

as in the males, but the terminal claw is not yet reflected back. A single male specimen of this species was dredged at Station 164A, which presents some interesting peculiarities in this respect; although only 15.5 mm. in length, it has all the secondary sexual characters of an adult male; the epimera are long and project outwards, the anterior ones nearly at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the body, and the third thoracic appendages are fully developed into prehensile organs; the three middle joints of these appendages, however, are not provided with the soft sensory hairs which I have noticed in nearly all the specimens from Station 168; the large male specimen from Station 156 is also characterised by the same absence of sensory hairs upon this appendage, and it appears to me to be just possible that the males of this species are dimorphic, one set being characterised by the possession of tufts of sensory filaments upon the third thoracic appendages, and the other set differing by the absence of those structures, and also by the fact that the individuals acquire their own proper secondary characters at an earlier date. It is also possible, of course, that this character may be a mere local variation, but in this case its occurrence in individuals from two such widely separated localities as Stations 164A and 156 is not a little remarkable, especially when we consider that the depths which the species inhabit are so different (400 and 1975 fathoms) in these two localities.

The time at which the females of *Serolis* attain to sexual maturity corresponds in every case to that observed in the case of the males.

In *Serolis cornuta* only the largest female examples had the ovigerous lamellæ fully developed, though rudiments of these structures are apparent in many of the smaller individuals.

In *Serolis schythei*, corresponding to the early sexual development of the male, the Challenger collection contains a female specimen only 13 mm. in length, but having the brood lamellæ fully developed and containing eggs.

Of *Serolis bromleyana* there is an adult female dredged at Station 168, only 22 mm. in length; in this species, as already stated, the males acquire their secondary sexual characters at a corresponding age.