City of San Diego
PROVISIONAL SPECIES VOUCHER SHEET

Provisional Name: *Macrochaeta* sp A

Authority: fide **Rowe, 1999**

Common Synonyms:
   Acrocirrus sp SD 1 fide **Rowe, 1997**

Taxon: Acrocirridae   **Taxonomist:** R. Rowe
Date: 30August1999

Specimen(s):

	STATION	DATE	DEPTH	STORAGE LOCATION	VIAL#
4 small spmns	ITP I-34rep2	7/16/97	63ft.	DLZ	2033
2 small spmns	ITP I-7rep2	1/22/99	171ft.	DLZ	2033
1 small spmn	Bight98 2469	7/22/98	33m.	Bight98	981228

Characters: (based on combined observation of twelve specimens with most, including reproductive individuals, similar in size to specimen in fig.1)

1. A pair of palps, separated medially, inserted on the anterior, ventral margin surrounded by the ventrally expanded peristome. Palps usually lost in preservation, look for scars. (fig. 1)

2. Noto <u>and</u> neurosetae first present on fourth segment. (fig. 2) Two compound neurosetae per fascicle anteriorly and posteriorly and usually one per fascicle medially. One or occasionally two long, thin, serrate capillary notosetae per fascicle.

3. Prostomium oval with a ventroanterior projection. One pair of large dorsolateral eyespots and a smaller, more deeply embedded pair usually slightly postmedian. (fig. 3).

4. Segment 1 reduced and covered dorsally by a posterior extention of the prostomium. (fig. 3) (Partial dorsal reduction of second segment observed in a single specimen.)

5. Four pairs of branchiae (most missing in preserved material) present on segments two through five. Those present varied in length from less than one to two times the width of the body.

6. Segments begin to elongate and thicken by the eighth. Several individuals contained reproductive products by the ninth segment through the median portion of the body. All individuals observed appeared to be lacking posterior ends. The longest contained approximately fifty segments.

7. The cutting edge of compound setae faced posteriorly through segments twelve or thirteen and anteriorly on following segments. This character is difficult to determine on some specimens as setae are twisted or shafts broken.

8. Papillae are largest and most concentrated near the anterior, lateral margins of anterior segments beginning on the second. The smaller dorsal papillae appear to be scattered in two or three ill defined and staggered rows across each segment. There does appear to be an interpodial papilla on each segment, and the single pair of 'nephridial papillae' are present anterior and ventral to the branchiae on the third segment. (fig. 3)

   Observations on segmentation, palp and branchial scars, and papillation required staining with alcian blue.

Illustrations:
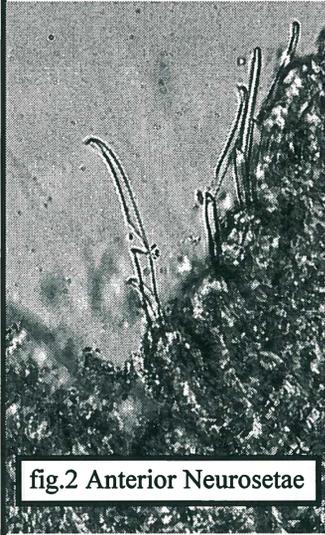
fig.1 Anterior Ventral View

fig.2 Anterior Neurosetae
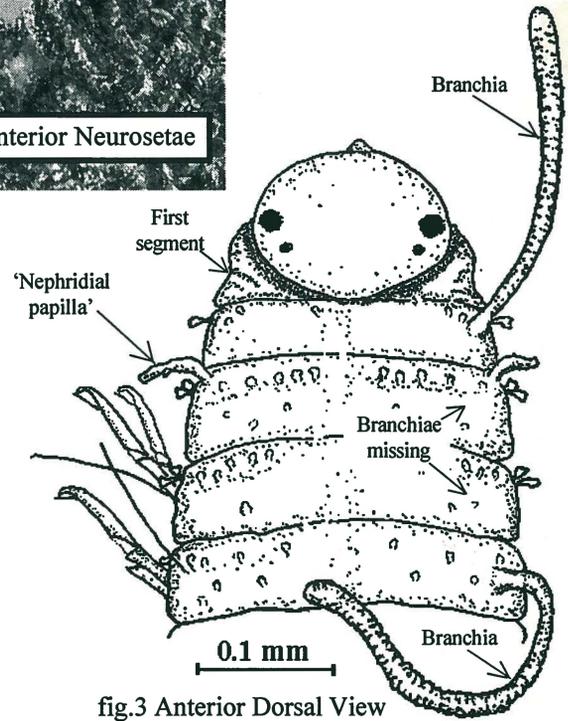
0.1 mm
fig.3 Anterior Dorsal View
(Right side setae and left side branchiae not drawn.
Palps and right side segment 3 and 4 branchiae missing)

Related Species & Other Comments:

This species is very near *Macrochaeta pege* Banse, 1969. Observation of type material may justify a synonymy. Cheryl Brantley of Los Angeles County Sanitation District provided six specimens from Bight 1998 samples west of San Miguel Island (station 2490 at 75m depth and station 2491 at 95m depth). Included in the material she loaned was a specimen (station 2490) which possessed many of the same characters as *Macrochaeta* sp A except it was covered with many large, globular papillae. My observations of that specimen were cursory and its specific placement requires additional investigation. The specimens listed above from ITP (International Treatment Plant) stations were collected south of the entrance to San Diego Bay (I-34) and near the U.S.-Mexico border (I-7). The dorsum of the second segment of a specimen (Bight 98 station 2469; July 22, 1999; 33 meters depth; south of San Miguel Island) was partially reduced by a posterior extention of the prostomium.

References:

Banse, Karl. 1969. Acrocirridae n.fam. (Polychaeta Sedentaria). J. Fish. Res. Bd. Canada 26: 2595-2620.

Banse, Karl. 1979. *Acrocirrus columbianus* and *A. occipitalis*, two new polychaetes (Acrocirridae) from the Northeast Pacific Ocean. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. 91(4): 923-928. (See comments on page 927 why *Macrochaeta papillosa* is not a species of *Acrocirrus*.)