

Ampharete acutifrons (Grube, 1860)

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Annelida
Class	Polychaeta
Order	
Family	Ampharetidae
Authority	(Grube, 1860)
Original Description	Grube, A.E. 1860 [p. 109 (as <i>Amphicteis</i> <i>acutifrons</i>)]
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	<i>Amphicteis</i> <i>acutifrons</i>

Distribution	
Type Locality	Greenland
Geographic Distribution	North Atlantic, Greenland to North Carolina; Mediterranean Sea; Bering Sea to Japan; Puget Sound; central to southern California.
Habitat	Subtidal; depth 3.27 to 235 m



Description

Prostomium trilobed, usually with a pair of small eyespots at the postectal margins.

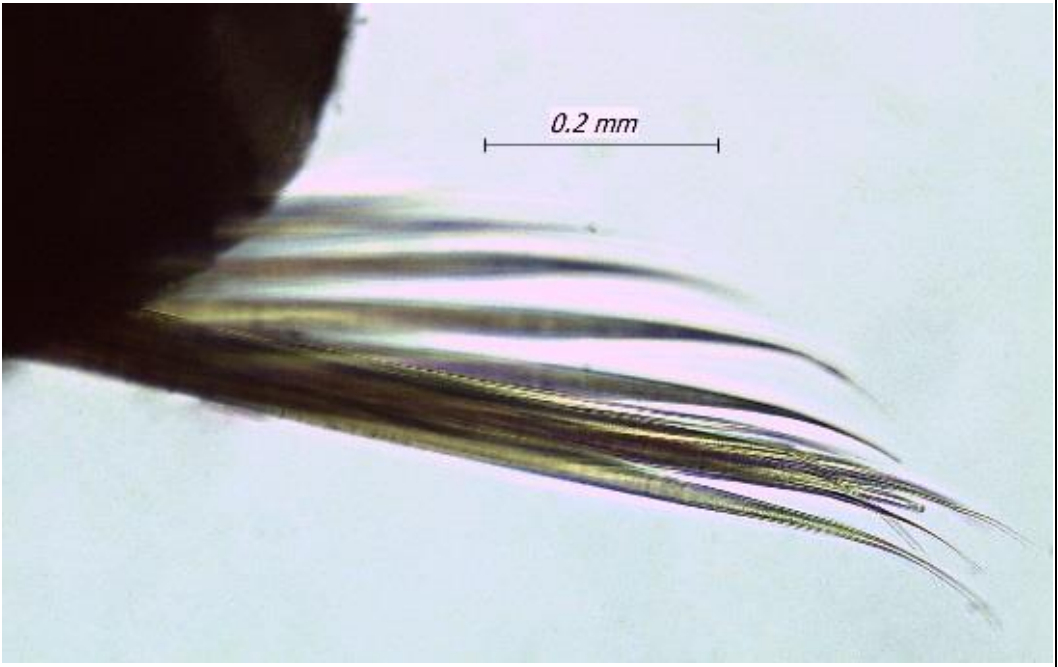
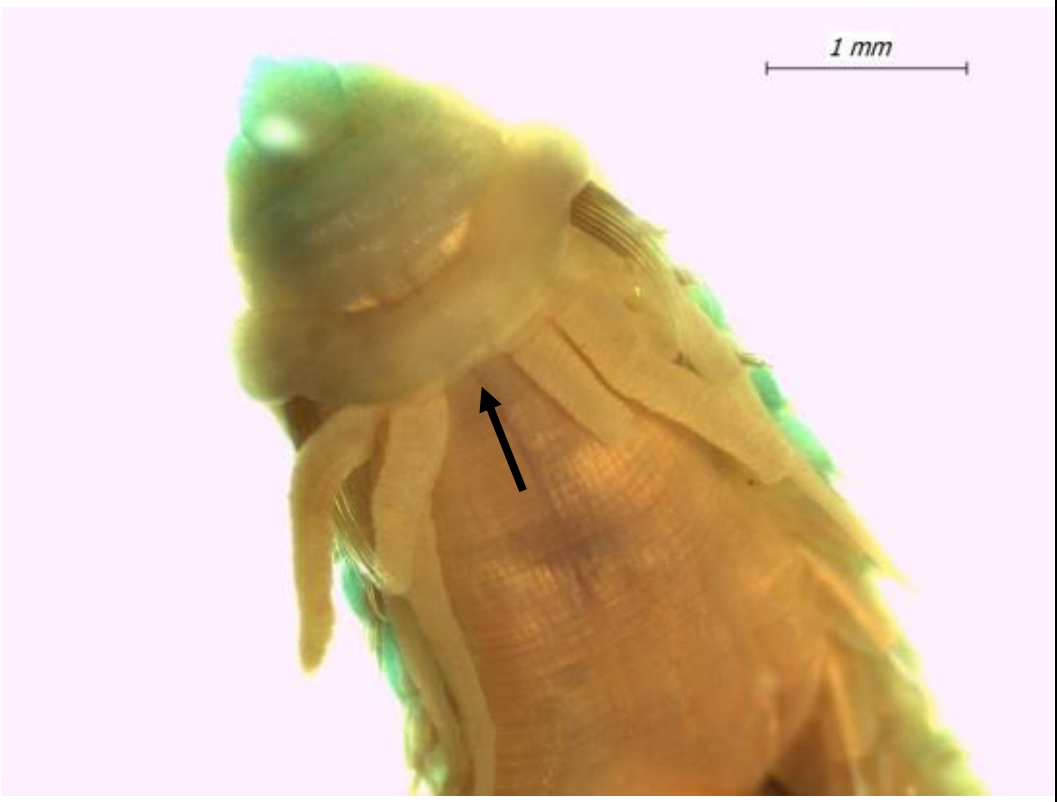
Four pairs of smooth, tapering branchiae in two diamond patterns with a middorsal gap; branchial bases fused in each group.

