Specific characters for Polycirrus used by Hutchings & Glasby 1986

- 1. Number of pairs of notopodia. Only gross differences are of diagnostic value, as the absolute number of pairs decrease with increasing body size.
- 2. First segment the uncini occur on; necessary to give range for species. Number of uncini per row increase with increasing body size.
- 3. Degree of epidermal papillations or tesselations.
- 4. Degree of segmentation and approximate numbers of ventrolateral pads; may vary with increasing body size.
- 5. Form of notosetae.
- 6. Form of uncini, plus dental formula. Dentition is highly variable in some species, so dental formula should include range or a number of frontal views of the uncini should be provided.

Characters considered unreliable by Hutchings & Glasby 1986

- 1. Number of nephridia; varies with size and sexual maturity.
- 2. Form of notopodia and presence of lobes; highly variable and influenced by degree of expansion or contraction.

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