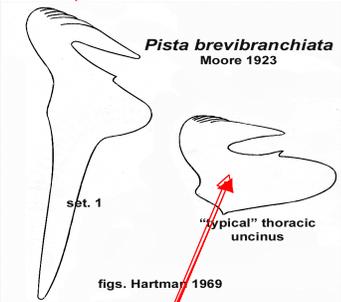
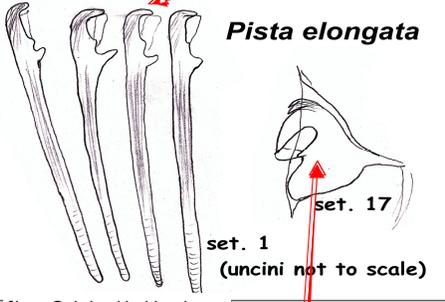


Two morphological forms of *Pista* & *Betapista*

Leslie Harris has examined type specimens for all reported Northeastern Pacific species of *Pista* except *P. agassizi* and *P. disjuncta*, and separates species in the genus into two morphological forms. (Note that the paratype of *P. estevanica* is an abdominal fragment).

Form 1 is represented by *Pista cristata* (Muller, 1776) from Norway, the type species for the genus, *Pista* (Harris has images of live specimens of *P. cristata* from near the type locality). Form 2 is represented by *Betapista dekkeræ* Banse, 1980. Leslie determined that the holotype of *B. dekkeræ* was an aberrant specimen missing the first branchiae and the first lappet on one side. The first branchial scars are visible in the type when examined very carefully. So *Betapista* does have branchiae starting on the second segment (like all other "*Pista*"). But there are other characters that make *Betapista* distinct from *Pista* (sensu stricto).

| Two Primary Morphological Forms of <i>Pista</i> / <i>Betapista</i> | | |
|--|---|---|
| Tabular Summary of SCAMIT July 2006 & February 2002 Presentations by Leslie Harris | | |
| REPRESENTATIVE TAXA | FORM 1 | FORM 2 |
| | <i>Pista</i> spp (sensu stricto) - <i>Pista cristata</i> - <i>Pista agassizi</i> - <i>Pista alata</i> - <i>Pista brevipbranchiata</i> - <i>Pista estevanica</i> - <i>Pista wui</i> | <i>Betapista dekkeræ</i> - <i>Pista elongata</i> - <i>Pista pacifica</i> - <i>Pista moorei</i> |
| CHARACTERS | | |
| Branchiae | 2 pair | 3 pair |
| Branchial insertion | segment 2 | segment 2 |
| Nephromixia (internal morphology from Smith 1994) | 3 pair (also reported as nephridial papillae or pores) | > 3 pairs |
| Nephromixia location (internal morphology from Smith 1994) | segments 2, 5, & 6 [1 pair excretory (ENMX) then 2 post-septum reproductive (RNMX)] | 2 pair excretory anterior to septum (posterior margin segment 4) and up to 11 pair respiratory posterior to septum |
| Anterior uncini dentition | multiple teeth above the large single primary tooth (long shafted on first few setigers usually)  | crest is smooth or with only vestigial teeth and contiguous with primary tooth (long, heavy shafts on first few setigers)  |
| Shape of posterior thoracic uncini | similar to anterior | similar to FORM 1 |
| Size of anterior uncini | subequal to posterior thoracic | greatly enlarged in first few setigers then decreasing in size |
| Size of posterior thoracic uncini | subequal to anterior thoracic | normal size (similar to FORM 1) |
| Ventral shields (scutes) | anterior well defined and typical of those on following segments / anterior may be grooved | anterior few crenulated without the well defined border of those on following setigers / in some taxa the poorly delimited shields may continue to the mid thoracic region |
| Table by R. Row e 060815 | | |

Most of the information provided in this document was presented by Leslie Harris at the SCAMIT Terebellidae meeting 11 July 2006 (LACMNH-worm collection room)