Aora spinicornis Afonso, 1976

fig. 75, 76

Aora gracilis Della Valle, 1893, p. 407, pl. 2, fig. 9; pl. 12, fig. 25-39; pl. 56, fig. 37 (non *A. gracilis* Bate, 1857)
Aora atlantidea Myers, 1973, p. 291, fig. 7-13 (non *A. atlantidea* Reid, 1951, p. 252, fig. 45)
Aora spinicornis Afonso, 1976, p. 19, fig. 3-8

Type Locality: Ilha de São Miguel, Azores

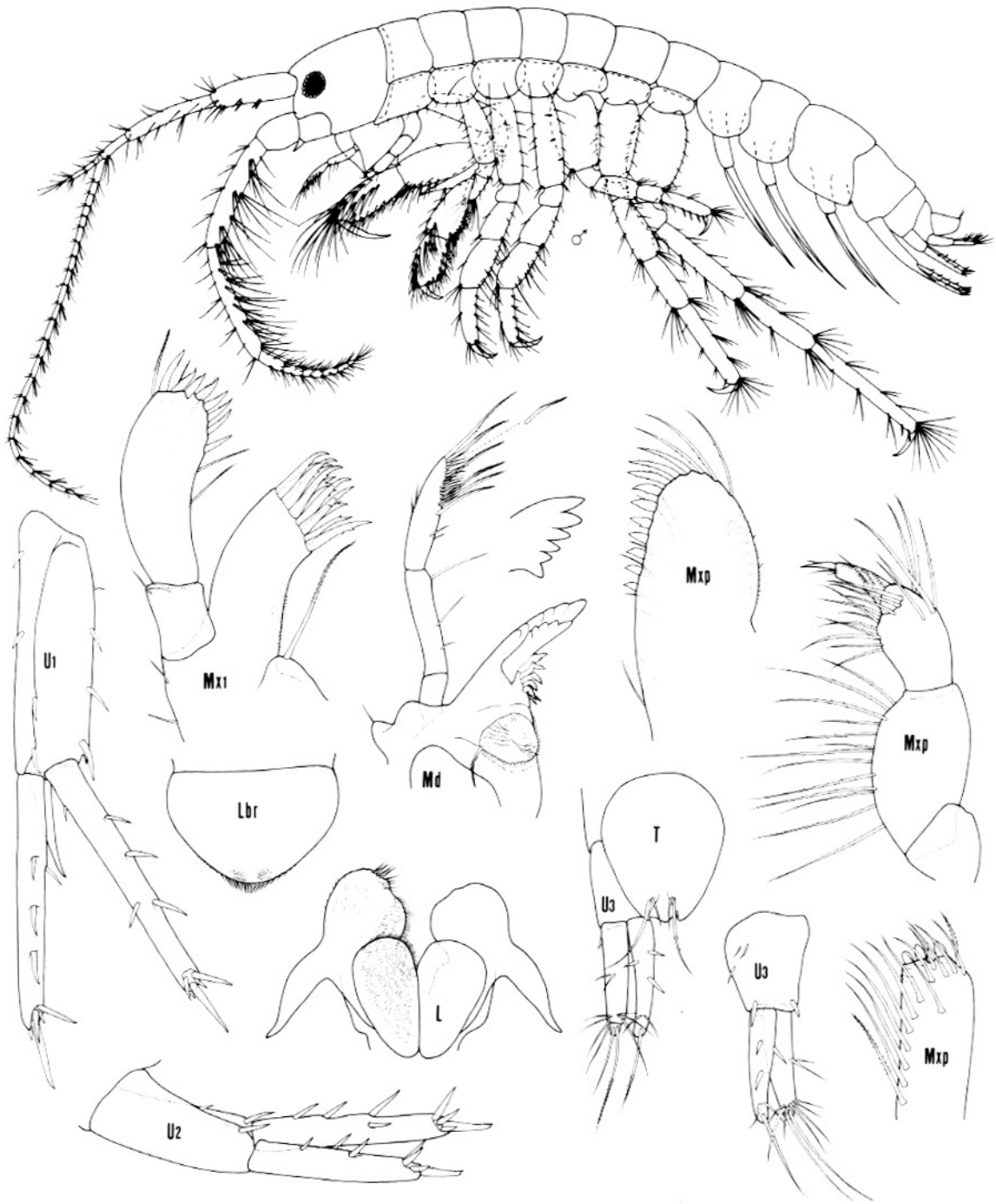

Fig. 75. — *Aora spinicornis* Afonso, 1976. Male (Ischia).

