Micro-Bivalvia of Southern and Central California

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Represented herein are the images and identifications (albeit some very tentative identifications) from the bivalve mollusk specimens examined at the Micro-Bivalve Workshop hosted by Mr. Larry Lovell at Scripps Institution of Oceanography on 17 January 2004.

Samples were examined from the San Diego region, along with several from the Santa Cruz, Monterey Bay and other central California regions. Many specimens represented true micro-bivalves, those which do not achieve an adult length of more than 1 cm, whereas others were juvenile stages of larger species.

The provisionary identifications of several of the illustrated specimens are intended to be talking points of discussion and debate. We are hopeful that many of the unanswered questions highlighted in the workshop will become topics for subsequent research by workshop members and the bivalve community at large.

As all good workshops do, this meeting combined a wealth of experience and backgrounds which allowed us to critically examine specimens from a variety of viewpoints. The workshop participants are listed below.

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SIO - Scripps Institution of Oceanography, NPS - National Park Service, PISCO - Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans; SDSC - San Diego Shell Club; SBMNH - Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History; UCSC - University of California, Santa Cruz; UCSD; University of California, San Diego; CLA, EMD - City of Los Angeles, Environmental Monitoring Division

Philobryidae



Philobrya setosa

Mytilidae



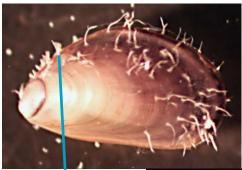
Septifer bifurcatus juvenile



Mytilidae (continued)

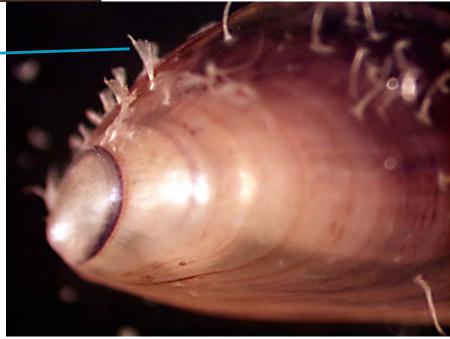


Musculus pygmaeus adults and juveniles

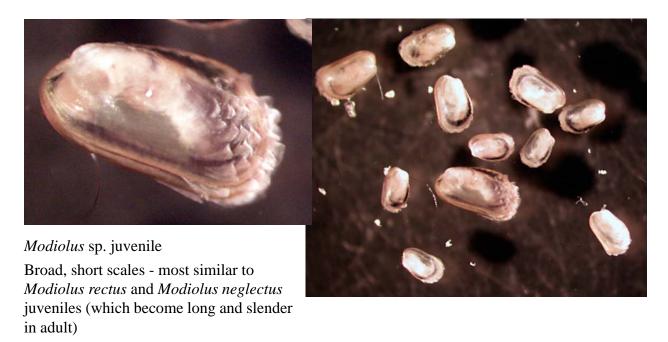


Modiolus capax

Note complex serrated periostracal setae



Mytilidae (continued)





Mytilidae (continued)







Ungulinidae

Diplodonta orbella

Carditidae

Glans carpenteri





Neoleptonidae





Veneridae

Protothaca staminea juvenile

Protothaca cf. tenerrima juvenile

Looks like *Chione* externally, but with deep pallial sinus internally.

Compares well with *P. tenerrima* beaks (shape and sculpture), but strong crenulate margins are perplexing.

Purple color is from crystal violet stain, not the specimen



deep pallial sinus, but also has crenulate margins



Protothaca juvenile or *Chione* juvenile? Impossible to differeniate without observing pallial sinus??



Tellinidae

Macoma sp. juvenile



Leporimetis obesa juvenile



Donax gouldii

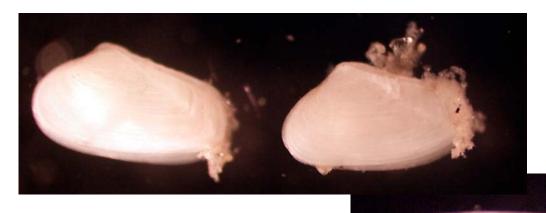




Myidae

Sphenia fragilis juvenile inflated beaks, misshapened, slightly upturned posterodorsally





Sphenia cf. luticola juvenile narrrow beaks, regular shape, keel from umbones to posteroventral margin