Acila castrensis (Hinds, 1843)

Nomenclature

Phylum	Mollusca
Class	Bivalvia
Order	Nuculoida
Family	Nuculidae
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	*Acila (Truncacila) beringiana, Acila (Truncacila) castrensis, Acila beringiana, Acila empirensis, Nucula castrensis, Nucula divaricate, Nucula lyallii*

Distribution

Type Locality	Sitka, Alaska
Geographic Distribution	Kamchatka; Craig, Alaska, to Las Cruces, Baja California Sur

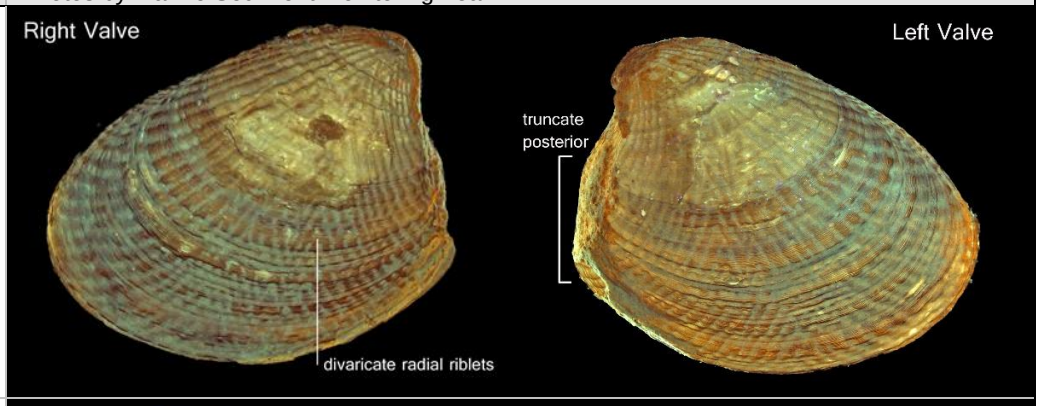
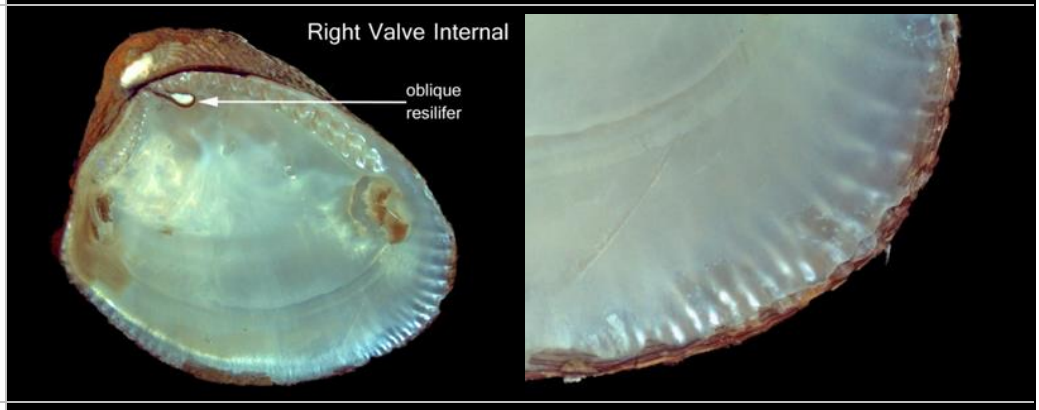
Description

Length to 20mm; **shape** ovate to trigonal; **inflation** moderate; shell thick; **beak position** almost at posterior end which is abruptly truncate; **prodissoconch** large; **sculpture** of strong divaricate ribs; **periostracum** dull, light olive to dark brown, frequently with adhering sediment and parasitic hydroids; **hinge plate** wide, taxodont teeth robust; **resilifer** relatively small, projecting anteriorly; **interior** strongly nacreous, **inner ventral margin** crenulate

Related Species and Characteristic Differences

Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics
Ennucula tenuis	Shell surface smooth; oblique resilifer projecting, deep; inner ventral margin without crenulations

Diagnostic Characteristics

Diagnostic Characteristics	Photos by Marine Sediment Monitoring Team
sculpture of strong divaricate (diverging) radial riblets; abruptly truncate posterior in larger specimens	
ventral shell margin crenulate; hinge plate contains small, oblique resilifer	
sculpture not as strong in younger specimens; very small specimens can even appear almost smooth- refer to ventral margin to differentiate	

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. 411.

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. 72, 75.

Hinds, Richard Brinsley. 1843. Descriptions of new species of *Neaera*, from the collection of Edward Belcher, C.B., made during a voyage obtained during this visit to the Philippines; with notes of the synonymy. Zoological Society of London, Proceedings for 1843 [11](126): 97-101 (Dec.) p. 98.

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 Aplacorphora, Polyplacophora, Scaphopoda, Bivalvia, and Cephalopoda. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. p. 112.

More Information

More information about Puget Sound benthic invertebrates is available at: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/sediment/.	Prepared by Angela Eagleston (Ecology); reviewed by Susan Weeks (Oikos). This document is available on the Department of Ecology's website at https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1703300.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.