Description: ♂ 7 mm. A1 shorter than body length, flagellum = 2 × peduncle length, with up to 30 arts; accessory flagellum with up to 5 arts. A2 relatively setiferous, flagellum with up to 6 arts. Mandible palp arts ratio 1: 3: 4, art 3 slender, weakly falcate. Mx1 inner plate with single, terminal, pectinate seta. Coxa 1 relatively shallow, anteroventral corner strongly produced, acute. Gn1 basis slender, merus unproduced in non-terminal males, or produced distally into a slender tooth of variable length, but never

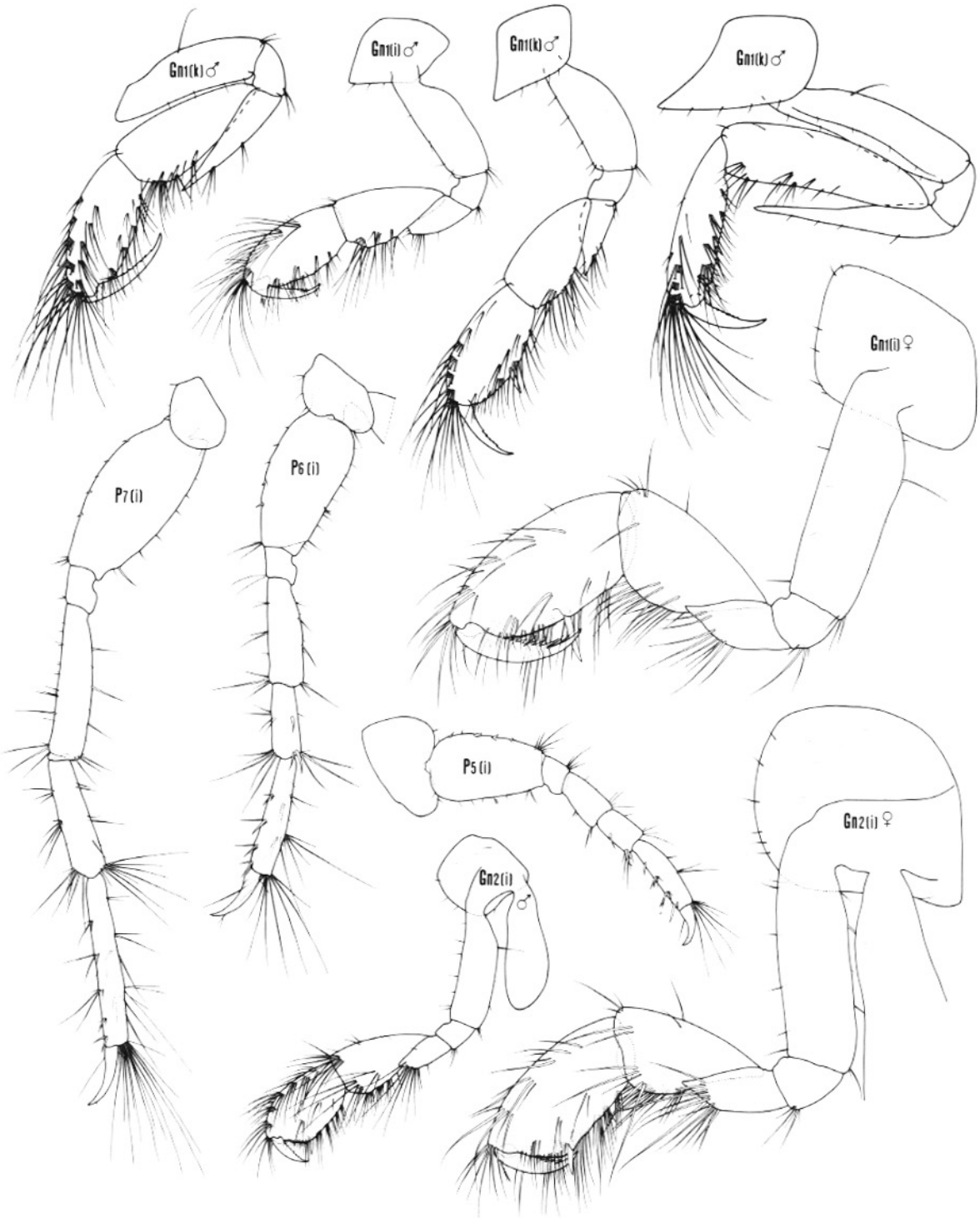

FIG. 76. — *Aora spinicornis* Afonso, 1976. Male, female (Ischia = i; Khios = k).

