

TABLE OF POLYCIRRUS DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS USED AS IDENTIFICATION TOOLS

SCAMIT Terebellidae Meeting July 2006

Created by Larry Lovell and Leslie Harris, 2006

Polycirrus Grube, 1850, Emended. Stem species *P. medusa*

Description: Expanded tentacular membrane trilobate, sometimes with lateral lobes reduced, with 2 types of buccal tentacles.

Thorax with a variable number of setigers, notopodia from segment 2 or 3. Neuropodia first present from segments 7-18.

Notosetae variable; include pinnate, hirsute, smooth winged or smooth wingless capillaries, but only 1 or 2 types present in any one species. From: Hutchings & Glasby, 1986

| Source | Hutchings & Glasby 1986 | Banse, 1980 | Lovell 1995 (Puget Sound handout) | Barwick 2003 (SCAMIT handout) | Parker - key derived from Barwick's table | Harris 2006 (SCAMIT meeting talk) |
|---|---|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| # pairs of notopodia (gross diff) | yes * | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Segment with 1st notosetae (2 or 3) | <i>not listed among most important diagnostic characters but useful</i> | no | no | no | no | yes |
| 1st setiger with uncini (range) | yes ** | no | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Dorsum (smooth or rugose) | yes | no | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Number & form of ventral pads | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Form of notosetae (plumose, hirsute) | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Form of uncini and range of dentition | yes | yes | no | yes | no | not used, other characters preferred |
| Thoracic parapodial lobes (presence pre- & postsetal lobes, length) | <i>highly variable, not reliable</i> | yes | yes | no | no | no |
| Frontal view uncini dentition | <i>not used, highly variable</i> | yes | no | no | no | not used, other characters preferred |
| # of nephridia | <i>Use with caution, size and maturity dependent</i> | yes | no | no | no | yes |
| Methyl green staining patterns | <i>not mentioned</i> | <i>not mentioned</i> | yes | no | no | yes |

* "the absolute # of pairs tends to decrease with increasing body size"

** "absolute # of uncini per row tends to increase with body size"