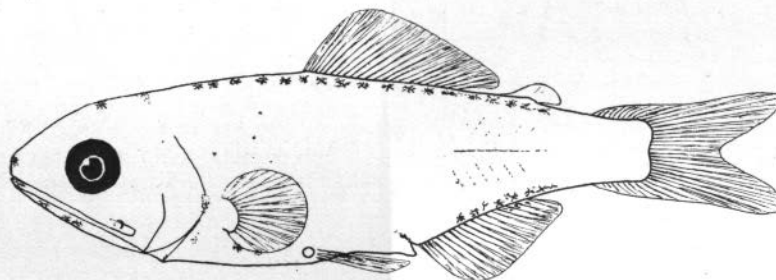


1



2

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

- 1 : adult female.
- 2 : postlarva 12 mm. excl. C.

DIAGNOSIS — Body elongated end slightly compressed. Maximal height to total length (excl. C.) 1 : $5-5\frac{2}{3}$; length of head to total length (excl. C.) 1 : $3\frac{3}{5}-4$; diameter of eye to length of head 1 : $4-4\frac{1}{3}$. Maxilla extending far beyond posterior margin of eye. Dorsal fin longer than anal fin; distance from origin of anal fin to base of caudal fin equal or nearly equal to distance from hind margin of eye to origin of anal fin. Insertion of dorsal fin much nearer to snout than to origin of caudal fin; anal fin originating a little behind the middle of dorsal fin. Pectorals barely reaching origin of ventrals. Number of rudimentary rays anterior in caudal fin 10-12. Scales large, cycloid and deciduous as in most Myctophidae. D : 22-25; A : 18-20; P : 13-14; V : 8. Scales in lateral line : abt. 37-40. Number of vertebrae : 38-40. Attains a length of 150 mm.

Photophores : two postero-lateral organs in a horizontal row (1 and 3 may occur abnormally); in species from the North-Atlantic we find this arrangement of the postero-lateral organs e. g. in the related species *L. resplendens*. Supra-anal organs in a wide obtuse angle, sometimes in a nearly straight line to the ultimate ventral organ. 3 precaudal organs (2+1), rarely 4. Number of anal organs 7-9+6-7. *Luminous scales* present both dorsally and ventrally on the caudal peduncle (6-7); besides there are luminous scales (abt. 25) present in a row along dorsum, above the anterior part of the lateral line (abt.

10), below the lowest subpectoral organ, above insertion of ventral fin, between supra-anal organs, anterior to first anal organ, and below postero-lateral organs. Adult male has a large luminous area on the cheek, but no luminous plate supracaudally (as in *L. resplendens*).

The postlarva is very characteristic. The eye is as in other species of this genus entirely circular (without "eye-taper" as met with in species of the genus *Myctophum*); the larval marginal fin-fold disappears at an early stage (no dorsal sinus). A long dorsal row of melanophores and at any rate behind the vertical of the anus a mediolateral and a ventral stripe of pigment. Metamorphosis takes place at a length of abt. 19-21 mm. (excl. C.)

DISTRIBUTION — Pelagic species, normally outside 500 metres isobath; sometimes cast ashore or observed in fjords etc. (Norway (Trondhjemsfjord), Iceland). A temperate boreal-species, penetrating into the Mediterranean to the Strait of Messina; in small numbers reaching far north with the Atlantic Current (Norway north to 70° 30' N. Lat., Iceland, Greenland) and even into the Skagerrak. The exact distribution south is not known owing to the fact that the species is often confused with other species from warmer waters.

Propagation — Maturity attained at a length of over 50 mm. (excl. C.); eggs very numerous. Spawning in the Mediterranean from winter to far in the summer.

SYNONYMY

Scopelus elongatus Costa 1844, *Scopelus caudispinosus* Johnson 1863, *Scopelus Kröyeri* Malm 1863, *Notoscopelus brachychir* Eigenmann and Eigenmann 1889, *Scopelus pseudocrocodilus* Moreau 1891, *Macrostoma angustidens* Jordan and Evermann 1896, *Notoscopelus quercinus* Goode and Bean 1895.

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