

SCAMIT CODE: None

Date Examined: 9 May 1994
Voucher By: D. Cadien & E. Vetter

SYNONYMY:

LITERATURE:

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

1. Eye flattened distally, with flattened area flanked by dorsal and ventral tubercles.
2. The supraorbital plate extends over the entire eyestalk in the ♀ and over most of the eyestalk in the ♂.
3. The antennular flagellum is short, consisting of only six articles.
4. The antennule of the male lacks a geniculate peduncle, and is very long, extending past the caudal furca

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

1. *Nebalia sp. A* differs from both other southern California *Nebalia* spp. in all four of the above characters (except that one has a geniculate ♂ antennular peduncle). It is also roughly half the adult size of the other two species (at about 5mm in length)
2. *Nebalia cf. pugettensis* has a geniculate ♂ antennular peduncle, a normal rounded falcate eye, and a supraorbital plate which extends only about half the length of the eyestalk. The ♂ antenna does not extend past the caudal furca, although it is longer than that of the ♀. The female antennular flagellum consists of 9-12 articles.
3. *Nebalia aff. pugettensis* has a straight ♂ antennular peduncle, a normal rounded falcate eye, and a supraorbital plate about half the eyestalk length. Females of this and the previous species cannot be reliably separated on morphological grounds as yet.

DEPTH RANGE: 8 - 35 m

DISTRIBUTION: La Jolla to Palos Verdes

ECOLOGICAL NOTES: *Nebalia sp. A* is not attracted to areas of organic accumulation as are the other two species. They are also not attracted to baited traps. The species occupies low organic "clean sand" habitat. Brooding females occur between June and November, but are most common between July and September. Males are relatively rare. A description of this species is in press, and is expected to be published in Crustaceana in 1996

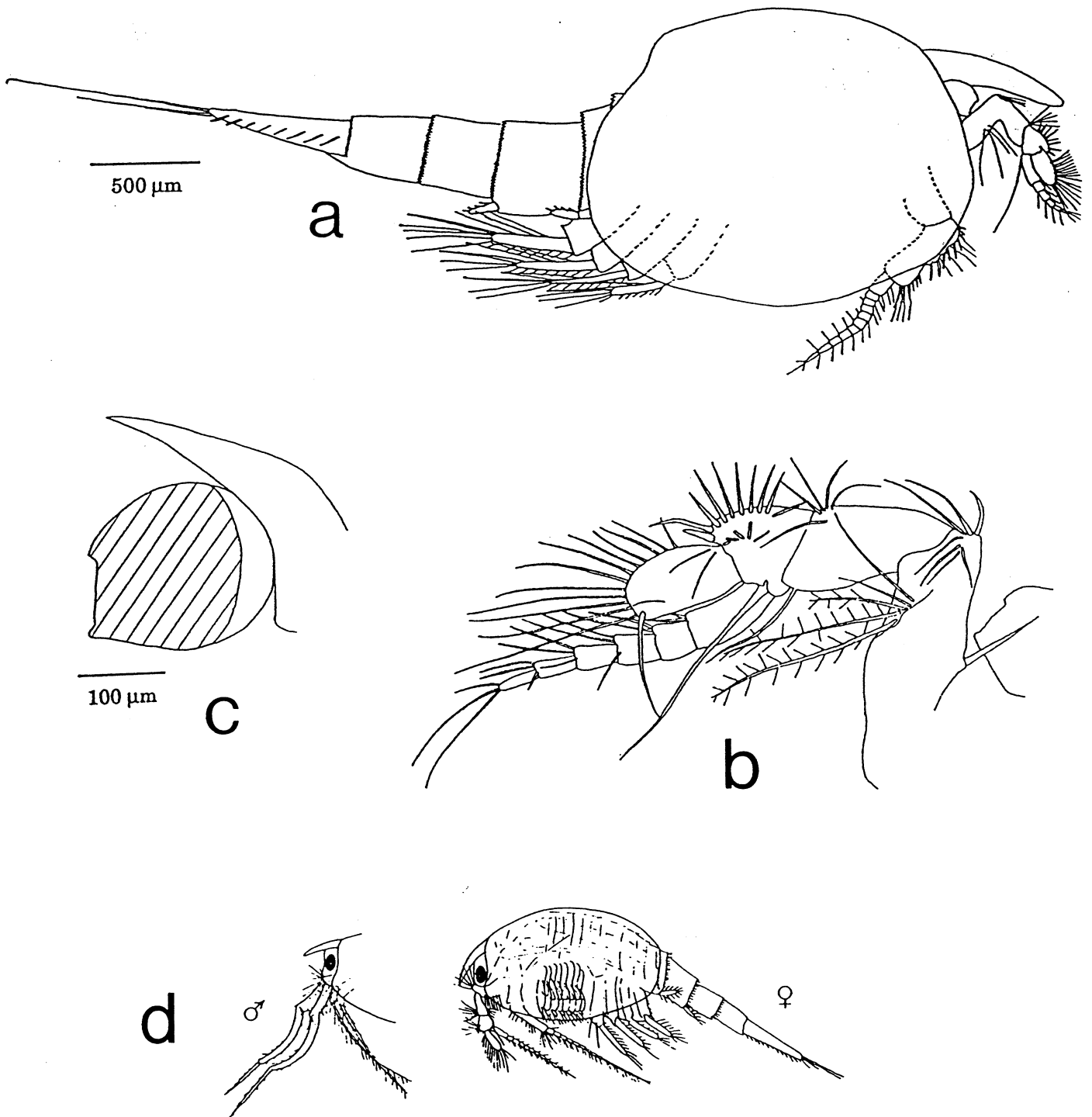


Figure 1a.) *Nebalia sp A*: lateral view of a ♀; 1b.) Antennule of *Nebalia sp A* ♀ (scale as in 1c.); 1c.) eyestalk and supraocular scale of *Nebalia sp A* ♀; 1d.) ♂ and ♀ of *Nebalia cf. pugettensis* (Note geniculate antennular peduncle of ♂ and multiarticulate antennular peduncle of ♀). (1a,b,c from Vetter MS, 1D from Smith and Carlton 1975 [Light's Manual])