

City of San Diego

**PROVISIONAL SPECIES WORKSHEET****Provisional Name:** *Malmgreniella sp A***Authority:****Common Synonyms:****Taxon:** Annelida:Polynoidae**Taxonomist:** R.Rowe Date: 23 June 97**Specimen(s):** STATION DATE DEPTH STORAGE LOCATION VIAL #

ITP/Reg. 2027 rep.1 7/25/95 194ft. DLZ #1051

ITP/Reg. 2131 rep.1 7/17/96 208ft. RGV pers. coll.

**Characters:** (Based on first listed single specimen-see station data shown above- total length of approximately 23 mm. Illustrated pigmentation for elytra is based on the least faded sixth elytra found on approximately one dozen individuals examined.)

Eyes: 2 pair, anterior larger

Cephalic lobe: broadly rounded, triangular, or truncate with variably developed "peaks" at anterolateral margin (see remarks)

Neuropodial supraacicular lobe: triangular to broadly digitate (see remarks and fig. 1)

Dorsal cirri, ventral cirri, tentacular cirri, and antennae with widely spaced digitate papillae (fig.1)

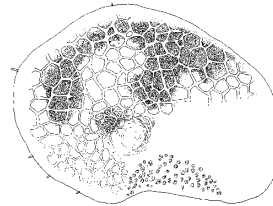
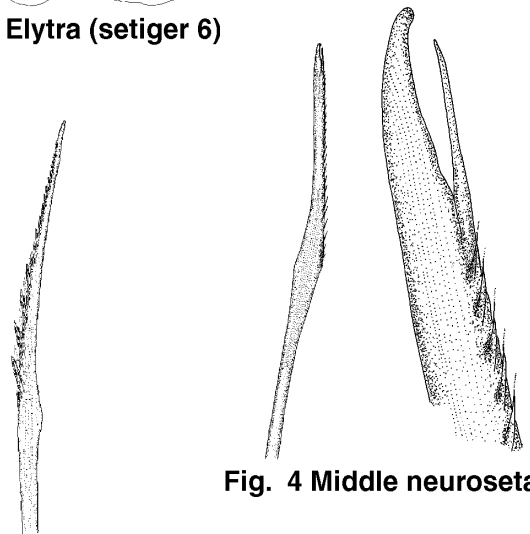
Elytra with underlying reticulation pattern (most visible in pigmented areas) ( fig. 2)

Elytra pigment: nearly complete ring on the first, c-shaped pattern beginning on second and fading more posteriorly, some specimens with pigment spot overlying posterior area of attachment scar

Notosetae (middle parapod): ~50% thicker than neurosetae, number ~18, all end in blunt tip

Neurosetae (middle parapod): upper group (~6) entire and with many long spinules (fig.3); median group (~18) strongly bifid with long secondary tooth and spinules up to base of teeth (fig. 4); lower group (~6) weakly bifid to entire

Body pigmentation: speckling between posterior eyes on prostomium; some transverse banding on dorsum and ventrum of last few setigers

**Illustrations:****Fig. 1 Median parapod****Fig. 2 Elytra (setiger 6)****Fig. 3 Upper neuroseta****Fig. 4 Middle neuroseta**

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**Related Species:**

This species is very near to and may represent a southern variation of *Malmgreniella nigralba* (Berkeley, 1923) fide Ruff, 1995. That species is described with noto- and neurosetae of similar number and thickness; shorter secondary tooth on middle neurosetae (although a longer tooth for Calif. specimens is noted on pg.151); no pigment is illustrated between posterior eyes; and the supra-acicular neuropodial lobe is described (and illustrated) as broader and more rounded. The supraacicular lobes, (occasional) presence of cephalic peaks, and the elytral pigment (but not the reticulation) fit the description of *Malmgreniella macginitiei* Pettibone, 1993 fide Ruff, 1995 ppg. 147-149.

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**Remarks:**

This voucher sheet has been produced to describe specimens encountered during the SCAMIT meeting of June 9, 1997 and additional specimens collected by the City of San Diego Ocean Monitoring Program. The typical specimen measured 20-25 mm. in total length, although many smaller and a few larger individuals have been collected.

The shape and interpretation of the shape of the cephalic peaks is variable. Specimens of this provisional species examined at the SCAMIT meeting had anterolateral margins of the prostomium that were triangular and obviously peaked to unpeaked and truncate. One specimen had a well formed peak on one side and truncate margin on the other. This character is apparently variable at least in preservation and especially in interpretation by different taxonomists.

The pigment on the elytra is most evident anteriorly and usually "faded" by the middle setigers. The pigment between the spot (when present) overlaying the attachment scar and the band paralleling the posterior margin is usually the first to fade. Many specimens have pigment remaining only along the posterior margin of the elytra by setiger 8-10. Some retain the spot of pigment overlaying the attachment scar through the middle setigers and other specimens possess a similar pigment spot only on the anteriormost setiger or two. The polygonal reticulation pattern is most obvious in the pigmented areas but is revealed readily by mounting the elytra and viewing with higher power on the compound microscope.

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**Distribution:**

Near Santa Barbara to the Mexico border at shelf depths

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**References:**

Ruff, R. E. 1995. Family Polynoidae Malmgren, 1867 Pp. 105-166 In Blake, J.A, B. Hilbig, & P. H. Scott (eds.). Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and Western Santa Barbara Channel. Vol. 5- The Annelida Part 2. 377pp.