

Raricirrus maculatus
Cirratulidae

Hartman, 1961
See *Opineba* *schultze* 1981

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SCAMIT Code: LAC035

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Literature:

- Hartman, O. 1961. Polychaetous Annelids from California. Allan Hancock Pacific Exped. 22:115.
Hartman, O. 1969. Atlas of the Sedentariate Polychaetous Annelids from California. Allan Hancock Foundation, University of Southern California Press, Los Angeles, CA: 259.
Fauchald, K. 1977. The polychaete Worms. Science Series 28, Natural Hist. Mus. of Los Angeles Co. : 30.

Diagnostic Characters:

A small species (<10mm) with a distinctive body form having a slender anterior region abruptly broadening in the median and posterior regions (fig. 1).

Variability:

Hartman (1961) described *R. maculatus* as having only two kinds of setae; capillary notopodial setae (fig. 2) and falcate neuropodial setae with delicate marginal serrations along one edge (fig. 3). All specimens taken off Palos Verdes during the L.A. Co. Sanitation Districts' monitoring surveys (approx 50 specimens in 15 years) have at least two additional setal types. In the posterior region, the notopodial spinigers are accompanied by 1 or 2 stout spines with strong marginal serrations along one edge (fig. 4). The posterior neuropodial falcigers described by Hartman are accompanied by 2 or 3 stout, marginally dentate, spines similar in size to the neuropodial spines, but slightly broader in the serrated area (fig. 5).

In addition to these four setal types, four of the 50 individuals taken by LACSD bear, on the first setiger of the posterior region, a pair of large hooked spines inserted at the level of the neuropodia and directed forward (fig. 6&7). When these spines are present there are no other setae on the segment. These spines do not appear to be related to the size or number of segments; they may be sexual.

Type material, deposited at AHF, is currently unavailable for examination.

Related Species and Character Differences:

Raricirrus is a monotypic genus.

Depth Range:

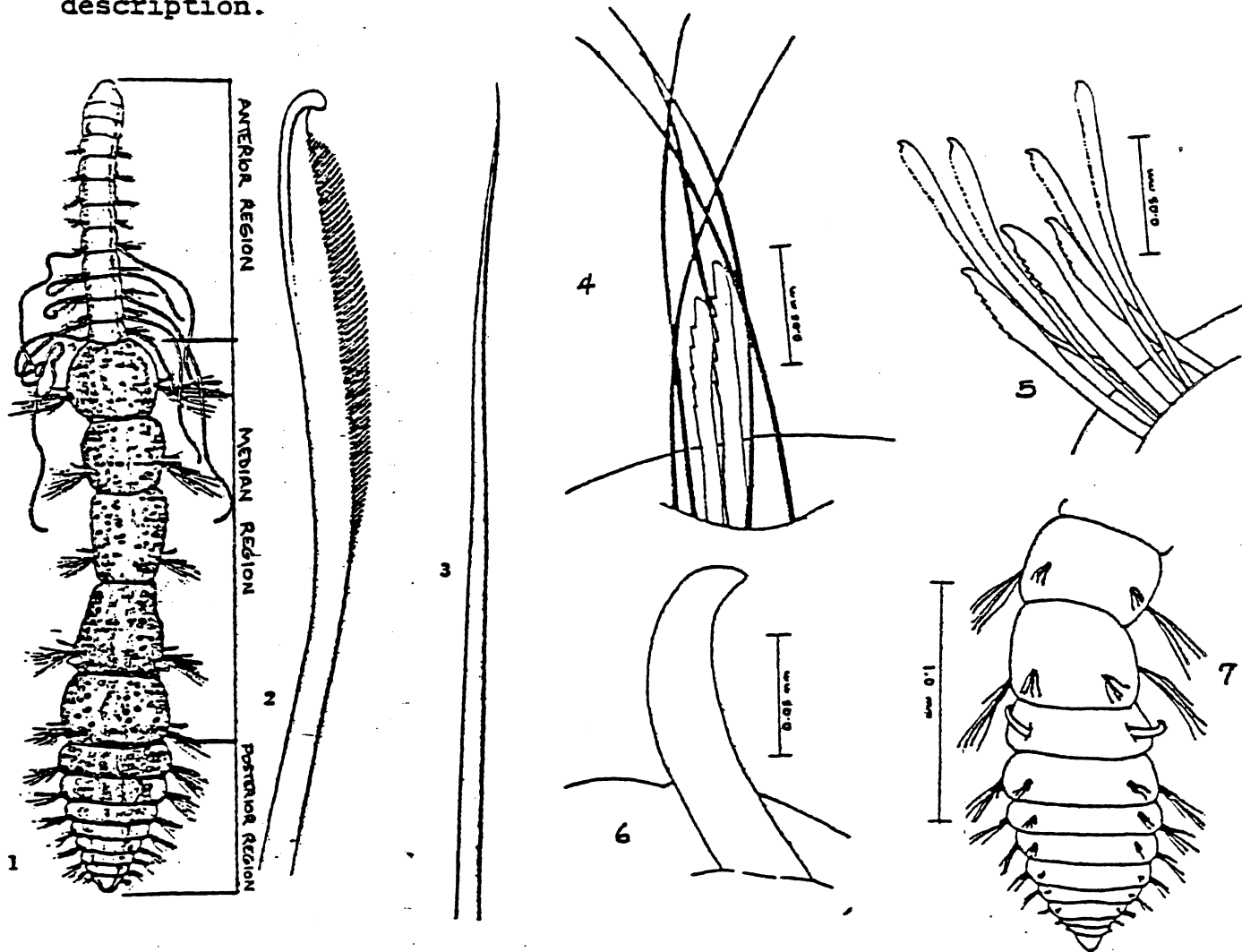
25 to 38 fms (Hartman 1961)
60 to 150 m (LACSD data)

Distribution:

Appears to occur only along the Palos Verdes Shelf, which include the type locale of Pt. Fermin.

Comments:

Hartman originally named this worm *Raricirrus maculata*. Fauchald (1977) uses the trivial name *maculatus*, correcting the disagreement in gender between the generic and trivial names in the original description.



Raricirrus maculatus 1. Entire animal, dorsal view. Regions defined (modified from Hartman '61). 2. Neuropodial seta. 3. Notopodial capillary seta. 4. Notosetal fascicle, posterior region. 5. Neurosetal fascicle, posterior region. 6. Hooked spine, first setiger posterior region. 7. Posterior end, ventral view, showing placement of hooked spines in posterior region. Fig. 1-3 from Hartman, 1961.