

## Caprella scaura (Templeton, 1836)

Caprellid  
Phylum: Arthropoda

### Description:

It is distinguished by a sharply forward-pointing dorsal spine on the head. This species shows a high degree of variation in several anatomical features. There are a number of morphological differences between male and females. Males specimens are bigger than females and exhibit elongated propodus of gnathopod, palms with proximal spine with two strong teeth, where females have less elongated propodus of gnathopod, palms with proximal spine, distal tooth and developed knobs on pereonites.



### Distribution:

For some regions this species is considered cryptogenic species (unknown origin) and for other is considered introduced:

- 1836 Mauritius
- 1838 Brazil
- 1866 Caribbean Sea
- 1890 Australia
- 1903 Japan
- 1978-1993 Western Australia and Tasmania
- 1996 Hawaii
- 1998 South Carolina, USA
- 1999 Italy
- 2009 Canary Islands
- [2013 MADEIRA](#)



### Some impacts:

In Cadiz Harbor, apparently displaces native caprellids and other amphipods.

On the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts of Spain, it tends to replace *C. equilibria* at salinities of 36-38 PSU, and higher temperatures.

