Key to the Genus Spirontocaris

(This key will include S. affinis in various places; S. affinis may be a Lebbeus but epipod exopod characters are unknown)

1. More than two supraorbital spines.....2

   Only two supraorbital spines.....3

2. Median spines of carapace are compound, formed of transverse rows of spines joined at base..... S. prionota

   Median spines of carapace are single..... S. affinis

3. Epipods present on 1st pereiopod only..... S. sica

   Epipods present on more than 1st pereiopod.....4

4. Epipods present on 1st & 2nd pereiopods.....5

   Epipods present on first three pereiopods.....6

5. The rostrum has a thin styliform process w/ a single ventral tooth on this process; the rostral teeth and median spines on carapace grade together evenly..... S. holmesi

   The short tip on the rostrum lacks a ventral tooth; there is a definite gap between the rostral and carapace spines.. ..... S. snyderi

   Carapace lacks mid-dorsal spines; mid-dorsal carapace is carinated..... S. sp.1

6. 1st & 2nd abdominal segments laterally acute; rostrum deep, has a bifid tip formed by the most forward tooth of the ventral wing of the rostrum plus a tooth at the level of the rostrum's midrib, carapace spines extend to posterior edge of carapace..... S. lamellicornis

   1st & 2nd abdominal segments laterally rounded, rostrum various, spines on carapace various.....7

7. Dorsal and ventral blades of rostrum exceed the midrib tip ..... S. truncata

   Dorsal and ventral blades of rostrum do not exceed the mid-rib tip.....8

8. Dorsal spines reach the posterior 1/3 of the carapace.....9

   Dorsal spines reach posteriorly to the center of the carapace at most.....12

9. Lower limb of rostrum projects to or beyond the midrib of rostrum.....10

   Lower limb of rostrum is shorter than the length of the rostral midrib.....11

10. Dorsal margin of rostrum convex, not a straight line..... ..... S. arcuata

    Dorsal margin of rostrum not convex, very nearly a straight line..... S. spina

11. Spine of antennal scale extends beyond blade..... ..... S. liljeborgii

    Spine of antennal scale does not extend beyond blade..... ..... S. murdochi

12. Rostrum does not extend to end of the antennal scale (only to end of antennular peduncle); rostral tip usually bifid ..... S. ochotensis

    Rostrum extends to end of anntenal scale (beyond anntenular peduncle); rostral tip acute.....13

13. Rostral plus carapace spination is 10-16/4-7... S. phippsii

    Rostral plus carapace spination is 6-8/3-4..... S. dalli