reaching distal end of carpus, carpus and propodus slender, elongate, propodus shorter than carpus, with several groups of long setae on terminal third of anterior margin, dactylus relatively slender. Gn2 basis moderately stout, anterior margin straight or slightly concave, carpus slender, propodus shorter than carpus, inflated, with anterior margin very convex, palm almost transverse, dactylus short. P5-7 with flange on posterior margin, well developed proximally, but distally attenuated. U2 peduncle shorter than rami, distal process vestigial. U3 peduncle shorter than rami, outer ramus longer than inner. Telson dorsolateral crests each with a subdistal pair of unequal setae.

♀ 8 mm. Coxa 1 relatively shallow, subquadrangular. Gn1 propodus longer than carpus, subovoid, palm oblique, dactylus fitting palm. Gn2 propodus longer than carpus, palm oblique, dactylus fitting palm.

Distribution: ***Mediterranean.*** Widespread but not yet recorded from North African coast. *France*: Antibes; Villefranche-sur-Mer [MYERS, 1973]. *Italy-Tyrrhenian Sea*: Ischia [Pres. Inv.]; Napoli [DELLA VALLE, 1893]. *Sicily:* Catania. *Yugoslavia:* Rovinj [KRAPP-SCHICKEL, 1969]. *Greece:* Khios [MYERS, 1969]. *Israel*: Atlit [Pres. Inv.].

General: Atlantic Ocean (Bay of Biscay southwards to the Azores, including the Islas Canarias). Mediterranean Sea.

Ecology: Infralittoral - Circalittoral among hydroids, phanerogams and algae, and on sandy bottoms.

Genus *LEMBOS* Bate

Lembos BATE, 1856, p. 58; J.L. BARNARD, 1969, p. 154
Autonoe BRUZELIUS, 1859, p. 23
Bemlos SHOEMAKER, 1925, p. 36

Diagnosis: AORIDAE with male Gn1 subchelate, propodus subequal with or larger than carpus, palm ornamented.

TYPE SPECIES: ***Lembos websteri*** Bate, 1857

KEY TO SPECIES (males only)

1. Basis of Gn1 with long pectinate setae on the posterior distal margin **2**
— Basis of Gn1 lacking long pectinate setae on the posterior margin **4**
2. Basis of P5 very swollen proximally ..... ***L. rubromaculatus***
— Basis of P5 approximately parallel sided **3**
3. Merus of P3 and P4 strongly setiferous ..... ***L. karamani***
— Merus of P3 and P4 weakly setiferous ..... ***L. viduarum***
4. U2 peduncle with a well developed distal spine-like process, at least 1/2 length of peduncle **5**
— U2 peduncle with a short distal triangular process, less than 1/4 length of peduncle **7**
5. Gn1 and Gn2 propodus with inner face of anterior margin densely setose ..... ***L. viguieri***
— Gn1 and Gn2 propodus with inner face of anterior margin only moderately setiferous **6**
6. Mx1 inner plate devoid of setae, A1 shorter than body length ..... ***L. spiniventris***
— Mx1 inner plate with a single long terminal seta, A1 longer than body length ..... ***L. angularis***
7. Gn2 carpus and propodus extremely elongate and slender ..... ***(L. leptocheirus)***
— Gn2 carpus and propodus not as above ..... ***L. websteri***

The records of *L. longipes* from the Mediterranean [GOTTLIEB, 1960; MACQUART-MOULIN, 1968] require confirmation. The records may refer to *L. viduarum*.

Lembos species are very fragile, and hence are often mutilated in samples. In such cases the dichotomous key provided may be unusable. Table 1 is provided to aid in the identification of specimens lacking antennae and posterior pereopods (the most frequently autotomised appendages).