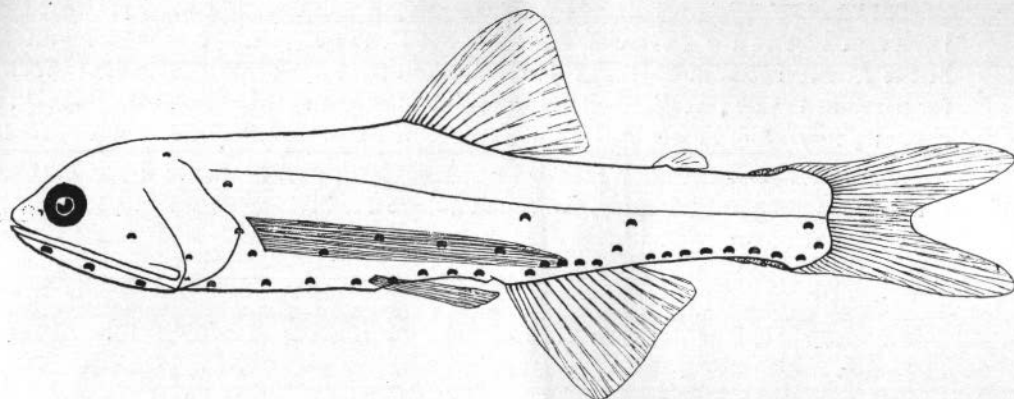


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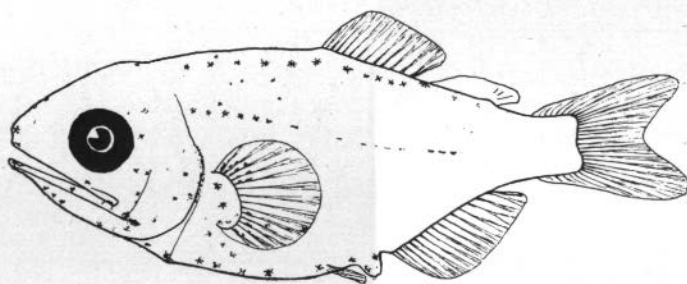
Iniomi - Myctophidae

Lampanyctus pusillus

(JOHNSON 1890).



1



2

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

- 1: adult female.
2: postlarva 8.5 mm. excl. C.

DIAGNOSIS — Body fusiform and somewhat compressed, rather slender. Maximal height to total length (excl. C.) 1: abt. 5; length of head to total length (excl. C.) 1: $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{2}{3}$; diameter of eye to length of head 1: $5-5\frac{1}{2}$ (smallest in female). Maxilla reaching far beyond eye. Insertion of dorsal fin a little nearer to snout than to origin of caudal fin; anal fin originating below posterior end of dorsal fin. Pectoral fin very long, reaching beyond anus. D: 11-13; A: 14-15; P: 13-15; V: 8. Scales deciduous, in lateral line abt. 34-35. Number of vertebrae 32-34. Maximal length attained abt. 45 mm.

Photophores: A well developed photophore on the cheek. Supraventral organ equidistant from lateral line and insertion of ventral fin. Supra-anal organs in a nearly right angle. Ultimate precaudal organ near lateral line and a trifle *anterior* to the vertical through penultimate precaudal organ. No distinct interval between ultimate anal organ and first precaudal organ. Nearly every scale has its own very small photophore; a row of these small photophores follows the ventral border of the lateral line. Number of anal organs 4-6+5-7; 4 precaudal organs. *Luminous scales* infra and supracaudally; not more than 4 infracaudal luminous scales. No luminous scale in adipose fin.

The postlarva is small (metamorphosis at abt. 12 mm. excl. C.) and is very short and clumsy compared with the rather slender adult specimens. As in other *Lampanyctus*-larvæ the eye is circular and dorsal sinus absent. The postlarva has a faint dorso- and mediolateral stripe and scattered pigment is present over most of the body.

DISTRIBUTION — This pelagic, deepsea species is found in most parts of the Mediterranean east to the Levantine Sea, but not in the Ægean Sea or the Marmora Sea; in the Atlantic it is met with in temperate and subtropical waters, in small numbers as far north as the Bay of Biscaya and in Mid-Atlantic to abt. 52° N. Lat., probably farther north; penetrating in the colder waters west of Africa south to abt. the Capverde Isls.

Propagation — Maturity attained at a length of abt. 30 mm.; a certain amount of spawning takes place all the year round in the Mediterranean, more particularly so in the first half of the year.

SYNONYMY

Scopelus pusillus Johnson 1890, *Lampanyctus alatus* Tåning 1918.

LITERATURE

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Å. VEDEL TÅNING — 1932.