

Table III. Comparison of some important characters in *Myriochele heeri*, *M. olgae* and *M. antarctica* sp. nov.

Character/Species	<i>Myriochele heeri</i> Malmgren, 1867	<i>Myriochele olgae</i> Blake, 2000	<i>Myriochele antarctica</i> sp. nov.
Prostomium	Rounded	Rounded	Subconical
Mouth	Ventral as a longitudinal slit	Oblique slit on ventrolateral side surrounded by thickened lips	Ventral as a longitudinal slit
Thoracic setigers	2 or 3	2 short segments	2 short segments
Abdominal setigers	6th and 7th set. longer than the others	1st set. shorter than wide, 2nd set. 2 times body width, 3rd and 4th set. 1.25 times	1st set. 4 times body width, 2nd set. 5 times, 3rd 6 times
Notosetae	Distally spinous capillaries and smooth acicular setae	Capillaries with few indistinct barbs	Capillaries with minute spinules
Hooks	Bidentate with one upper and one lower tooth	Bidentate with one upper and one lower tooth	Bidentate with one upper and one lower tooth
Pygidium	With two weakly developed lobes	With dorsal medial notch	With two dorsal and three smaller ventral lobes
Body length	Up to 35 mm	7-8 mm	7-11 mm
Body width	1.5-2.0 mm	0.4-0.5 mm	0.2-0.4 mm
Distribution	Atlantic, N. Pacific, ?California, Polar Seas: 120-2600 m. Mediterranean Sea: 115 m	California: 100-200 m	Ross Sea: 126-136 m

Dichotomic key to Antarctic Oweniidae

- 1 - Cephalic region with a tentacular crown .. *Owenia fusiformis*
 - Cephalic region without tentacular crown 2
- 2 - One thoracic chaetiger ... *Mirioglobula antarctica*
 - Two or three thoracic chaetigers Genus *Myriochele* 3
- 3 - Abdominal notopodial chaetae capillary and acicular *M. heeri*
 - Notopodia with capillary chaetae only 4
- 4 - Prostomium greatly reduced, absence of collar, first abdominal chaetiger very long (13 times the precedent chaetiger) *M. scotiae*
 - Prostomium well developed and collar present .. 5
- 5 - Two thoracic chaetigers, prostomium obliquely truncated with longitudinal mid-ventral slit *M. joinvillensis*
 - Three thoracic chaetigers 6
- 6 - Collar very long *M. longicollaris*
 - Collar short 7
- 7 - Prostomium anteriorly enlarged to form a collar-like flange, posterior end petaloid..... *M. pygidialis*
 - Prostomium anteriorly enlarged without a collar-like flange, posterior end not petaloid ... *M. terranovens* n.sp.
 - Prostomium anteriorly not enlarged, with longitudinal mid-ventral slit *M. wilsoni*