

Oplophorus gracilirostris A. Milne Edwards, 1881

Order Decapoda
Suborder Pleocyemata
Family Oplophoridae

References used: Abele and Kim (1984), Chace (1986)

Diagnostic characters: Rostrum long, tip distinctly overreaching the antennal scale; 3rd, 4th, and 5th somites with midline spines; carapace with sharp tooth near the posterior end of the ventral margin; ventral margin of first abdominal pleuron with spine; fifth somite (abdomen segment) longer than sixth.

Habitat: Mesopelagic.

Range: Worldwide.

Remarks: Other *Oplophorus* species are found in the Gulf; only *O. gracilirostris* has the tooth and spine. Return all others to the laboratory for specific identification.

