



MarLIN

Marine Information Network

Information on the species and habitats around the coasts and sea of the British Isles

An amphipod shrimp (*Gitanopsis bispinosa*)

MarLIN – Marine Life Information Network
Marine Evidence-based Sensitivity Assessment (MarESA) Review

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A report from:

The Marine Life Information Network, Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom.

Please note. This MarESA report is a dated version of the online review. Please refer to the website for the most up-to-date version [<https://www.marlin.ac.uk/species/detail/118>]. All terms and the MarESA methodology are outlined on the website (<https://www.marlin.ac.uk>)

This review can be cited as:

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See online review for
distribution map

Distribution data supplied by the Ocean
Biogeographic Information System (OBIS). To
interrogate UK data visit the NBN Atlas.

Researched by	Morvan Barnes	Refereed by	Admin
Authority	(Boeck, 1871)		
Other common names	-	Synonyms	-

Summary

Description

Gitanopsis bispinosa is a gammarid amphipod. It has a laterally compressed body comprising a head, a thorax (pereon), an abdomen (pleon) and a tail segment (telson), characteristic of all amphipods. Like other gammarids it has small eyes, large ventral extensions to the pereon segments, known as coxae. *Gitanopsis bispinosa* can reach up to 6 mm in length. It is whitish in colour and banded with light red. It can be recognised by having a longer third than second tail limb (uropod) and an elongate telson.

Recorded distribution in Britain and Ireland

Recorded in Scottish waters off the Orkney Isles, east of the Shetlands and in the upper North Sea.

Global distribution

-

Habitat

Gitanopsis bispinosa is a benthic deep sea shrimp, usually found at depths between 100-200 m.

↓ Depth range

-

Q Identifying features

- Up to 6 mm in length.
- Whitish in colour with red bands.
- Coxae present; coxa 1 notably small.
- Pleon segment 1-2 with dorsal tooth.
- Elongate telson.
- Uropods are biramous; uropod 3 longer than uropod 2.
- Broad carpal lobe of gnathopod 2.
- Distal portion of the thoracic legs is short and almost straight.

🏛️ Additional information

Unlike *Gitanopsis inermis*, pleon segments 1-2 have a distinct dorsal tooth.

✓ Listed by



🔗 Further information sources

Search on:



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- Howson, C.M. & Picton, B.E., 1997. *The species directory of the marine fauna and flora of the British Isles and surrounding seas*. Belfast: Ulster Museum. [Ulster Museum publication, no. 276.]
- Lincoln, R.J., 1979. *British Marine Amphipoda: Gammaridea*. London: British Museum (Natural History).

Datasets

- NBN (National Biodiversity Network) Atlas. Available from: <https://www.nbnatlas.org>.
- OBIS (Ocean Biogeographic Information System), 2019. Global map of species distribution using gridded data. Available from: Ocean Biogeographic Information System. www.iobis.org. Accessed: 2019-03-12