

***Kurtiella tumida* (Carpenter, 1864)**

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Mollusca
Class	Bivalvia
Order	Veneroida
Family	Galeommatoidea
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	<i>Tellimya tumida</i> , <i>Mysella aleutica</i> ; <i>Mysella sovaliki</i> ; <i>Mysella tumida</i> ; <i>Rochefortia</i> <i>ferruginosa</i> ; <i>Rochefortia tumida</i>



Distribution	
Type Locality	Washington, Puget Sound, Strait of Juan de Fuca. Holotype USNM 5242
Geographic Distribution	Beaufort Sea, Alaska, south to San Diego, California, and in the Golfo de California at Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico. Intertidal to 973m

Description
Length to 5mm; shape ovate to subquadrate; shell thick for being a small species; inflated to moderately compressed; inequilateral; anterior longer and evenly rounded; posterior truncate; sculpture of fine commarginal growth striae; color dull white, but commonly covered with an adherent periostracum that is light to dark brown, thick, silky; beaks prominent, extending almost to posterior margin, often eroded; hinge plate narrow; 2 cardinal teeth in right valve subequal, strong, diverging, one on each side of resilifer; posterior tooth projecting ventrally from beaks, anterior tooth projecting from beaks parallel to dorsal margin; left valve without cardinal teeth but with slight lateral projection on either side of beaks- projections fit into left valve between cardinal teeth and dorsal margin; resilifer of moderate size

Related Species and Characteristic Differences	
Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics
<i>Naeromya compressa</i>	ovate to subquadrate; thin, compressed; sculpture of irregular commarginal ribs and striae; anterior and posterior ends broadly rounded; right valve with one very short, small cardinal tooth
<i>Kurtiella sp D</i> (provisional)	highly inflated; shape round; anterior and posterior ends both shorter and less elongated in comparison to <i>K. tumida</i> ; only reach about 2mm in length;

Diagnostic Characteristics

Diagnostic Characteristics

Photos by Marine Sediment Monitoring Team

shape ovate to subquadrate;
external sculpture of fine commarginal striae; adherent periostracum is variable amongst individuals

1 mm



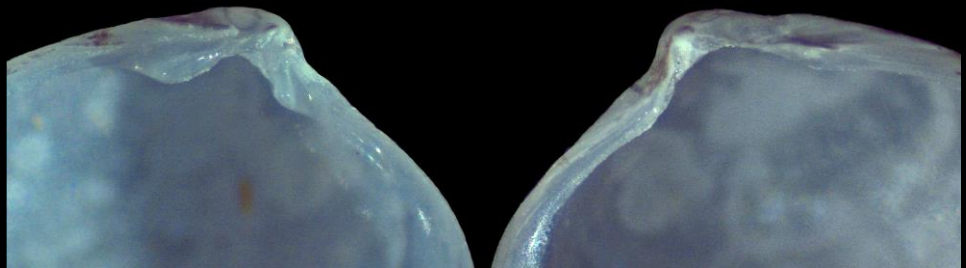
Kurtiella tumida

right valve hinge with two small, short, stout, diverging cardinal teeth;
left valve hinge edentulous

right valve

0.5 mm

left valve



1 mm



Kurtiella tumida

Literature

Abbott, R. Tucker, Ph.D. 1974. American Seashells The Marine Mollusca of the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts of North America. Second Edition. Van Nostrand Reinhold. p. 473.

Coan, E.V., Valentich-Scott, P., and F.R. Bernard. 2000. Bivalve Seashells of Western North America Marine Bivalve Mollusks from Arctic Alaska to Baja California. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Monographs Number 2. Studies in Biodiversity Number 2. Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. pp. 318, 330.

Valentich-Scott, P. 1998. Class Bivalvia. In: Valentich-Scott, P., and J.A. Blake. Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and the Western Santa Barbara Channel. Volume 8. The Mollusca Part 1 The Aplacophora, Polyplacophora, Scaphopoda, Bivalvia, and Cephalopoda. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. p. 144.

More Information

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

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