

WA State Department of Ecology Benthic Invertebrate Voucher Sheet

Species Name Aphelochaeta sp N6

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Nomenclature	
Phylum	Annelida
Class	Polychaeta
Order	
Family	Cirratulidae
Authority	NAMIT provisional species
Type Locality	
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	

Species Descrip	tion
Original Description	
	Prostomium short, stoutly pointed, without eyes; achaetous peristomium broad, cylindrical, relatively short, with three pseudoannulations.
	Palps present near the posterior peristomial margin. First pair of branchiae arising on the peristomium just above the palps; second pair inserted above the notopodia of setiger one.
	Inflated thoracic region with about 25 crowded setigers, with deep lateral grooves defining the elongate parapodia; dorsum rounded and ventrum glandular. Median region terete to slightly moniliform, with setigers slightly wider than long. Posterior setigers inflated and somewhat crowded, with a ventral groove.
	Notosetae moderate in number, capillary, smooth, approximately as long as the body width; neurosetae broader than the notosetae, about a third to half as long, abruptly tapering to capillary tips.
Additional Description	Pygidium a triangular lobe beneath the dorsal anus.

Specimen(s) Examined						
		Use Columns	for Multiple Sp	oecimen Vial N	lumber(s)	
Specimen Vial Number	1809	1920	2137	1980		
	2003	2003	1999	1999		
	Oregon	Washington	Washington	Washington		
	Coastal	Coastal	Coastal	Coastal		
Project	EMAP	EMAP	EMAP	EMAP		
Station	3109	3142	WA 1011	WA 1011		
Collection Date	6-6-2003	6-4-2003	8-25-1999	1999		
Collection Depth						
Number of Specimens	2	2	2	1		

Species Ha	bitat				
Habitat Type	☐ Intertidal ☐ Subtidal ☐ Ab	yssal	T		
	Sampling Region (n)	Percent of	Abundance		
Local		Occurrence	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Geographic Distribution	San Juan Islands (30)				
Distribution	E. Strait of Juan de Fuca (30)				
	Admiralty Inlet (30)				
	Strait of Georgia (131)				
	Whidbey Basin (79)				
	Central Sound (301)				
	South Sound (72)				
	Hood Canal (51)				
Geographic					
distribution					
according to literature					
Salinity (ppt)					
Depth (m)					
Percent Fines					
Total Organic Carbon (%)					
Graphical					
Summaries					

Specimen Diagnostic Chara	acteristics		
Diagnostic Characteristics	Photo, Illustrations	Photo, Illustration Credit	
Anterior region inflated with about 25 crowded setigers	Aphelochaeta sp. N6 002.jpg Anterior, ventrum - inflated, 25 crowded settigers		
First pair of branchiae arising on the peristomium	Aphelochaeta sp. N6 003.jpg anterior dorsum, first pr branchia on peristomium	Marine Sediment	
Median setigers with a green spot below each parapodium and at the ventral midline; methyl green stain retained on the dorsum of the posterior peristomial annulation		Monitoring Team	

Median neurosetae (ne) broader than the notosetae (no)

Marine Sediment Monitoring Team

Ventral groove limited to the posterior ventrum

Aphelochaeta sp. N6 004 jpg posterior wentrum with growns

Related Species and Characteristic Differences				
Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics			
	Posterior peristomium not retaining methyl green stain; median region			
Aphelochaeta tigrina	without staining spots below each parapodium and at the ventral midline; posterior half of inflated posterior region staining with encircling bands.			

Comments/Discussion

The prostomium and anterior peristomium do not retain methyl green stain, but the dorsum of the posterior peristomial ring stains intensely. The anterior thoracic dorsum exhibits light transverse bands, and the thoracic ventrum stains deeply after about setiger four. Median setigers with a green spot just below each parapodium and at the ventral midline. Anterior half of the inflated posterior region with encircling green stripes; posterior half not retaining stain.

Literature

Blake, J.A. 1996. Chapter 8, Family Cirratulidae Ryckholdt, 1851. Pages 263-384. IN: Blake, J.A.; B. Hilbig; and P.H. Valentich-Scott (editors). Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and Western Santa Barbara Channel. Volume 6 - The Annelida Part 3. Polychaeta: Orbiniidae to Cossuridae. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Santa Barbara, California. ISBN 0-93649-11-5. [p.330]

Doner, S.A. and J.A. Blake. 2009. Two new species of *Aphelochaeta* (Polychaeta: Cirratulidae) from deep water off northern California. Zoosymposia 2: 127-137. [p. 135]

More Information

More information about Puget Sound benthic invertebrates is available at:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/sediment/.

This document is available on the Department of Ecology's website at https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1403211.html.

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