

***Megamoera subtener* (Stimpson, 1864)**

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Arthropoda
Class	Malacostraca
Order	Amphipoda
Family	Melitidae
Authority	(Stimpson 1864)
Original Description	Stimpson, W. 1864.
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	<i>Gammarus subtener</i> <i>Abludomelita subtener</i>



Megamoera subtener (male)

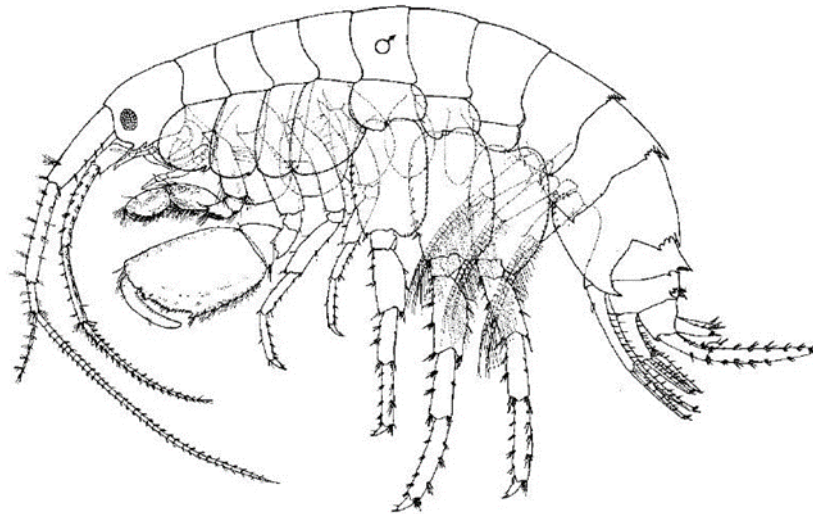
Distribution	
Type Locality	Puget Sound, Washington
Geographic Distribution	Prince William Sound and southeastern Alaska to central California
Habitat	Low water level to subtidal, coarse gravel and shell and under stones and kelp (Jarrett & Bousfield 1996, Chapman 2007)

Description
From Jarrett and Bousfield 1996
Male 12 mm, female 10 mm.
Anterior head lobe shallow, lower margin with prominent accessory process (in male only, female has single inferior marginal tooth). Eye round, medium. Antenna 1, accessory flagellum 6-segmented; flagellum ~35-segmented. A2, flagellum slender, 18-segmented.
Male G1, basis antero-distally weakly setose; propod relatively short, deep, palm distinct, smooth, oblique; dactyl with weak proximal bulge. Male G2, carpus, hind lobe narrow, apex weakly setose, propod large, subrectangular, slightly broadening distally, palm oblique with low median and dactylar teeth, hind margin with 10-12 setae clusters; dactyl stout, apex blunt, outer margin with a few short setae. Female G1, propod short, little longer than deep, palm nearly vertical. Female G2, propod longer and more slender than carpus, tapering distally, palm oblique, nearly straight, length 2/3 that of hind margin; dactyl with 6-8 outer marginal setae.
Coxa 1 distally broadened, anterior margin broadly rounded. Coxa 4, lower margin convex, oblique, antero-distally sharply rounding. P3-4 unequal, dactyls medium. P5-7, bases regular, hind margins crenulate; dactyls medium.
Pleon segments 1 & 2 with center tooth and 4-6 lateral denticles on each side; pleon 3 with center tooth and 3 denticles. Urosome 1 with central tooth and paired lateral denticles. U2 with 2 pairs of short teeth

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and single spines. Pleon plates 1 & 2, hind corners acuminate; pleon 3, hind corner moderately produced, acute.


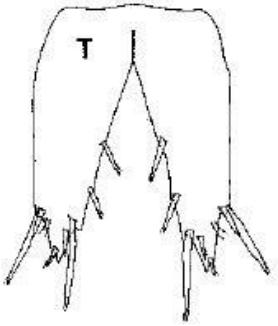
U1 & 2, rami elongate, strongly spinose, tips extending beyond peduncle of U3. U3, outer ramus stout, margins with 5-6 clusters of longish spines; terminal segment distinct, length 3-4X basal width. Telson lobes slender, diverging distally, fused basally; proximal notch positioned laterally; apical, subapical and inner marginal spines long.



Diagnostic Characteristics

Diagnostic Characteristics	Photo, Illustrations	Photo, Illustration Credit
<p>Pleosome segments 1-3 with more than 2 lateral denticles on each side of the median tooth</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PLEON</p>	<p>Jarrett & Bousfield 1996 (left)</p> <p>Marine Sediment Monitoring Team (right)</p>

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<p>Male gnathopod 2, anterior margin of dactyl with a few weak setae, dactyl distally blunt</p>		<p>Jarrett & Bousfield 1996</p>
<p>Telson – apical, subapical, and inner marginal spines long</p>		<p>Jarrett & Bousfield 1996</p>

Related Species and Characteristic Differences

Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics
<i>Megamoera dentata</i>	Gnathopod 2 dactyl distally pointed and covered anteriorly with setae; pleonite 1 with single lateral teeth.

Comments

From Jarrett and Bousfield 1996: This species cannot really be confused with *M. dentata* because of character states in the head region and others...No other species, superficially like *M. dentata*, ranges from British Columbia into the Central California coast.

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Literature

- Stimpson, W. 1864. Descriptions of new species of marine Invertebrata from Puget Sound, collected by the naturalists of the North-West Boundary commission, A.H. Campbell, esq., commissioner. Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia 16: 153-165. (p. 6-7)
- Chapman, J. W. 2007. Gammaridea. In: Carlton, J. T., Eds. *The Light and Smith Manual. Intertidal Invertebrates from Central California to Oregon*. 4th ed. Los Angeles, CA: University of California Press. pp. 545-618. (pp. 607, 608, 610)
- Jarrett, Norma E., and Edward L. Bousfield. 1996. The amphipod superfamily Hadzioidea on the Pacific coast of North America. Family Melitidae. Part I. The Melita group: Systematics and distributional ecology. *Amphipacifica* 2(2): 3-74. (p. 20)

More Information

More information about Puget Sound benthic invertebrates is available at:
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/psamp/index.htm>

Prepared by Julianne Ruffner (Department of Ecology), Cassandra McNeal (University of Washington - Tacoma), and Jeffery Cordell (University of Washington - Seattle) on 3/7/13. This document is available on the Department of Ecology's website at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1403228.html>.

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