



**Southern California Association of
Marine Invertebrate Taxonomists**

3720 Stephen White Drive
San Pedro, California 90731

January 1989

Vol. 7, No. 10

NEXT MEETING: Provisional Polychaete Species

GUESTS SPEAKER: Dr. James Carlton
Oregon Institute of Marine Biology
"Biological Invasions"

DATE: February 14, 1989

LOCATION: 9:30 am Times-Mirror Conference Room
LA County Museum of Natural History
900 Exposition Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA

1:00 pm Worm Lab, AHF at USC

MINUTES FROM MEETING ON JANUARY 9, 1989

Benthic Sampling Devices -

The meeting opened with a discussion on the effectiveness of the standard Van Veen benthic sampler that is used throughout southern California. Several users have reported that the sampler will "overtop", that is bury so deep in the sediments that the surface layer is squashed against the doors. This disrupts the sample for any precise surface sampling for chemistry samples or for vertical distribution of biological material.

Recently the Gray-O'Hara Box Core has proven effective in sampling for vertical distribution of the infauna. It is smaller than the standard box core and the small size makes it easier to use. Use of this device in the southern California area will demonstrate whether it is appropriate for the local benthic programs.

Anyone who has used the Gray-O'Hara sampler is urged to present their comments at the next meeting or contact the SCAMIT Secretary, Tom Parker, (213) 775-2351 X394.

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The SCAMIT newsletter is not deemed to be a valid publication
for formal taxonomic purposes.

Southern California Academy of Sciences (SCAS) -

SCAS has scheduled its annual meeting at California Lutheran University, in Thousand Oaks, on May 12-13, 1989. There will be symposia on Mono Lake and the Channel Islands. The flyer is attached.

1989 SCAMIT Agenda -

The agenda for 1989 is still in preparation. We have an outline and anticipate completion soon. Please note that the February meeting was moved to the 14th in order to have Dr. James Carlton from the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology as a guest speaker. The meeting will be held at the LA County Museum of Natural History in the Times-Mirror Conference Room.

Use and Interpretation of the Infaunal Trophic Index -

Some users of the Infaunal Trophic Index have interpreted the name list in different ways. This often results in different values and conclusions. Obviously it would be best if everyone used the same faunal list and applied it in a uniform way. To facilitate this goal an effort should be made to collect and compare the various methodologies now used when calculating the Index. SCAMIT hopes to provide this effort.

Literature....Literature....Literature -

Dr. D. V. Ellis from the University of Victoria in Canada recently published an article in the Marine Pollution Bulletin (Vol. 19: 506-512) which details his instructional approach to quality control in biological surveys. He not only discusses the problem of taxonomic quality control and its impact on chemical and statistical analysis, but also details taxonomic investigations using the PC software DELTA. This software was designed specifically for taxonomic work and can be run on IBM PC-XT or DEC VAX/VMS systems.

Employment Opportunity -

MEC Analytical Systems is looking for a polychaete taxonomist. To obtain more information on the position, contact Doug Diener at:

MEC Analytical Systems Inc.
2433 Impala Drive
Carlsbad CA 92009
(619) 931-8081
FAX (619) 931-1580

Specimens Examined on January 9, 1989

PL 77 Caprella gorgonia Laubitz and Lewbel, 1974
PL 79 Hemiproto sp. A

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