City of San Diego

PROVISIONAL SPECIES VOUCHER SHEET

Provisional Name: *Americhelidium* sp SD1 **Taxon:** Amphipoda: Oedicerotidae **Taxonomist:** Dean Pasko
Authority: **Date:** 5 March 2001; **Revised: 1 February 2005**
Common Synonyms:
Americhelidium shoemakeri Type A

Specimen(s):

	STATION	DATE	DEPTH	STORAGE LOCATION	VIAL#
ITP Reg.	2727	7/10/00	152 ft	dp	
	2729	7/6/00	142 ft	dp	

Characters:

Generally similar in form to *Americhelidium shoemakeri* (Mills 1962) and *A. rectipalmum* (Mills 1962).

Rostrum downturned at ~90°, tip of rostrum reaching distal end of peduncular article 1, antenna 1

Eyes fused dorsally, filling much of anterior portion of head, but not extending onto rostrum

Mandibular palp, article 3 ≤1/2 of article 2

Maxilliped inner plate with 3–4 distal spines; outer plate with 10–12 outer marginal spines

Gnathopod 1, subchelate, palm convex making it appear only slightly oblique, and more similar to *A. rectipalmum* than *A. shoemakeri* which has a distinctly oblique palm; coxa 1 ventral margin with ~15 long and ~5 short setae

Gnathopod 2 chelate, propod subequal to article 2, relatively robust (L~5.5 X W); dorsal margin of propod typically bare, occassionaly 1–2 short setae, and with 4–6 distal setae, one of which extends length of dactyl; ventral margin with 2–3 setae, rarely 4–5 (excluding distalmost); dactyl relatively long (~25% of propod length); posterior margin of coxa 2 with 1 large spine and one short spine distal to it.

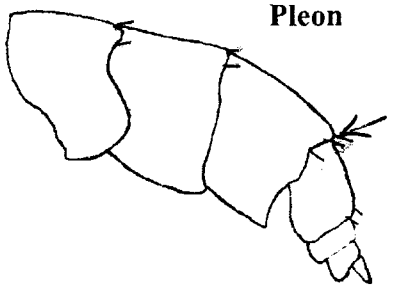
Pereopod 7, basis with distinct postero-distal lobe that extends 1/2 to 2/3 the length of ischium

Pleonites1–3 and urosomite 1 with paired, dorso-lateral setae – these sometimes broken; epimeron 2 with blunt (sub-quadrate) postero-distal tooth

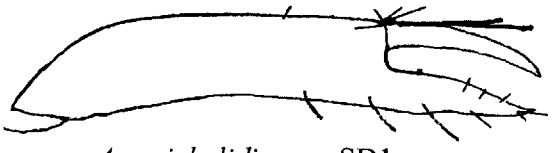
Uropods 1 and 2 terminate together, tip of Ur3 falls short of tip of Ur1; Ur1 peduncle long and slender, reaching slightly beyond distal end of Ur2 peduncle; Ur1 outer ramus with 2–5 short, stout spines, inner ramus typically with two slender spines

Telson apically rounded (i.e., not emarginate)

Illustrations:

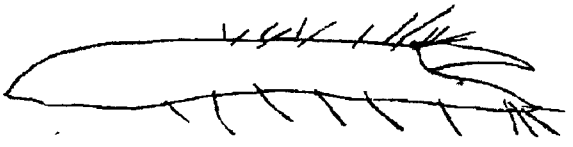


Gnathopod 2

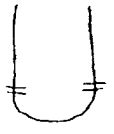


Americhelidium sp SD1

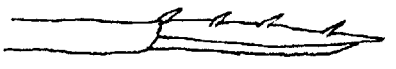
vs.



