

? *P. suborta* in MMS

SCAMIT Code: PL #38
SCCWRP #33

Date examined: 2/13/84
reexamined: 2/11/91
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Synonymy: Prionospio steenstrupi of authors (in part). [Not Malmgren, 1867]. Fide Light 1978.
Prionospio malmgreni of authors (in part). [Not Claparede, 1869].

Literature: Wilson, 1990; Maciolek, 1985; Blake and Kudenov, 1978; Light, 1978; Foster 1971.

Diagnostic characters:

1. Four pairs of branchiae on setigers 2-5 (Figures 1 and 2).
 - first and fourth pairs pinnate, with long digitate pinnae on posterior surface; second and third pairs apinnate, with dense cilia along lateral margins (Figure 2).
 - first pair approximately 1-1/4 times longer than notopodial lamella, and apinnate branchiae.
 - fourth pair approximately 1-1/2 to 1-3/4 longer than notopodial lamella and apinnate branchiae.
2. Setiger 2 neuropodial lobe with acute ventral process (Figure 2).
3. Dorsal membranes--complete, raised membranous connections between paired notopodial lamellae--begin on setiger 7 and decrease in height through setigers 14-18.
4. Sabre setae begin on setiger 10.
5. Neuropodial hooded hooks begin on setigers 13-15, each with 4 apical teeth.
6. Notopodial hooded hooks begin on setigers 28-41, each with 4 apical teeth.
7. Limbate capillary setae.
8. Interparapodial pouches absent.
9. Two or three pairs of eyes, or eyes may be reduced, when present, posterior pair elongate and much larger than anterior pair(s), usually red.

Related species and characters differences:

Prionospio steenstrupi Malmgren 1867

pinnate branchiae subequal; setiger 2 neuropodial lobe without ventral process; sabre setae begin on setigers 10-12; neuropodial hooded hooks begin on setigers 12-17; notopodial hooded hooks begin on setigers 40-54; hooded hooks with 4-6 apical teeth.

Prionospio kulin Wilson 1990

pinnate branchiae subequal and up to 3 times longer than apinnate pairs; interparapodial pouches occasionally present on setigers 9-13; anterior capillary setae bilimbate, changing to nonlimbate at setigers 10-15.

Other comments and notes:

Prior to 1984, specimens of Prionospio with four pairs of branchiae of which the first and fourth were pinnate and the second and third apinnate were designated as Prionospio malmgreni or P. steenstrupi. On 11 February, 1984, SCAMIT distinguished Prionospio steenstrupi from P. malmgreni and designated the "steenstrupi" form from southern California as the provisional species, Prionospio sp. A SCAMIT. Prionospio malmgreni was said to have 6-8 pairs of branchiae, with first four pairs pinnate. Additionally, SCAMIT concluded that P. malmgreni did not occur in California. In the meantime, Sue Williams had examined specimens of P. steenstrupi from the Atlantic and determined that the southern California specimens of Prionospio were not P. steenstrupi. Specimens of P. steenstrupi will have to be re-examined to make a final determination of the differences between it and Prionospio sp. A.

Known Distribution:

From San Francisco Bay, CA south to western Mexico at 12-40 m in silty sediments. May also occur in shelly sediments.

Figures:

Figure 1

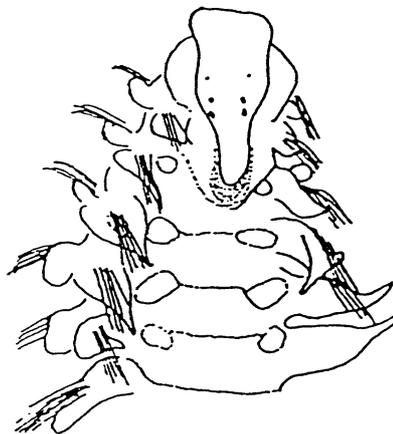


Figure 2

