

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Calasellus californicus*
COMMON NAME: None; a freshwater isopod
CLASS, FAMILY: Crustacea, Asellidae

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION: Miller, M.A. 1933. A new blind isopod, *Asellus californicus*, and a revision of the subterranean asellids. University of California Publications in Zoology 39(4):97, figs. 1, 2 (first and second pleopods of male), 3-5 (third, fourth, and fifth pleopods of female), 6 (dorsal view of male), 7 (first pleopod of female), 8 (mandible), 9 (first maxilla), 10 (lower lip), 11 (second maxilla), 12 (maxilliped), 13, 14 (first and seventh leg of male).

TYPE MATERIAL: *Syntypes:* CALIFORNIA: Lake County; near Kelseyville, from renovated well on ranch of William Tuttle, 21 Mar 1931, E.O. Essig, collector. Two males (USNM 134486 and 134488) and one female (USNM 134487). (Though Miller labeled these specimens as a holotype, allotype, and paratype when he deposited them at the USNM, these designations were never published and are therefore not valid under the rules of the Code of Zoological Nomenclature.)

RANKING/STATUS: G2G3S2S3 (NatureServe – CNDDDB).

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Length of males up to 6.2 mm, body slightly more than five times longer than wide; body loosely articulated and nearly uniform in width; surface smooth, margins of segments fringed with setae.

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS: Members of this genus have 5 setae on the inner lobe of the maxilla. *Calasellus californicus* has a rudimentary exopod of pleopod 5, and the endopod of the second pleopod is about twice the length of the exopod .

OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS: Bowman (1975) illustrates the male left pleopod 2 endopod, anterior view (fig. 60) and posterior view (fig. 61).

DISTRIBUTION: *Calasellus californicus* has been collected from one locality each in Lake, Napa, and Santa Clara counties.

HABITAT: Found in freshwater habitats; the known collections are from a freshwater well and two springs.

LIFE HISTORY/BEHAVIOR: There is no published information on the life history or behavior of this species.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Bowman, T.E. 1975. Three new troglobitic asellids from western North America (Crustacea: Isopoda: Asellidae). International Journal of Speleology 7:339-356.

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