
SCAMIT CODE: MBC 47 Date Examined: June 9, 1986
Voucher by: D.B. Cadien

SYNONYMY: Pecten circularis Sowerby 1835
Aequipecten (Plagiectenium) circularis (Sowerby 1835)
Argopecten aequisulcatus (Carpenter 1864)
Argopecten circularis aequisulcatus (Carpenter 1864)

LITERATURE: Grau 1959
McLean 1978
Keen 1971
Bernard 1983

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERISTICS:

1. Both valves convex, inequivalve (left valve less inflated) with 17-22 raised ribs.
2. Interstices between ribs with fine imbricate sculpture.
3. Hinge line length $2/3 - 3/4$ of disk diameter (except in juveniles less than 15 mm disk diameter).
4. Right valve usually lighter colored than left.
5. Color tan or pinkish and chocolate bands or maculations over white, waxy, yellowish, or orangish base.

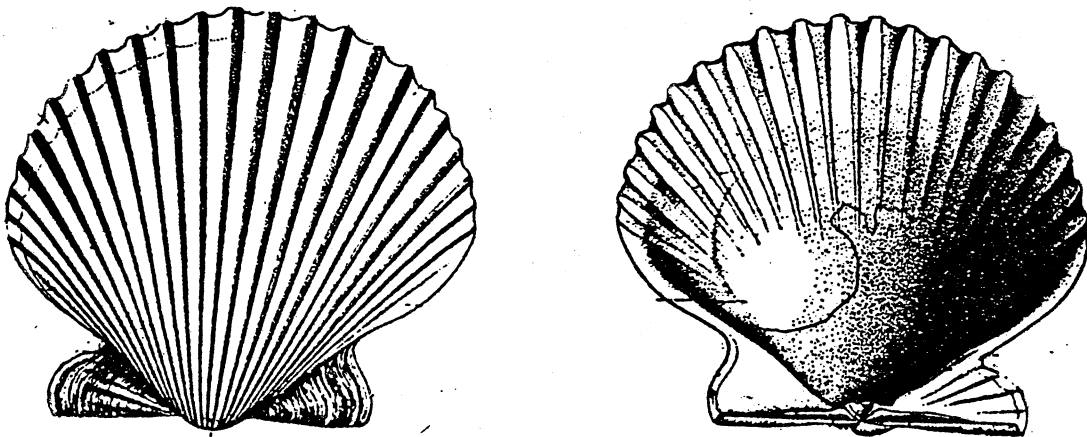
RELATED SPECIES & CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

Leptopecten latiauratus: thinner and less inflated than Argopecten with 12-16 ribs. Hinge line longer with umbo shifted posteriorly.

DISTRIBUTION: Elkhorn Slough to Paita Peru; 0-150 m

COMMENTS:

This species is fully protected under California Department of Fish and Game regulations, and may not be taken without special permit. Recent data strongly suggest that the California population is neither specifically nor subspecifically distinct, and relies on influx of pelagic larvae from southern populations for its existence during many years.



Illustrations from Oldroyd 1924
Interior and exterior of right valve