Moroteuthis ingens (Smith, 1881)


Synonymy: Onychoteuthis ingens Smith, 1881.

FAO Names: En - Greater hooked squid  
Fr - Cornet commun  
SP - Lurión común

Diagnostic Features: Mantle robust, broad, thick, heavily muscled, not drawn out into a sharp tail, covered with fleshy warts. Fins large, broad, with broad angles of 50 to 55% each, length about 45% of mantle length. Tentacular clubs unexpanded, with 28 hooks in 2 rows. Longest arms (II and III) about 70% of mantle length.

Geographical Distribution: In subantarctic waters north of the convergence.

Habitat and Biology: An oceanic epipelagic species; probably occurring in less than 200 m, but the exact depth range is unknown. Its biology is barely known. It is a major item in the diet of sperm whales and also preys upon by seals.

Size: Maximum mantle length 94 cm.

Interest to Fisheries: Abundant species in subantarctic waters and believed to have some fishery potential.

Local Names:
**Moroteuthis knipovitchi** Filippova, 1972


**Synonymy**: None.

**FAO Names**:
- En - Smooth hooked squid
- Fr - Cornet lisse
- SP - Lurión liso

**Diagnostic Features**: Mantle moderately broad, stout, smooth-textured surface, not drawn out into prominent tail. Fins broad, fin angles 45 to 50° each, their length about 50% of mantle length. Tentacular clubs with 20 to 30 hooks in 2 rows, the 2nd to 4th on the dorsal row and 6th to 8th on ventral row the largest. Longest arms (II) 90% of mantle length.

**Geographical Distribution**: Scotia Sea and Argentine Basin ranging into the Southern Ocean and through Drake Passage to the West; possibly circum-polar.

**Habitat and Biology**: An oceanic species; one of the most heavily preyed upon by sperm whales in the Southern Ocean.

**Size**: Maximum mantle length 35 cm.

**Interest to Fisheries**: Its size and consistency make it a potential target for a fishery.

**Local Names**: 

**Literature**: Okutani (1980).
Synonymy: None.

FAO Names:  
En - Japanese hooked  
Fr - Cornet japonais  
SP - Lurión japonés

Diagnostic Features:  
Mantle robust, muscular, covered with fleshy ridges or warts, tip drawn out to a moderately lengthened, pointed tail. Fins broad, powerful, their width about 67% of mantle length, length about 55% of mantle length; fin angles about 35° to 40° each. Tentacular clubs long, unexpanded, with about 25 hooks in 2 rows. Longest arms (IV) 60% of mantle length.

Geographical Distribution: Western Pacific off eastern Japan.

Habitat and Biology: An oceanic species from temperate waters. Its exact depth distribution is unknown, but it has been caught in open nets in depths between 730 and 920 m; however, it is believed that it also occurs in depths less than 200 m, because it is preyed upon by fur seals as well as sperm whales.

Size: Maximum mantle length 30 cm.

Interest to Fisheries: Undetermined.

Local Names:

Literature: Okutani (1980).
**Moroteuthis robsoni** Adam, 1962

**Synonymy**: None.

**FAO Names**:  
- En - Rugose hooked squid  
- Fr - Cornet rugueux  
- Sp - Lurión rugoso

**Diagnostic Features**: Mantle long, slender, covered with fleshy warts, reddish coloration, tip drawn out to a long, sharp tail. Fins relatively narrow, 45% of mantle length, their length 58 to 60% of mantle length, forming a very sharply pointed lanceolate tail, fin angle 30° to 40° each. Tentacular clubs very narrow, unexpanded, about 24 hooks in 2 rows. Arms attenuate, longest (IV) about 57 to 68% of mantle length.

**Geographical Distribution**: Scotia Sea; southern tip of Africa; off southwestern Australia. Apparently not known from central subantarctic oceanic waters away from land masses.

**Habitat and Biology**: An oceanic species, taken with open nets lowered to between 250 and 550 m depth; its exact depth distribution is unknown. One of the squid species heavily preyed upon by sperm whales.

**Size**: Maximum mantle length 75 cm.

**Interest to Fisheries**: Caught by bottom trawls; believed to have some fishery potential.

**Local Names**:

**Literature**: Okutani (1980).
Moroteuthis robustus (Verrill, 1876)


Synonymy: Ommastrephes robusta Verrill, 1876; Lestoteuthis robusta Verrill, 1880; Ancistroteuthis robusta Steenstrup, 1882.

FAO Names: En - Robust clubhook squid
Fr - Cornet mange-piquants
SP - Lurion maximo

Diagnostic Features: Mantle robust, relatively broad, covered with raised fleshy longitudinal ridges, posterior tip drawn out to a moderately pointed tail. Fins large, longer than broad, their length about 50% of mantle length, width about 45% of mantle length. Tentacular clubs narrow, each with 36 hooks in 2 rows. Longest arms (IV) 45 to 50% of mantle length.

Geographical Distribution: Eastern and western far North Pacific in offshore waters from Japan to Alaska, throughout Aleutian Islands and into the Bering Sea.

Habitat and Biology: An oceanic species, heavily preyed upon by sperm whales; reported to feed on benthic heart urchins such as Brisaster townsendi, as well as on epipelagic species such as Velella velella.

Size: Maximum mantle length 2 m, weight to 50 kg.

Interest to Fisheries: Believed to have some fishery potential, even though attempts to prepare them for food in California have failed.

Local Names:

Literature: Okutani (1980).