

**Species:** Apionsoma sp SD1

**Authority:** 

**Common Synonyms:** 

Apionsoma? murinae of CSDMWWD

**Taxon:** Sipunculida: Phascolosomatidae

Date: 20 December 1997

By: Dean Pasko

Voucher Specimen(s):

StationDateDepth(ft) I-20 7/22/97 178		
I-20	7/22/97	178
I-31	1/9/98	62
I-29	7/9/98	121

StorageLocationVoucher# D. Pasko

#### **Characters:**

Introvert much longer than trunk.

Two asymmetrical, bilobed nephridia, located towards anterior third of trunk, tan or orange in color, connected to trunk 1/4 to 1/3 from the anterior tip.

Four retractor muscles (two pair), with the posteriormost pair twice as thick as the anterior and attached to the body very near the posterior end of trunk.

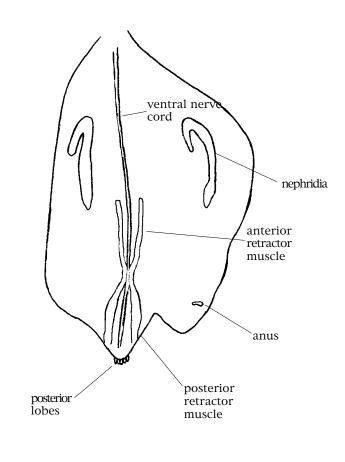
Anus clearly visible in posterior end of trunk (as light colored raised circular area with pore).

Papillae absent, or much reduced; few small papillae apparent at posterior end of trunk.

Posterior tip of trunk often with slightly different coloration (tan or cream colored), and small fringe of multiple lobes.

Epidermis generally thick and opaque.

## Illustration:



### **Related Species:**

This species is closely related to *Apionsoma misakianum* (Ikeda, 1904) which differs from *Apionsoma* sp SD1 in the more anterior placement of the retractor muscles and anus (both located mid-trunk), the equally thin sets of retractor muscles, the presence of numerous, small dark papillae posteriorly on trunk, and the thinner, more translucent epidermis. Additionally, I have yet to see specimens of A. misakianum with lobes at the tip of the trunk. All specimens that I have examined have a tapered or rounded posterior end.

This species is closely related to A. murinae in thickness of the epidermis, size, placement and thickness of the retractor muscles, and the unequally bilobed nephridia. Apionsoma sp SD1 differs in the absence of large papillae.

### **Comments:**

Both species co-occur, however, Apionsoma misakianum is much more common. Where they do co-occur, A. misakianum is 10 times more abundant.

Apionsoma sp SD1 has not been collected with the introvert fully extended, consequently details of related characters (e.g., tentacle arrangement, introvert hooks, etc.) are unavailable.

#### References:

Cutler, E.B. 1979. A reconsideration of the Sipunculan taxa Fisherana Stephen, Mitosiphon Fisher and Apionsoma Sluiter. Zool. J. Linn. Soc. Vol 65 (4): 367-384.

Cutler, E.B. 1994. The Sipunculida: Their Systematics, Biology, and Evolution. Cornell University Press.

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# Distribution— Pt. Loma:

Geographic: Imperial Beach, CA

Habitat: 20 - 100 m., shallow silty sands, sandy sediments