Americhelidium shoemakeri



Telson



Uropod 3

References:

Barnard, J. L. 1962. Benthic marine Amphipoda of southern California: Family Oedicerotidae, Pacific Naturalist, 3(12):351-371

Bousfield, E. L. and A. Chevrier 1996. The amphipod family Oedicerotidae on the Pacific coast of North America. Part 1. The Monoculodes and Synchelidium generic complexes: Systematics and distributional ecology, Amphipacifica, 2(2):75-148

Martin, A. 1984. Synchelidium rectipalmum and Synchelidium shoemaker (Oedicerotidae). Voucher sheets included in SCAMIT Newsletter, Vol 3, No. 7.

Mills, E. L. 1962. Amphipod crustaceans of the Pacific coast of Canada, II. Family Oedicerotidae, National Museum of Canada, 15:1-21

Thomas, J. D. and L. D. McCann 1997. The families Argissidae, Dexaminidae, Eursiridae, Gammaridae, Leucothoidae, Melphidippidae, Oedicerotidae, Pardaliscidae, Phoxocephalidae, Podoceridae, Stegocephalidae, Stenothoidae, Stilipedidae, Synopiidae, and Urothoidae, pp. 21-136 (see page 44), In J. A. Blake, L. Watling and P. H. Scott (eds.) Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and Western Santa Barbara Channel Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California

City of San Diego

PROVISIONAL SPECIES VOUCHER SHEET

Provisional Name: *Americhelidium* sp SD1 **Taxon:** Amphipoda: Oedicerotidae **Taxonomist:** Dean Pasko
Authority: **Date:** 5 March 2001; Revised 1 February 2005
Common Synonyms:
Americhelidium shoemakeri Type A

Related Species & Other Comments:

This species is one of several forms of *Americhelidium shoemakeri* complex present in shelf waters off Point Loma and Imperial Beach, CA. *Americhelidium* sp SD1 can be distinguished from the other forms of the complex by a suite of characters, the most reliable of which include: the presence of distinct, paired setae on the pleonites that are typically missing in other members of the *A. shoemakeri* complex; a distinctly more robust gnathopod 2 propod (L:W = 5.5 vs 7.5 in *A. shoemakeri*) that is sparsely setose along the dorsal and ventral margins (1–4 setae vs 5–10 in *A. shoemakeri*); the presence of one or two distinctively long distal setae on the propod that run the length of dactyl (vs ≤1/2 the length of the dactyl in *A. shoemakeri*); and a relatively long dactyl (25% the length of the propod vs ≤20% in *A. shoemakeri*) (See comparative Figures).

Americhelidium sp SD1 can also be distinguished from *A. micropleon* by the downturned rostrum (vs scarcely down-turned in *A. micropleon*); more robust gnathopod 2 (vs L:W = 7.5 in *A. micropleon*); by Ur3 which reaches to the distal end of Ur1 (vs only to mid-point of Ur1 in *A. micropleon*).

Americhelidium sp SD1 may also be confused with *Americhelidium rectipalmum* because both species have a convex palm of gnathopod 1 which can make it seem transverse; rather similary robust gnathopod 2 propod and dactyl; and paired setae on the pleonites. *Americhelidium rectipalmum* can be readily distinguished by a much reduced lobe on the basis of pereopod 7 (virtually absent to <1/3 the length of the ischium); the absence of long distal setae that extend the length of the dactyl on the propod of gnathopod 2; and a rounded epimeron 2.

Finally, *Americhelidium* sp SD1 would likely be confused with *Americhelidium setosum* Bousfield & Chevrier 1996 or *Americhelidium gurjanovae* Kurdrjaschov & Tzvetkova 1975 when using the key in Bousfield & Chevrier (1996). *Americhelidium setosum* differs in having 30–40 setae on the ventral margin of coxa 1, the more rounded epimeron 2, and the absence of paired dorsal setae on the pleonites. *Americhelidium gurjanovae* differs in the reduced setation of the propod of gnathopod 2, including the absence of long distal setae that extend the length of the dactyl, and the reduced basal lobe of pereopod 7.