

Crenella decussata (Montagu, 1808)
Mytilidae

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Voucher by: Paul Scott (SBMNH)

Synonymy:

Mytilus decussata Montagu, 1808
Crenella yokayami Nomura, 1932
Crenella laticostata Scarlato, 1960
Crenella divaricata (Orbigny, 1847) See additional note #1

Literature:

Soot-Ryen, 1955; Oldroyd, 1924; Grant & Gale, 1931; Abbott, 1974.

Diagnostic characters:

1. Shell small, less than 4 mm.
2. Shell sub-ovate, moderately inflated.
3. External sculpture of fine thick radial lines crossed by concentric striae, giving a beaded appearance in some specimens.
4. Internal margins crenulate.
5. Hinge plate directly below beaks, striated, well developed to obscure.

Additional notes:

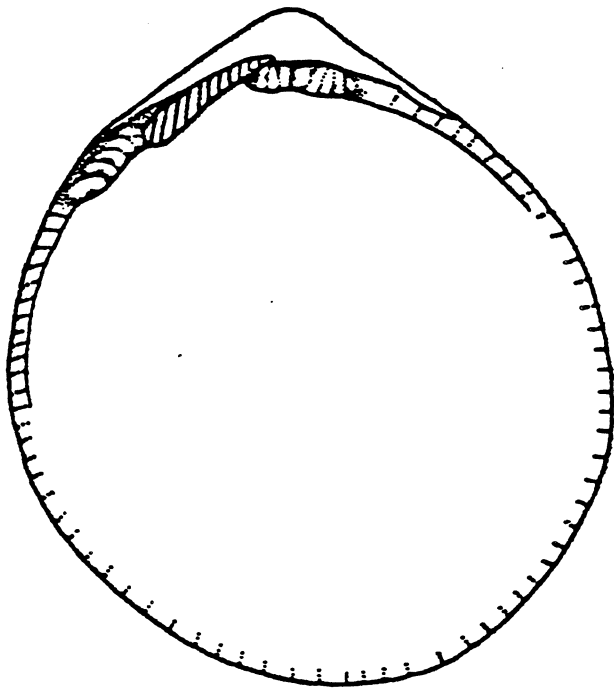
1. The eastern Pacific Crenella are in need of a thorough systematic revision. Comparing specimens from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, and Mexico yielded no consistent differences between specimens. The conchological differences between C. decussata and C. divaricata as outlined by Soot-Ryen (1955) are unworkable when one compares northern specimens with the southern specimens. At this point it is advisable to treat the southern California Crenella as one species, rather than to retain two species which are indistinguishable. By systematic priority, Crenella decussata should be used as the southern California species.

Depth range: 5-460 m (Bernard, 1983)

Distribution: 60N to 2S (southern range as C. divaricata; Bernard, 1983)

See illustrations on reverse side

Grenella decussata (Montagu, 1808)



Drawing by Laurie Marx, Santa Barbara
Museum of Natural History



Abbott, 1974