also feed at the surface."

Fauchald and Jamars, 1979

Comments:

Specimens from western Mexico reported by Fauchald (1972) have short, slender acicular spines in each of the first parapodia. Kudenov and Blake (1978) noted that the specimens should be re-examined because the spines are characteristic of *Sclerobregma*.

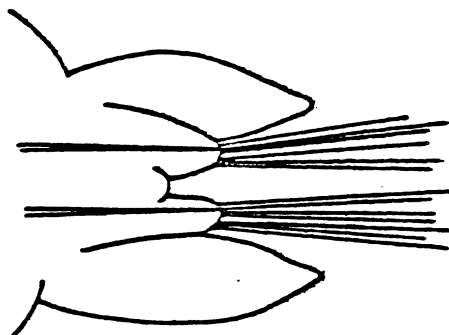


Fig. 4 Posterior parapodium

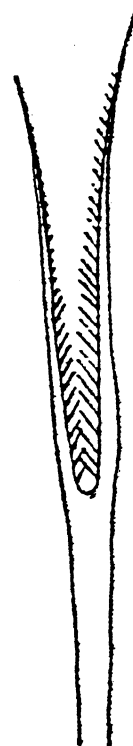


Fig. 5 Furcate setae

