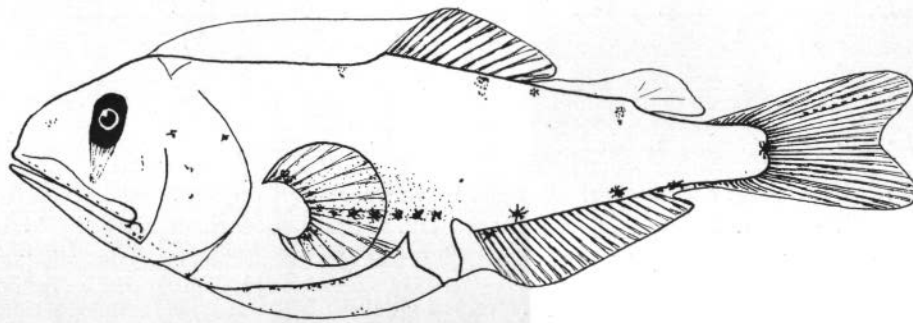


1



2

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

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

DIAGNOSIS — Form elongated and slightly compressed, tail very slender. Maximal height to total length (excl. C.) 1 : $4\frac{1}{3}$ - 5 ; length of head to total length (excl. C.) 1 : $3\frac{4}{5}$ - $4\frac{1}{4}$; diameter of eye to length of head 1 : abt. $3\frac{1}{2}$. Snout most often projecting over lower jaw (snout may be rather short in some specimens, but these are easily referred to this species as the distance from origin of anal fin to caudal fin is longer than distance from centre of eye to anal fin). Maxilla reaching far beyond eye. Insertion of dorsal fin much nearer to snout than to origin of caudal fin ; anal fin originating below posterior part of dorsal fin. Scales large, cycloid, with rich silvery lustre. Gill rakers on first branchial arch long (very short in the related species *M. nigro-ocellatum* Gthr.). D : 11-12 ; A : 20-23 ; P : 14-16 ; V : 8. Scales in lateral line : abt. 39-41 ; number of vertebrae : 40-41. Maximal length attained abt. 52 mm.

Photophores : one postero-lateral organ ; anal organs in two groups ; ventral organs at the same level. Suprapectoral organ at level with the upper end of base of pectoral. Supra-anal organs in an obtuse angle, the two lowest forming a nearly straight line with the supra-ventral organ ; the first supra-anal organ a little posterior to the second ventral organ. Number of anal organs 5-7+11-14.

Adult male has abt. 7 large supracaudal *luminous plates* between adipose fin and caudal fin ; adult female has 4-6 luminous plates infracaudally ; the development of these plates begins at a length of abt. 25-30 mm.

The postlarval stages have characteristic pigment spots dorsally and ventrally (see figure); in specimens from the Atlantic there may be a prominent line of pigment laterally; the eye oblong with a characteristic non-pigmented prolongation at the lower margin, "eye-taper"; a very pronounced dorsal sinus ("floater"). Metamorphosis takes place at a length of abt. 13-14 mm. (excl. C.); the metamorphosis is connected with a pronounced ontogenetic vertical migration.

DISTRIBUTION — Pelagic, true oceanic species, living in the surface of tropical and especially subtropical waters; in the Mediterranean east of Sardinia-Corsica; in the Atlantic north to abt. 43° N. Lat.

Propagation — Maturity attained at a length of abt. 40 mm.

SYNONYMY

Alysia loricata Lowe 1839, ? *Myctophum coruscans* Richardson 1844-48, ? *Scopelus Jagorii* Peters 1860, ? *Scopelus Langerhansi* Johnson 1890, *Myctophum hians* Richardson 1844-48, ? *Scopelus gracilis* Lütken 1892. Genotype of the genera *Alysia* Lowe 1839 and *Rhinoscopelus* Lütken 1892.

LITERATURE

1829. — COCCO, Su di alcuni nuovi pesci del Mar di Messina. Palermo.
1892. — LÜTKEN, Scopelini Mus. Univ. Hauniensis. "Spolia Atlantica". Vidensk. Selsk. Skr. 6. R., nat. math. Afd. VII. 6; p. 243. Kjöbenhavn.
1895. — GOODE and BEAN, Oceanic Ichthyology, p. 90. Cambridge.
1906. — BRAUER, Die Tiefsee Fische. Syst. T. Wiss. Ergeb. Deutsch. Tiefsee-Exp. "Valdivia". 15. Bd. 1; p. 199. Jena.
1918. — TÄNING, Mediterranean Scopelidæ. Rep. Danish Oceanogr. Exp. 1908-10. Vol. II. A. 7; p. 67. Copenhagen.

Å. VEDEL TÄNING — 1932.