

September, 1995

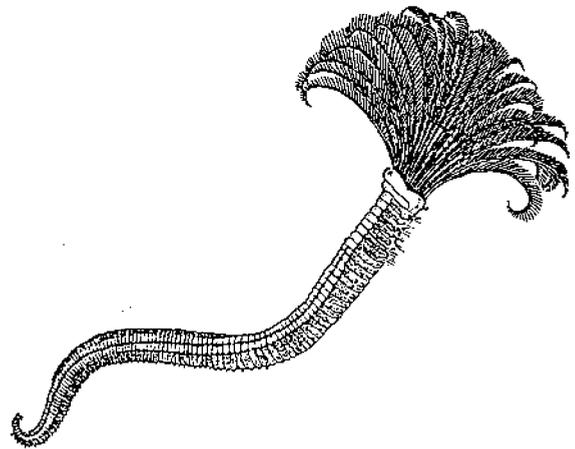
SCAMIT Newsletter

Vol. 14, No. 5

NEXT MEETING:	Staining Patterns in Polychaetes
GUEST SPEAKER:	none
DATE:	October 16, 1995
TIME:	9:30am - 3:30pm
LOCATION:	City of San Diego Marine Biology Lab 4918 N. Harbor Dr. Suite 201 (upstairs) San Diego (see enclosed map)

OCTOBER 16th MEETING

This meeting will finally cover staining patterns in polychaetes. Hopefully, the postponement of this meeting by two months will now allow all members interested the opportunity to attend. Members should come prepared to discuss their personal staining techniques and the various stains they use. It may be helpful if members brought any illustrations of staining patterns, actual specimens that exhibit particular staining patterns, and any literature that discusses staining methods and techniques or specific patterns to this meeting. Members may also want to review the article written by Tom Parker (CSDLAC) that appeared in the



Megalomma
(from Light's Manual 3rd ed. 1975)

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SCAMIT newsletter (Vol. 13 No. 12). In this article Tom raised several questions about staining techniques and the use of staining patterns in taxonomy. We hope to address these questions and probably raise several more at the meeting.

SPECIAL NEMERTEAN MEETING

On Friday, October 27th there will be a meeting hosted by John Ljubenkov (MEC) at his home to discuss and, hopefully, resolve some of the problems with the nemerteans. This is intended to be a small, informal, but productive meeting. Anyone interested should contact John @ (619) 931-8081 for directions to his home.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting is tentatively scheduled for the 13th. This will be a second meeting to discuss the additions and emendations to the first edition of the SCAMIT Taxonomic List. The second edition of the Taxa List will hopefully be finished and distributed to members by the end of the year. This meeting will be the last chance for members to make any changes to the list. Members with provisionals for addition to the list must bring voucher specimens for review and voucher sheets for distribution in the newsletter, if they have not already done so. This includes all provisionals from the SCBPP. Without voucher specimens and voucher sheets, or substantial documentation, they can not be included in the Taxa List. Also, many species level identifications from the SCBPP and regular monitoring programs have raised questions amongst the membership in a recent SCBPP meeting. SCAMIT members using these questionable names have been notified and will need to bring specimens for review by other SCAMIT members at the meeting. They should also bring literature and documentation

to support their identification. The location of the meeting has not yet been determined, but will be announced in the next newsletter.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

At the last meeting members were asked about a possible date for the SCAMIT Christmas Party. Most members at the meeting seemed to think December 16th was a good choice. We would like to schedule the party when the majority of the members that would like to attend can do so. If this date does not fit into your social calendar and you and your family would like to attend please contact the Vice President as soon as possible. Perhaps an alternate date may be more suitable.

NEW LITERATURE

Volume 12 of the MMS Taxonomic Atlas is now out. It is part 3 of the Crustacea and covers amphipods. Unfortunately, it could not contain taxonomic changes published in the journal *Amphipacifica* and elsewhere within the last year. Please see the flyer in the last newsletter (Vol. 14 no. 4) for more information.

Description of a new species of the holothuroid genus *Cucumaria*, along with a redescription of *Cucumaria miniata* were provided by Kirkendale & Lambert (1995).

Between the meeting and the production of this newsletter *Amphipacifica* Vol. 2 No. 1 was received. It has two articles which pertain to west coast amphipod taxonomy; one dealing with the haustoriid genus *Eohaustorius* (Bousfield and Hoover 1995), and one with pleustids (Bousfield and Hendrycks 1995). The pleustid article in particular modifies existing taxonomic practice in our area. The changes derived from it will be discussed later in this newsletter.

MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 25 MEETING

The first half of the meeting was spent discussing the changes and additions that needed to be made to the first edition of the SCAMIT Taxa List. It has come to the membership's attention that many of the provisionals included in the Taxa List do not have voucher sheets or descriptions that have been fully distributed. Since this list is for regionally occurring macroinvertebrates it is important that voucher sheets be widely available for all members to use. When the list was originally created many provisionals were included that didn't have voucher sheets because they were in the process of being completed or were "promised" in the near future. It has been decided that for a provisional to be included in the second edition of the Taxa List it must have substantial documentation and that the documentation must be widely distributed throughout SCAMIT, mostly by means of the newsletter. Substantial documentation includes a description of the named organism with a differential diagnosis and illustrations. This will hopefully be in the form of a voucher sheet, but does not have to be. For those members that need help with a voucher sheet CSDLAC has a blank template of an appropriate voucher sheet that members may obtain an electronic copy of. Please contact Don Cadien or Cheryl Brantley @ (310) 830-2400 ext. 403.

Dave Montagne (CSDLAC) has prepared a checklist of all the provisionals that were included in the first Taxa List. This checklist is being distributed to the labs of the POTWs and several consulting firms in the southern California Bight involved with SCAMIT. This checklist is designed so members may check off which provisionals they have documentation on and if this documentation is in the form of a voucher sheet, key, illustration, or description. This checklist will

then enable SCAMIT (at the Nov. 13 meeting) to decide which provisionals need further documentation, which provisionals need to have their documentation redistributed thru the newsletter, and which provisionals should merely be dropped from the list.

It was suggested at the meeting that SCAMIT should set up a separate file to keep track of the documentation on past provisionals and their status. This file could be added to in the future. The file could also have an electronic version and all future voucher sheets of provisionals could be submitted on disk, not only for easier inclusion in the newsletter, but for ease with future changes. All members present thought this suggestion would be very useful. The only problem presented by this suggestion is finding the person to organize this provisional file. Any volunteers?

At the meeting a list of additions and emendations created by CSDLAC for the SCAMIT Taxa List was distributed to the members present for their comments. Several additions were made and some changes due to incorrect alphabetical sequence and authorship were made. This list will be added to at the November meeting. It was proposed that trawl-caught invertebrates be included in the 2nd edition of the Taxa list. No members present voiced any objections to this proposal.

MORE CHINA NOTES

Dr. Don Reish submitted the following comments on his experiences during his trip to the polychaete conference in China and a few other subjects.

"Additional comments on the 5th International Polychaete Meeting. The changes that have occurred in Qingdao since my visit in 1982 were spectacular. Autos now outnumber bicycles, a good share of which are privately owned taxis. Sidewalk shops are everywhere;

none occurred in 1982. Multistoried buildings are being built all over the city. I stayed in the same hotel in 1982 only they had added a 25 story addition complete with a revolving restaurant. Several of us visited Prof. Wu in the hospital; he has been there since last December. I'm not sure if he will ever return to polychaetes.

Contrary to the SCAMIT newsletter, I did not present a plenary presentation on the use of polychaetes as marine pollution indicators, but on the use of polychaetes in marine toxicological testing.

Pei-Yuan Qian and I will serve as co-editor of the proceedings which are to be published in the *Bulletin of Marine Science*. I had met Pei-Yuan in Qingdao in 1982 and got him interested in *Capitella capitata*. He received his PhD from the Univ. of Alberta (my mothers college when it was a normal school). He is now on the faculty at Hong Kong.

I will continue to serve as secretary-treasurer of the organization and will be editor of the proceedings of the Brazilian conference which will again be published in the *Bulletin of Marine Science*.

We have been trying to obtain field-collected specimens of *Neanthes arenaceodentata*. We have tried many of the bays and mouths of rivers including Ensenada with no success. If you have encountered this species in samples collected since April 1995 please get in contact with me (310-985-4846). We want to compare the toxicity of field collected specimens to my lab population; this hasn't been done since Phil Oshida did it in the 1970's.

The second edition of *Marine Life of Southern California* is out, but it probably will not be available in college bookstores for a couple of months. It sells for \$20.00. There are about 150 new drawings, done by my daughter, an expanded introduction, and about

100 additional organisms added."

COMMENTS ON THE AMPHIPOD SECTION OF THE TAXONOMIC ATLAS

The long awaited and recently released amphipod portion of the *Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and Western Santa Barbara Channel* is likely to serve as a convenient and often used source for identifications of amphipods from the southern California Bight. There has been no similar compendium of regional amphipod information at the species level since Barnard's section of Light's Manual in 1975. In light of this usage the following comments on the publication are offered.

