

## The Occurrence of

*Urosalpinx cinerea* (SAY) in Newport Bay

BY

VERNON L. HUMAN

2421 Clement Avenue, Venice, California 90291

ON NOVEMBER 20, 1969, EIGHT SPECIMENS of *Urosalpinx cinerea* (SAY, 1822) were collected intertidally in upper Newport Bay, California. A more thorough investigation on November 23, 1969 disclosed a colony of approximately 200 specimens, ranging in length from 10 to 39 millimeters. Specimens were found as high as the mid-tide level on a -0.8 tide, but were larger and more numerous along the water's edge. Although the species is known from northern California (HANNA, 1966, p. 47), this collection apparently represents the first published record of *Urosalpinx* in Newport Bay.

The locality is adjacent to the Back Bay Road, 1.3 miles from its junction with Jamboree Road. Specimens occur on the undersurfaces, and less commonly on the vertical sidesurfaces, of rocks resting on a gently sloping sandy silt substrate. The rocky area is about 100 feet in length and is truncated at both ends by sandy mudflats. A moderate amount of shore fishing takes place at the site, which suggests that *Urosalpinx* may have been introduced with purchased fish bait. I have not observed this gastropod elsewhere in Newport Bay.

A scattering of small specimens of *Ostrea lurida* CARPENTER, 1864, might be sufficient to satisfy the food requirements of *Urosalpinx*, but *Mytilus edulis* LINNAEUS, 1758, is much more common. The burrowing pelecypods *Protothaca staminea* (CONRAD, 1837) and *Chione* spp. also occur abundantly.

A single clutch of eggs, apparently referable to *Urosalpinx*, was observed on a rock undersurface.

Appreciation and thanks are due to Dr. James H. McLean, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, for identification of specimens and to Mr. Boris Savic, who assisted in the collection of specimens and in the population survey.

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Human, V L. 1971. "THE OCCURRENCE OF UROSALPINX-CINEREA IN NEWPORT BAY CALIFORNIA." *The veliger* 13, 299–299.

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