

P. dubia in MMS. ?

Prionospio sp. B SCAMIT 1991
Spionidae

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Synonymy: Prionopsio sp. B Harris

Literature: Wilson, 1990; Maciolek, 1985; Blake, and Kudenov, 1978; Foster, 1971.

Diagnostic characters:

1. Four pairs of branchiae on setigers 2-5 (Figure 1).
 - first and fourth pairs pinnate, with long digitate pinnae on posterior surface; second and third pairs apinnate, with dense cilia along lateral margins.
 - first pair approximately 3 times longer than notopodial lamella and apinnate branchiae.
 - fourth pair subequal to notopodial lamella and apinnate branchiae.
2. Setiger 2 neuropodial lobe truncate without ventral process (Figure 1).
3. Dorsal membranes absent.
4. Sabre setae from setiger 13-14.
5. Neuropodial hooded hooks begin on setigers 14-16, each with 4 apical teeth.
6. Notopodial hooded hooks begin on setigers 42-65, each with 4 apical teeth.
7. Interparapodial pouches absent.
8. Two or three pairs of eyes, posterior pair usually elongate, comma shaped and much larger than the anterior pair(s).

Related species and characters differences:

Prionospio coorilla Wilson 1990
fourth pair of branchiae approximately 1-1/2 to 2 times longer than apinnate branchiae; small ventral neuropodial process on setiger 2; neuropodial hooded hooks begin on setigers 15-18; notopodial hooded hooks reported as early as setiger 42.

Prionospio dubia Day 1961

eyes absent, rarely present as small faint red pigment spots; prostomium more truncate anteriorly and "gourd-shaped" vs narrow and somewhat rounded anteriorly (see Figures 2 and 3).

Other comments and notes:

There is no clear distinction among the above species. Prionospio sp. B and P. coorilla are distinguished from P. dubia only by the presence of eyes, the narrow and more rounded prostomium, and their Pacific distribution. The distribution of setal types is similar among the three species (Table A). Additional work comparing all three species with specimens from several populations will be necessary to resolve these similar species.

Distribution:

Goleta, CA south to Point Loma, CA., 45-80 m.

Table A. Comparison of the distribution of three setal types for Prionospio coorilla, Prionospio sp. B, and Prionospio dubia (as reported by Macirolék, 1985; Wilson, 1990; and as seen in several specimens from the Alan Hancock Foundation). M = Macirolek, 1985; W = Wilson, 1990; AHF = Alan Hancock specimens examined by Dean Pasko.

	sabre <u>setae</u>	neuropodial <u>hooks</u>	notopodial <u>hooks</u>
<u>Prionospio coorilla</u>	12-14	15-18	42-50 ⁺
<u>Prionospio</u> sp. B	13-14	14-16	42-65
<u>Prionospio dubia</u> (M)	13-16	15-19	42-69
<u>Prionospio dubia</u> (AHF)	14-15	17-19	??
<u>Prionospio dubia</u> (W)	17-20	18-19	49 ⁺

Figures:

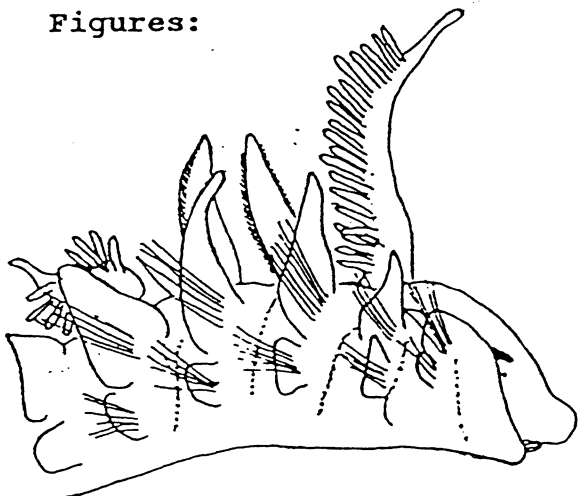


Figure 1. Prionospio sp. B

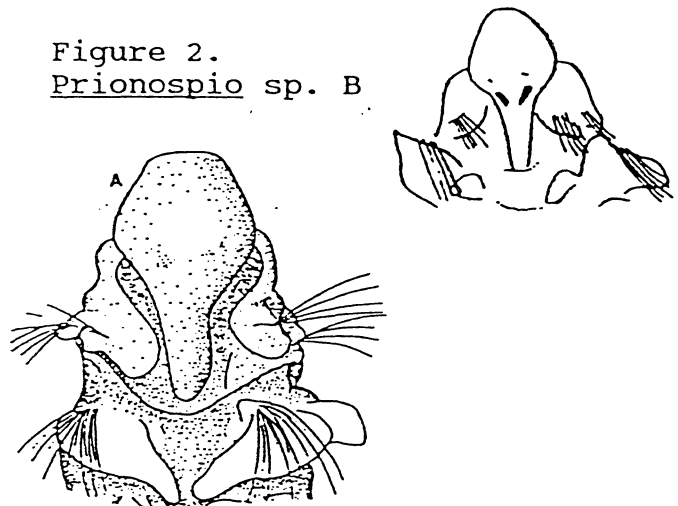


Figure 2.
Prionospio sp. B

Figure 3. Prionospio dubia
from Macirolek, 1985.