



## US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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<b>Common Name</b>	scud
<b>Genus &amp; Species</b>	<i>Apocorophium lacustre</i>
<b>Family</b>	Corophiidae
<b>Order</b>	Amphipoda (amphipods)
<b>Class</b>	Malacostraca

**Diagnosis:** Identification to species of this scud requires knowledge of crustacean anatomy and a microscope as specimens may only reach several millimeters in length. The thoracopods are segmented, uniramous, and never lamellar. The carapace is reduced and not bivalved and the naupliar eye is always absent in adults. The telson is present and is usually smaller, narrower than the body, and projecting from the abdomen. The abdomen is not especially narrower than the thorax. The body shape is subcylindrical and the urosome segments are always fused.



**Ecology:** This scud will compete with native mussels for food and habitat space and have been known to overwhelm populations. This species has been found to alter food webs and decrease faunal diversity in areas of non-native establishment. Species in the family Corophiidae are mainly benthic filter-feeding amphipods, which pump water through a tube or burrow and use sieve setae to trap food particles. During reproduction, females brood embryos on their underside, which hatch out as crawling juveniles. A female biased sex ratio appears to be the most prevalent situation among the family of Corophiidae.

**Habitat & Distribution:** *Apocorophium lacustre* is native to the Atlantic coast of North America from the Bay of Fundy to central Florida but is considered introduced to the Gulf of Mexico. It can survive in a range of salinities from freshwater up to 16ppm and has generally been captured in tidal pools and river estuaries. This scud has been reported from the lower and upper Mississippi River, the Ohio River, and the Illinois River as non-native. Within this non-native range, habitat preference was associated with hard substrate such as snags and cobble or sand.

**Status:** *A. lacustre* was detected in the lower Mississippi River in 1987 and by 2003 it had been reported from the Illinois River. In 2005 it was reported from the Upper Mississippi River below the confluence with the Illinois River and has yet to be discovered within the Missouri River. In the Illinois River, specimens captured in 2005 were upstream of those caught in 2003, indicating an upstream dispersal pattern toward the Lake Michigan connection.

**USGS Fact Sheet:** <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?speciesID=2315>