1) Coverage. While dealing with quite a few species which also occur within the southern California Bight, the amphipod Atlas addresses only those species which were reported in the Phase I and Phase II reconnaissance surveys of the Santa Maria Basin undertaken by contractors for the Minerals Management Service. Consequently, there are many species common in the Bight (especially in southern inshore waters), which are neither discussed nor represented in the keys in the Atlas. The family Lysianassidae (s.l.) is not treated here, but will be included in a future volume. The keys and species descriptions in the Atlas will be very useful to local amphipod workers **only** if it is remembered that they are not comprehensive.

2) Timing. Because of the relative completion of the manuscript at the time of appearance of recent monographic revisionary papers published in *Amphipacifica* in 1994 and 1995 these revisions were not incorporated into the Atlas. The results of the extensive SCAMIT amphipod discussions undertaken as part of identifications of the SCBPP collections were also not timely for inclusion in the Atlas. All of the authors of the volume were also

physically distant from the Bight, and in at best intermittent contact with local workers. They were thus not in a position to evaluate the relevance and reliability of our observations.

A list of taxa where differences between current SCAMIT usage and/or recent publications was evident follows. The first name is that in the Atlas, the second that of SCAMIT or indicated authors.

- Eusirus longipes* → *Eusirus columbianus*
(Bousfield & Hendrycks 1995a)
- Rhachotropis* spp → see Bousfield & Hendrycks 1995a
- Melphisana bola* → recognized as a variable complex of more than one species by SCAMIT
- Bathymedon pumilis* → correctly *pumilus*
- Heterophoxus oculus* → see revision of genus by Jarrett & Bousfield 1994
- Parametaphoxus fultoni* → *P. quaylei* Jarrett & Bousfield 1994
- Paraphoxus oculus* → *P. sp 1* of Jarrett & Bousfield 1994
- Garosyrrhoë disjuncta* → recognized as part of an unresolved species complex by SCAMIT
- Urothoe elegans* → what we have called *U. varvarini* in the Bight
- [*Ampelisca careyi*] → synonymy with *A. unsocalae* not recognized by SCAMIT
- Ampelisca hancocki* → recognized as part of an unresolved species complex by SCAMIT
- Parapleustes pugettensis* → west coast records allocated between several species in several genera by Bousfield & Hendrycks 1995b
- Pleustes depressa* → *Thorlaksonius depressus* (see Bousfield & Hendrycks 1994b)
- Protomedeia* spp → currently viewed by SCAMIT as not clearly differentiable in the female
- Photis* spp → see comments in Newsletter Vol 13#12 and Vol 14#1

Hemiproto wigleyi → *Hemiproto sp A* of SCAMIT. Watling's identification as *H. wigleyi* may be correct, but more material than the six specimens examined by him during this study will be needed to establish the presence of this Atlantic species in California.

Don Cadien

PLEUSTID REVISION, PART III

The recently received third part of the Bousfield & Hendrycks revision of the family Pleustidae in the north Pacific has major implications for pleustid identification in the Bight. Part I (Bousfield & Hendrycks 1994a) did not deal with species level problems, while Part II (Bousfield & Hendrycks 1994b) addressed the subfamily Pleustinae, which is poorly represented in temperate north Pacific waters. The present installment (Bousfield & Hendrycks 1995b) deals with the subfamilies Parapleustinae, Dactylopleustinae, and Pleusirinae, which contain the majority of the California species.

Rather than attempt to cover case by case the changes introduced in this paper I have prepared a table which summarizes the differences between the SCAMIT ED1 list and Bousfield & Hendrycks 1994b and 1995b. Entries in the Author column are keyed to Bousfield & Hendrycks unless there is a NOL (not on list) in that column. In that case authors refer to the SCAMIT ED1 column. Where a species is listed more than once in the ED1 column it indicates that the taxon has been split and/or restricted by Bousfield & Hendrycks. Species listed as NOL under B & H are either in a subfamily not yet treated by them, or do not range into their area of coverage (*Dactylopleustes sp A*).

Review of the haustoriid genus *Eohaustorius* in the north Pacific (Bousfield & Hoover 1995) led to separation of southern identifications of

Eohaustorius washingtonianus as a new species,
E. barnardi -Don Cadien

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SCAMIT OFFICERS:

If you need any other information concerning SCAMIT please feel free to contact any of the officers.

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