

DISTRIBUTION AND LOCATION OF SPAWNING AREAS. The larvae of *N. scolopaceus* in the above collection were trawled or taken from the stomachs of lancet fish (*Alepisaurus ferox*) from two main areas, (a) the New Caledonia region from 10° S to 23° S between the Solomon Islands and New Caledonia, with a single large specimen from close to the northern coast of New Zealand, and (b) an area 35–45 miles west of Rottneest Island, Western Australia. The larvae from New Caledonia range in size from 16.5mm to 375mm and suggest that spawning of *N. scolopaceus* takes place in this region, but that spawning probably takes place over a very wide area. The larvae from Western Australia are all relatively large (107.5mm–203mm) and there is no indication (by the presence of very small larvae) that spawning in the eastern Indian Ocean occurs in this area. It probably takes place further northwards.

L. Borodinula infans (Günther, 1878) or **L. Borodinula gilli** (Bean, 1890),
Text-fig. 2, A-C.

1914. *Leptocephalus oxycephalus* Pappenheim, *Dtsch. Südpol Exped.*, 15, Zoologie, 7(2): 190, pl. 9, figs. 3, 5.

1916. *Leptocephalus acuticeps* Regan, *Brit. Antarct. Terra Nova Exped. 1910*, 1: 140–141, pl. 7, fig. 5.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. *Centre d'Océanographie de l'Institut Français d'Océanie Collection* (12 specimens): 67.3mm total length, IFO Station 56–4–18, 13° 20' S, 174° 03' E, 19/10/56, S1/2mH (0.5m net, no. 2 mesh, horizontal tow), ca. 10m; 77.1, St 56–5–6, 12° 57' S, 166° 05' E, 3/11/56 (0006hrs), S1/2mH, ca. 70m; 171.3, St 56–5–8, 11° 30' S, 163° 23' E, 4/11/56 (2228hrs), S1/2mH, ca. 150m; 41.8, St 56–5–9, 12° 35' S, 162° 42' E, 5/11/56 (2230hrs), S1/2mH, ca. 5m; 121.1, St 56–5–11, 16° 45' S, 163° 15' E, 7/11/56 (2225 hrs), S1/2mH, ca. 180m; 34.5, St A57–6–2, 22° 32' S, 166° 11' E, 10/10/57 (0030hrs), S1/2mH, ca. 10m; 105.3, St P58–3–3–5, 22° 41' S, 166° 15' E, 1/4/58 (0200hrs), S1/2mO, ca. 80m; 101.2, St LL 59–1–2, 22° 46' S, 162° 00' E, 29/1/59, stomach of lancet fish, *Alepisaurus ferox*; 102.5, St Ep 15b(1), 11° 06' S, 158° 19' E, 20/9/60 (0158hrs), S½m O, 0m–300m; 74.0, St G22, 21° 13' S, 163° 43' E, 21/3/62, S1mH (1.0m plankton net, horizontal tow), ca. 17m; 124.8, St S.7, 10° 48' S, 159° 00' E, 12/6/62, MWT5, H, ca. 95m; 98.3, St S.8, 9° 35' S, 161° 00' E, 18/6/62, MWT5, H, ca. 95m.

C.S.I.R.O. Division of Fisheries and Oceanography (Cronulla) Collection (1 specimen): 32.1, Warreen St 30/40, 30° 18' S, 153° 32' E, 22/4/40, N70 H, surface, 15mins.

Western Australian Museum Collection (2 specimens): 85.8, Acc. No. P5158, 47 miles west of West End, Rottneest Island, Western Australia, 12/9/61 (0200–0230hrs), larval net, 55m; 123.8, P5552, 45 mls, 7/11/62 (0140hrs), ln, 37m.

DESCRIPTION. 15 specimens: total lengths 41.8mm–171.3mm, myomeres 188–224, dorsal fin-rays 273–287, anal fin-rays 233–245, last vertical blood vessel at myomere 69–72, anterior margin of gall bladder at myomere 26–28. Description made from a specimen from IFO Station S.7 (measurements in mm): total length 124.8, head 5.1, snout 1.8, eye 1.1, cleft of mouth 2.3, postorbital 2.2, pectoral 1.2, snout-vent 116.1, predorsal 112.4, depth just before eye 2.5, at pectoral origin 3.9, at midpoint between pectoral and vent 10.2, at vent 5.0. Branchiostegal and pectoral rays not yet developed, dorsal rays ca. 230, anal rays 273, caudal rays ca. 6. Teeth $\frac{1+VI+5}{1+VII+2}$. Myomeres $170 + 27 = 197$. a–d = 8. Last vertical blood vessel at myomere 71. Anterior margin of gall bladder at myomere 27.

Body elongate, but not excessively so, compressed, except along head, relatively shallow, its greatest depth slightly behind midpoint where it is contained about 12 times in total length, tapering a little more rapidly posteriorly than anteriorly. Head appreciably differentiated from trunk, short, about 25 in total length; snout short, nearly three times in head, acute, the rostrum narrow and clearly defined, the dorsal profile concave; nasal organ circular, close in front of eye; eye circular, 4.5 in head; cleft of mouth slightly oblique, reaching to below middle of pupil;