SCAMIT Code: HYP 71

Date Examined: January 12, 1987
Voucher by: Don Cadien

SYNONYMY: Has not appeared under any other name.

LITERATURE: Menzies & Barnard 1959; Thistle 1980; Hessler & Thistle 1975.

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERISTICS:

1. Acute spines along anterior dorsal edges of pereonites and on dorsal surface of cephalon.
2. Basal articles (1-3) of antenna 1 spinose.
3. Copulatory organ of male short and thick.
4. Telson triangular (i.e. tapering, with straight lateral margins).
5. Anterior margin straight, with no defined rostrum or sinus for antennal insertion.

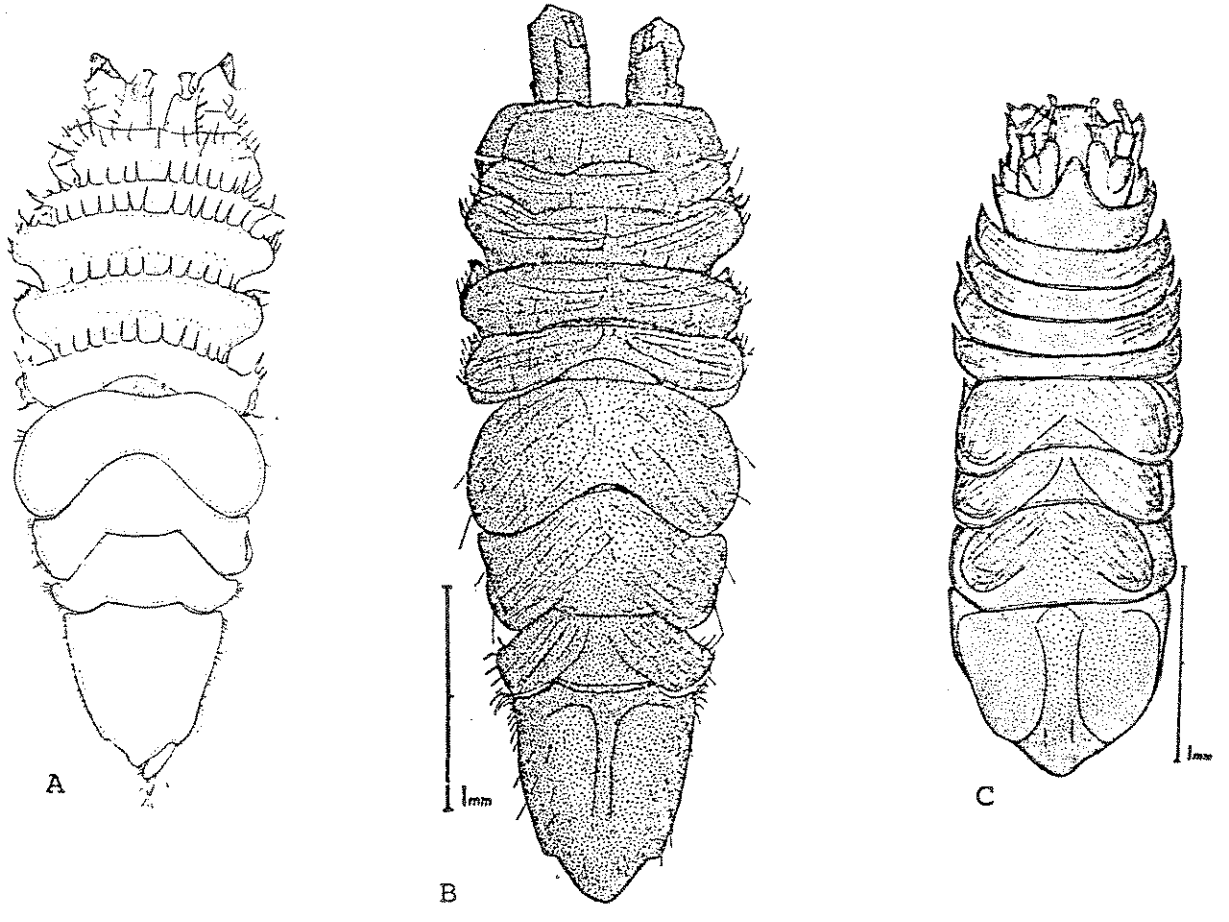
RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFRERENCES:

1. Can be distinguished from I. profunda Schultz 1966 by presence of spines (characters 1&2) and shape of male copulatory organ - short in acarina, long and recurved in profunda (character 3). The copulatory organ (or appendix masculina) is located medially on the inner branch of the second pleopod. No other species in the genus have been reported from California waters.
2. Ilyarachnids can be separated from the similar and closely related Eurycopidae (3 genera and 5 species in California - 2 spp undescribed) with the last two characters above. Local species of Eurycope have rostra; either broadly rounded (E. californiensis) or bibbed (E. sp. A). Both local species of Munnopsurus have no defined rostrum, but have deep sinuses in the anterior margin of the cephalon for insertion of the first antennae. None of the eurycopids have the straight sided triangular telson of the ilyarachnids.

Thistle (1980) indicated both I. acarina and I. profunda remain within the genus concept as revised by Hessler & Thistle (1975).

DEPTH RANGE: 80-200 m.

DISTRIBUTION: Pt. Conception - Coronado Submarine Canyon.



A. Ilyarachna acarina (dorsal view from Menzies & Barnard 1959)
B. Ilyarachna profunda (dorsal view from Schultz 1966)
C. Eurycope californiensis (dorsal view from Schultz 1966)