

Glycera americana Leidy, 1855

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Annelida
Class	Polychaeta
Order	
Family	Glyceridae
Authority	Leidy, 1855
Original Description	Leidy, J. 1855 [p. 147]
Common Synonyms (S)	Subjective synonyms: <i>Glycera cirrata</i> Fauvel, 1932 <i>Glycera corrugata</i> Baird, 1863 <i>Glycera edentata</i> Hansen, 1882 <i>Glycera jucunda</i> Kinberg, 1866 <i>Glycera laevis</i> Kinberg, 1866 <i>Glycera misakiensis</i> Izuka, 1912 <i>Glycera opisthobranchiata</i> Marenzeller, 1879 <i>Glycera ovigera</i> Schmarda, 1861
Previous Names (PN)	<i>Glycera peruviana</i> Quatrefages, 1866 <i>Glycera rugosa</i> Johnson, 1901





Distribution	
Type Locality	Off Rhode Island, USA
Geographic Distribution	Atlantic and Pacific coasts of North and South America; Gulf of Mexico; Straits of Magellan; New Zealand; Southern Australia (Hilbig <i>in</i> Blake & Hilbig, 1994:202)
Habitat	Intertidal and subtidal; depth 2-213 m

Description
<p>A large species, reportedly reaching over 350-mm in total length, with biannulate segments throughout the median region.</p> <p>Prostomium tapering, about as wide as long, with 10-12 indistinct rings and two pairs of terminal antennae. Proboscis with two types of proboscoidal organs: 1) numerous conical papillae with 2-3 indistinct Ushaped transverse ridges, and 2) isolated oval papillae without ridges. Ailerons with a long outer ramus and a short inner ramus fused to a thin interramal plate.</p> <p>First two parapodia uniramous; thereafter parapodia with two triangular, subequal presetal lobes. Two short, conical postsetal lobes in the anterior region, becoming longer, more slender and triangular in the median setigers. Dorsal cirri small, globular; ventral cirri elongate and foliaceous.</p>

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Dendritically branched retractable branchiae emerging from a pore in the posterior dorsal parapodial face after about setiger six. Capillary notosetae with minute spinules; neurosetae all compound spinigers with finely serrated blades. Pygidium ring shaped, with a pair of slender, ventrally inserted cirri.

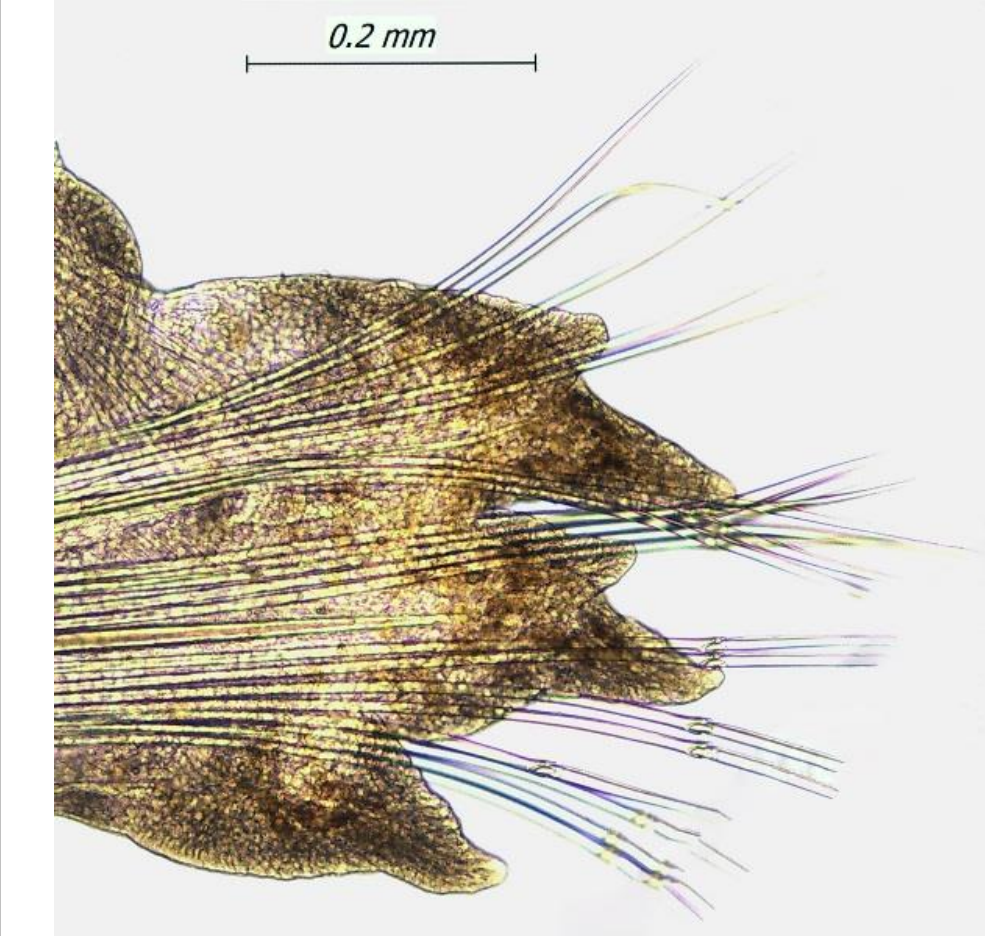
Diagnostic Characteristics	
Diagnostic Characteristics	Photo Credits: Marine Sediment Monitoring Team
<p>Most proboscoidal papillae conical with a pair of indistinct ridges</p>	
<p>Ovate proboscoidal papillae</p>	

