**Gonatus onyx**

**Family** Gonatidae

**Clawed armhook squid**

**Characters**
Arm armature consists of biserial stalked suckers laterally and biserial hooks medially on arm pairs I-III, and four suckers per row on arm pair IV. Tentacular club armature consists of one large primary hook [1], and several rows of suckers on the manus and several rows of suckers in 3-4 series on the dactylus; mantle free of funnel and head; radula with five teeth per row.

**Color** Pale to dark purple.

**Life History**
Paralarvae have been described from the Bering Sea, Gulf of Alaska, and west coast. Adults are believed to spawn at >1,000 m. This species is known to brood its eggs in its arm crown until hatching (Selby 2000).

**Maximum Size** 13.5 cm mantle length.

**Depth Range** Surface to 1,500 m.

**Habitat** Pelagic; over water depths >500 m.

**Prey** Likely small fishes and squids.

**Predators** Fishes including salmon, marine mammals, seabirds, and squids.

**Industry Uses** None.

**Comments** This is a very common and abundant squid in the Gulf of Alaska and west coast.

**Similar Species** Can be confused with other gonatids. It is the only gonatid with a single hook on the tentacular club; however, the clubs are easily damaged so the hook may be missing. The fins are relatively small and the tail less tapered than in the other members of Gonatus.

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*Geographic Range* Baja California coast to Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands.

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