Paleae evenly tapering with 10-30 in each C-shaped group.

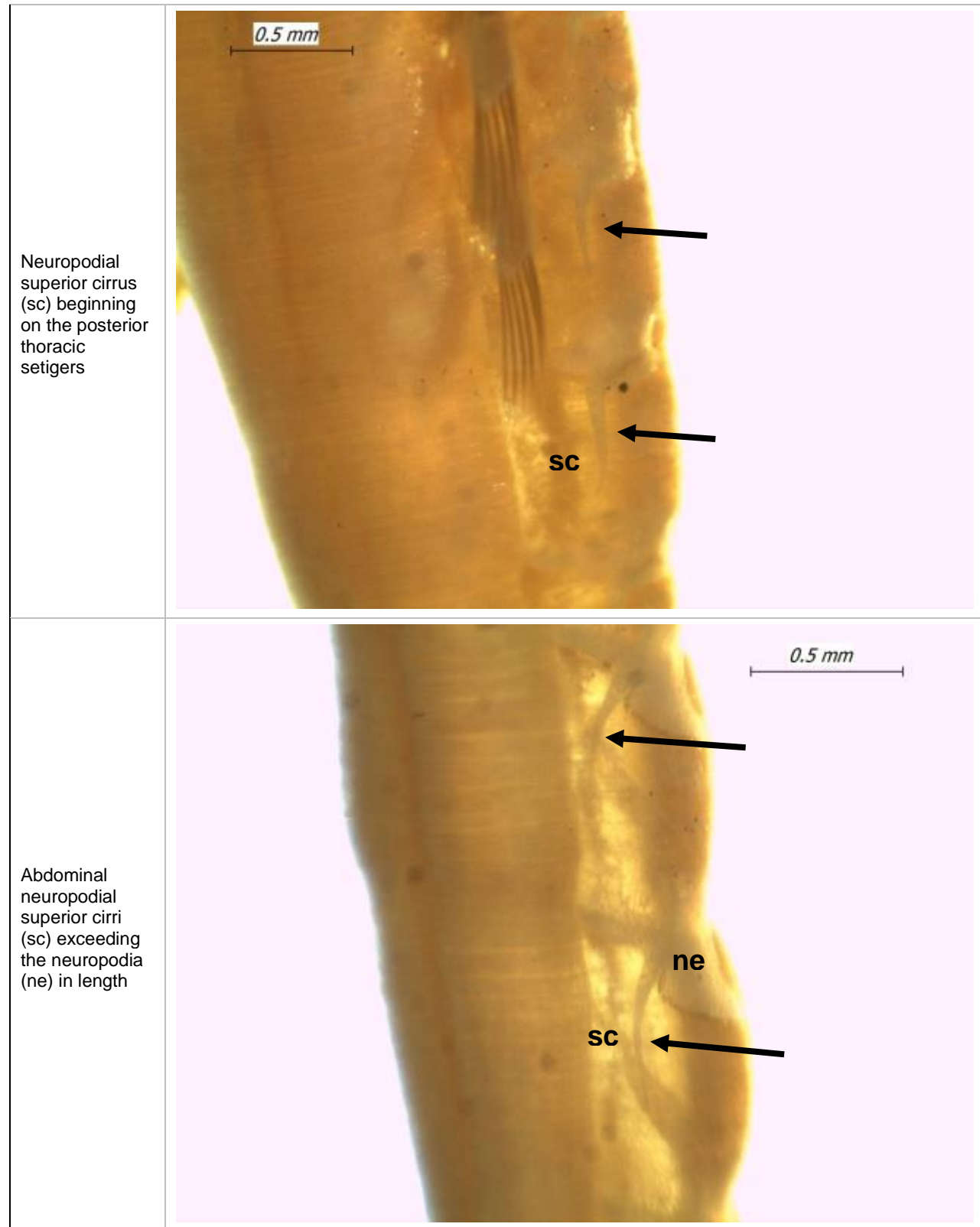
Fourth segment achaetous. Thorax with 14 setigerous segments and 12 uncinigers; twelve abdominal setigers; notopodial rudiments lacking. Last few thoracic neuropodia and all of the abdominal neuropodial pinnules with a long, tapering superior cirrus. Uncini with two vertical rows of 5-7 teeth over a rounded prow.

Pygidium with a pair of lateral cirri subequal with a circlet of long cirriform papillae.

Ampharete acutifrons

Diagnostic Characteristics	
Diagnostic Characteristics	Photo Credits: Marine Sediment Monitoring Team
Paleae evenly tapering to long fine tips	
Branchial groups separated by a middorsal gap as wide as a branchia	

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Related Species and Characteristic Differences

Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics
<i>Ampharete</i> sp N1	Paleae stout and abruptly tapering to fine tips; neuropodial superior cirri blunt and not exceeding the neuropodial pinnules in length; pygidium with a pair of terminal cirri that are longer than the papillae in the cirlet.
<i>Ampharete</i> cf. <i>crassiseta</i>	Paleae stout and abruptly tapering to fine tips; branchial groups without a large middorsal gap; neuropodial superior cirri short and not beginning until the third abdominal setiger.
<i>Ampharete finmarchica</i>	Paleae stout and abruptly tapering; median gap between branchiae absent; 13 abdominal setigers with rudimentary abdominal notopodia; anal end with numerous short papillae and 2 longer cirri.

Comments

Found in a soft tube made of fine particles.

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Literature

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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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