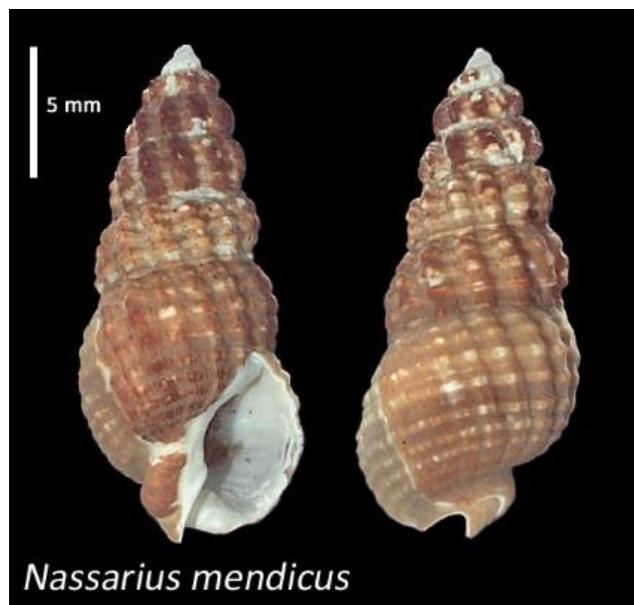


Nassarius mendicus (Gould, 1850)

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Mollusca
Class	Gastropoda
Order	Neogastropoda
Family	Nassariidae
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	<i>Nassa mendica</i> , <i>Alectrion mendicus</i> , <i>Alectrion mendicus indisputabilis</i> , <i>Nassa acutangula</i> , <i>Nassa gibbsii</i> , <i>Nassa woodwardi</i>



Distribution	
Type Locality	
Geographic Distribution	Kodiak Island, Alaska to central Baja California

Description
Length to 18 mm; shell slender and elongate; spire elevated high, sharp; whorls convex; suture distinct, depressed; shell thick, dull; exterior color yellow, gray, or brown, variable, with alternately light and dark spiral bands; interior color white; sculpture of 7-12 course rounded axial ribs intersecting fine spiral lines, often cancellate; axial ribs more numerous, thick, closely spaced; operculum ovate with serrate edge on side adjacent to outer lip; columella concave; siphonal notch deep, siphonal canal short; posterior anal canal lacking; base of shell with deep groove/fossa

Related Species and Characteristic Differences	
Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics
<i>Nassarius fossatus</i>	Large, fat shell; faint axial ribs; inner lip with broad orange callus; size to 50mm
<i>Nassarius perpinguis</i>	Fine and even spiral and axial sculpture producing cancellations; spire of moderate height; white shell with darker brown spiral bands

Diagnostic Characteristics

Diagnostic Characteristics

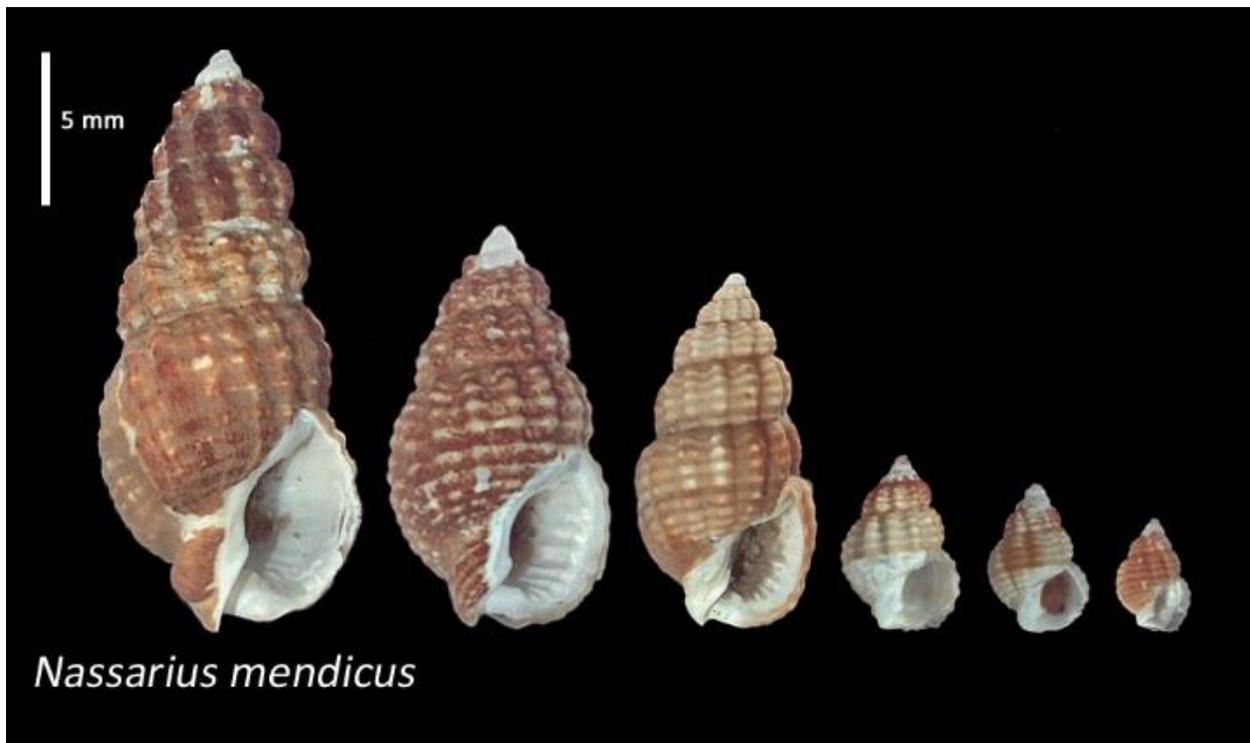
Photo Credit: Marine Sediment Monitoring Team

Callus not spreading over body whorl; height of shell greater than width of body whorl; deep groove in base of shell



Prominent nodes all over, including the body whorl





Literature

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- McLean, J.H. 1996. The Prosobranchia. In: Scott, P.H., Blake, J.A., Lissner, A.L. Eds. *Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and Western Santa Barbara Channel*. Volume 9. ISBN 0-93649-14-X. Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. The Mollusca Part 2 The Gastropoda. p 104.
- McLean, J.H. 2007. Gastropoda 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. 744-745.
- McLean, J.H. 1969. Marine Shells of Southern California. Science Series 24, Zoology No. 11. Los Angeles, CA: Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History. p 48.

More Information

More information about Puget Sound benthic invertebrates is available at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/psamp/index.htm>

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/1703313.html>

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