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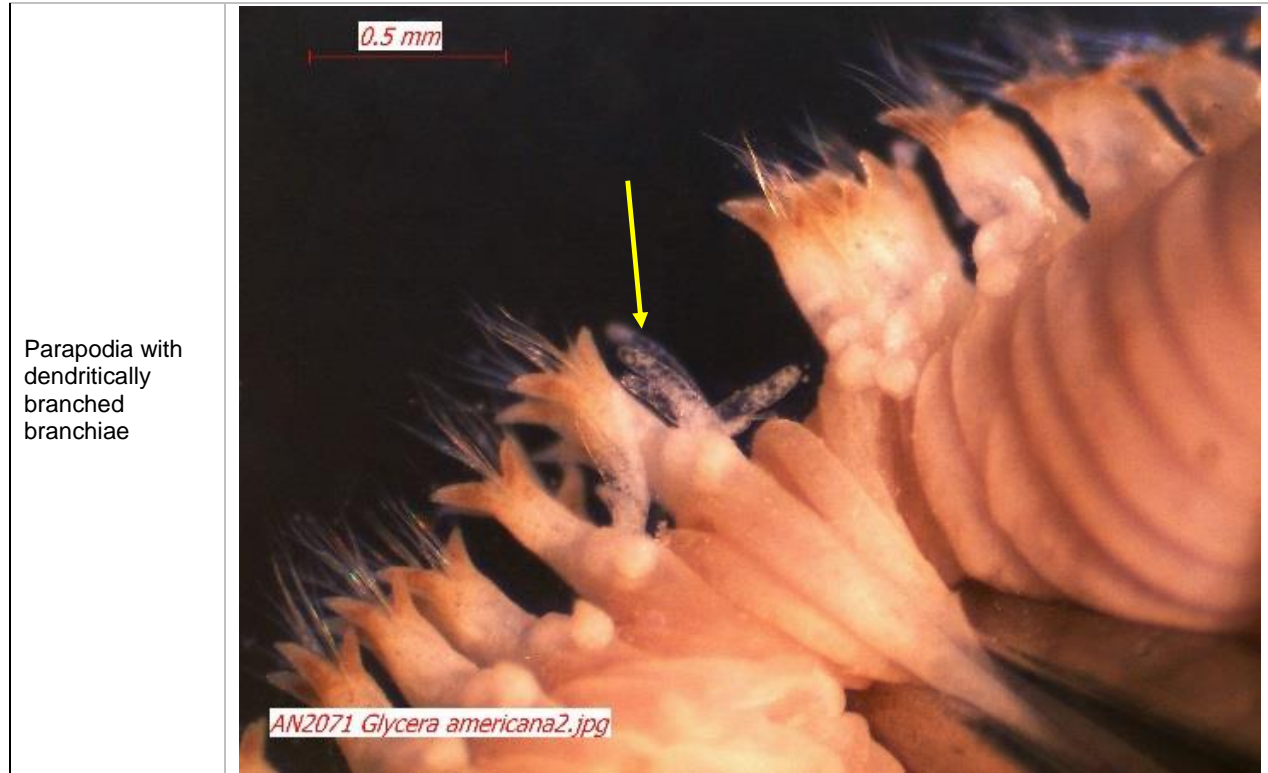
Body with
biannulate
segments in the
median region



Median
parapodia with
two subequal
triangular
postsetal lobes



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Related Species and Characteristic Differences

Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics
<i>Glycera nana</i>	Proboscis papillae mainly tall, slender and smooth; parapodia with a single short rounded postsetal lobe; median segments triannulate; branchiae lacking.
<i>Glycera robusta</i>	Proboscis with conical papillae having 6-8 U-shaped ridges; parapodial postsetal lobes rounded; branchiae represented by 1-3 globular sacs on the upper and lower margins of the parapodia.

Comments

The tips of the parapodia often exhibit a dusky pigment in this species. The dendritically branched branchiae are normally retracted in preserved specimens, and the entire length of the body must be examined in order to locate a few emergent examples.

Found in sheltered areas; occurs in mixed sediments of sand, mud and shell fragments.

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Literature

- Böttgermann, M. 2002. Revision of the Glyceridae Grube, 1850 (Annelida: Polychaeta). Abh. senckenberg. naturforsch. Ges. 555: 1-249. [p. 65]
- Hilbig, B. 1994. Chapter 12. Family Glyceridae Grube, 1850. Pages 197-214. IN: Blake, J.A.; B. Hilbig; and P.H. Valentich-Scott (editors). Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and Western Santa Barbara Channel. Volume 4 -The Annelida Part 1. Oligochaeta and Polychaeta: Phyllodocida (Phyllodocidae to Paralacydoniidae). Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California. ISBN 0-93649-09-03. [p. 200]
- Johnson, H.P. 1901. The polychaeta of the Puget Sound region. Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist. 29: 381-437. [p. 409 (as *Glycera rugosa*)]
- Leidy, J. 1855. Contribution towards a knowledge of the marine invertebrates of the coast of Rhode Island and New Jersey. J. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. 3: 135-158. [p. 147]

More Information

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

Prepared by R. Eugene Ruff (Ruff Systematics) and Kathy Welch (Department of Ecology) on 6/28/13. This document is available on the Department of Ecology's website at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1403212.html>.

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