

Desdimelita desdichada (J.L. Barnard, 1962)

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Arthropoda
Class	Malacostraca
Order	Amphipoda
Family	Melitidae
Authority	(J. L. Barnard 1962)
Original Description	Barnard, J.L. 1962
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	<i>Melita desdichada</i> (PN)

Distribution	
Type Locality	Monterey Bay, California
Geographic Distribution	Southeastern Alaska to Point Conception, California (Jarrett & Bousfield 1996)
Habitat	Soft sediments (Jarrett & Bousfield 1996); intertidal and subtidal



Description

From Jarrett and Bousfield 1996

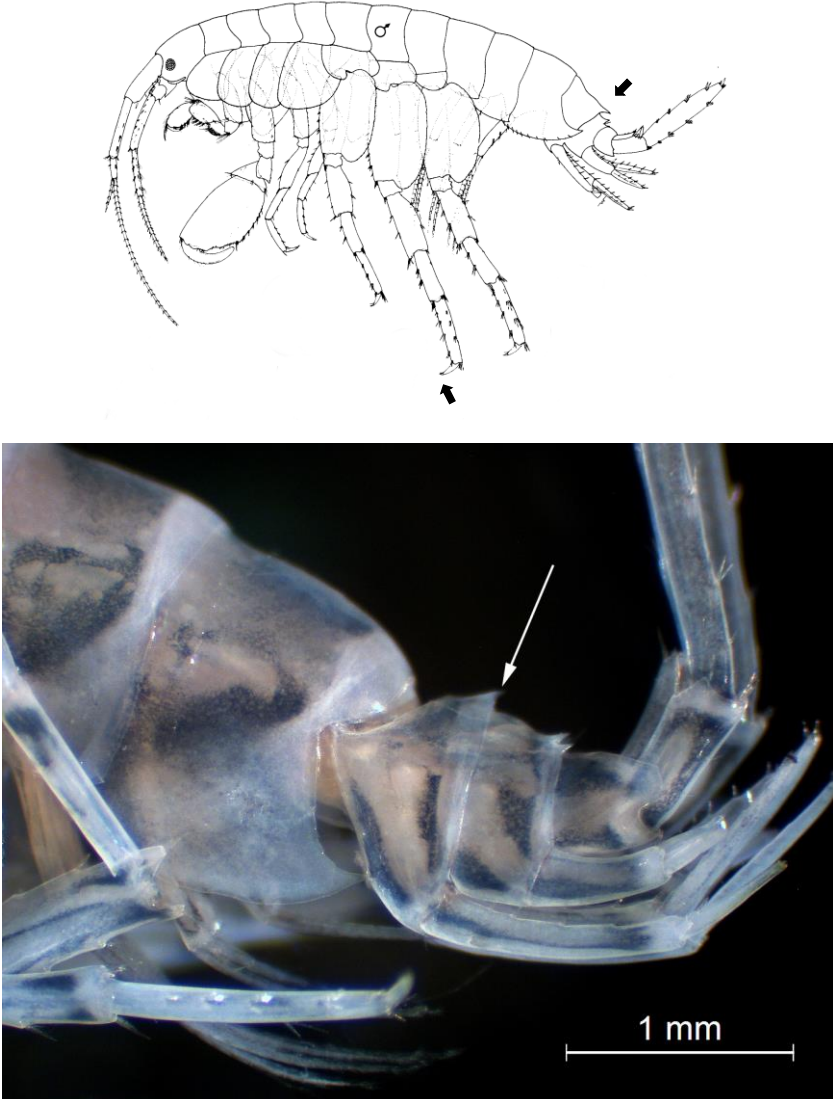
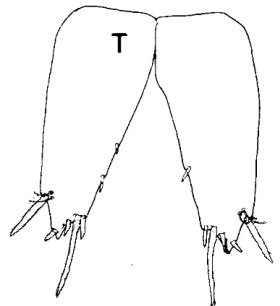
Male: 9.0 mm. Eye medium, rounded; inferior antennal notch narrow. A1, peduncle with 2-3 posterior marginal spines; peduncular segment 2 > segment 1; flagellum ~25 segments; accessory flagellum 5-segmented. A2, flagellum 10-segmented, segments nearly bare.

Coxa 1 medium broad distally. Coxa 4 nearly as broad as deep. G1, propod distinctly shorter than carpus, palm gently convex. G2, carpus, hind lobe narrow, deep; propod much longer than deep, palm oblique, with weak hinge tooth; dactyl heavy, lined with several outer marginal setae. P3 & 4, dactyls relatively long, about 1/3 segment 6. P5-7, dactyls relatively long, ~1/4 segment 6. P5 segment 6 normal, not broadened.

Pleon segment 2, hind corner weakly acuminate, pleon 3, lower margin with 10+ short spines. Urosome 1, postero-dorsal tooth single, strong. Urosome 2, postero-dorsal paired teeth strong. U1, peduncle relatively short; rami with 4-6 marginal spines. U3, outer ramus with 4 groups of marginal spines; terminal segment medium. Telson, subapical spines long, slender, inner margins with 1-2 small spines.

Female: 7.0 mm. G1 propod short, deep, palm nearly vertical. G2, palm oblique, nearly straight, strongly spinose, dactyl with outer marginal setae. Coxa 6, anterior lobe simple, not bifid.

Desdimelita desdichada

Diagnostic Characteristics		
Diagnostic Characteristics	Photo, Illustrations	Photo, Illustration Credit
<p>Urosomite 1 with a single dorsal tooth; pereopods 5-7 dactyl lengths greater than 4 times width</p>		<p>Jarrett & Bousfield 1996</p> <p>Marine Sediment Monitoring Team</p>
<p>Telson with two long spines</p>		<p>Jarrett & Bousfield 1996</p>

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Related Species and Characteristic Differences

Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics (from Chapman, 2007)
<i>Desdimelita microdentata</i> , <i>D. barnardi</i>	Pereopods 5-7 dactyls short, less than 1/4 length of segment 6; telson with 0-1 long spines (Jarrett & Bousfield 1996)

Comments

Literature

- Barnard, J.L. 1962. Benthic Marine Amphipoda of Southern California: families Tironidae to Gammaridae. *Pacific Naturalist* 3:73-115. (pp. 110-111)
- Barnard, J.L. 1971. Gammaridean Amphipoda from deep-sea transect off Oregon. *Smithsonian contributions to Zoology* 61: 1-86. (p.15)
- 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. 607-610)
- 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. 40-42)

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 3/8/13. This document is available on the Department of Ecology's website at https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1403226.html .	If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call (360) 407-6764. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call (877) 833-6341.
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