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1991  
Owensan 2 1990

Ophryotrocha sp. A SCAMIT  
Dorvilleidae

SCAMIT Code: LACO 79

Date Examined: 13 July 1987  
Voucher by: David E. Montagne  
(LACO)

SYNONYMY: Dorvilleidae sp. A Montagne

LITERATURE: SCAMIT Newsletter 2 (3), 1983

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

1. Typical specimen 5mm long, 0.8mm wide, excluding parapodia, has 34 setigers.
2. Prostomium eyeless, shorter than wide, broadly rounded anteriorly; prostomial tentacles short, tumid cirri; palps articulated, insert ventro-laterally; digitate palpostyle short, one-half length of palpophore.
3. Mandibles well chitinized, lie in contact with one another, not fused; distally each mandible flares into lateral, toothed wing.
4. Maxillary apparatus in full development a K-type with large "ice-tong" shaped forceps; maxilla I with posteriorly-directed process extending to forceps base.
5. Setigerous segments bear well developed parapodia and large dorsal and ventral lateral lobes; dorsal lobes large, flat disc-shaped structures; the ventral segmental lobes are tumid cones.
6. Parapodia uniramous, bearing a dorsal cirrus, acicular lobe, setal lobe, and ventral cirrus; setae long simple falcigers and heterogomph falcigers.
7. The pygidium wider than long, with two digitiform anal cirri; there is no medial palpode.

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

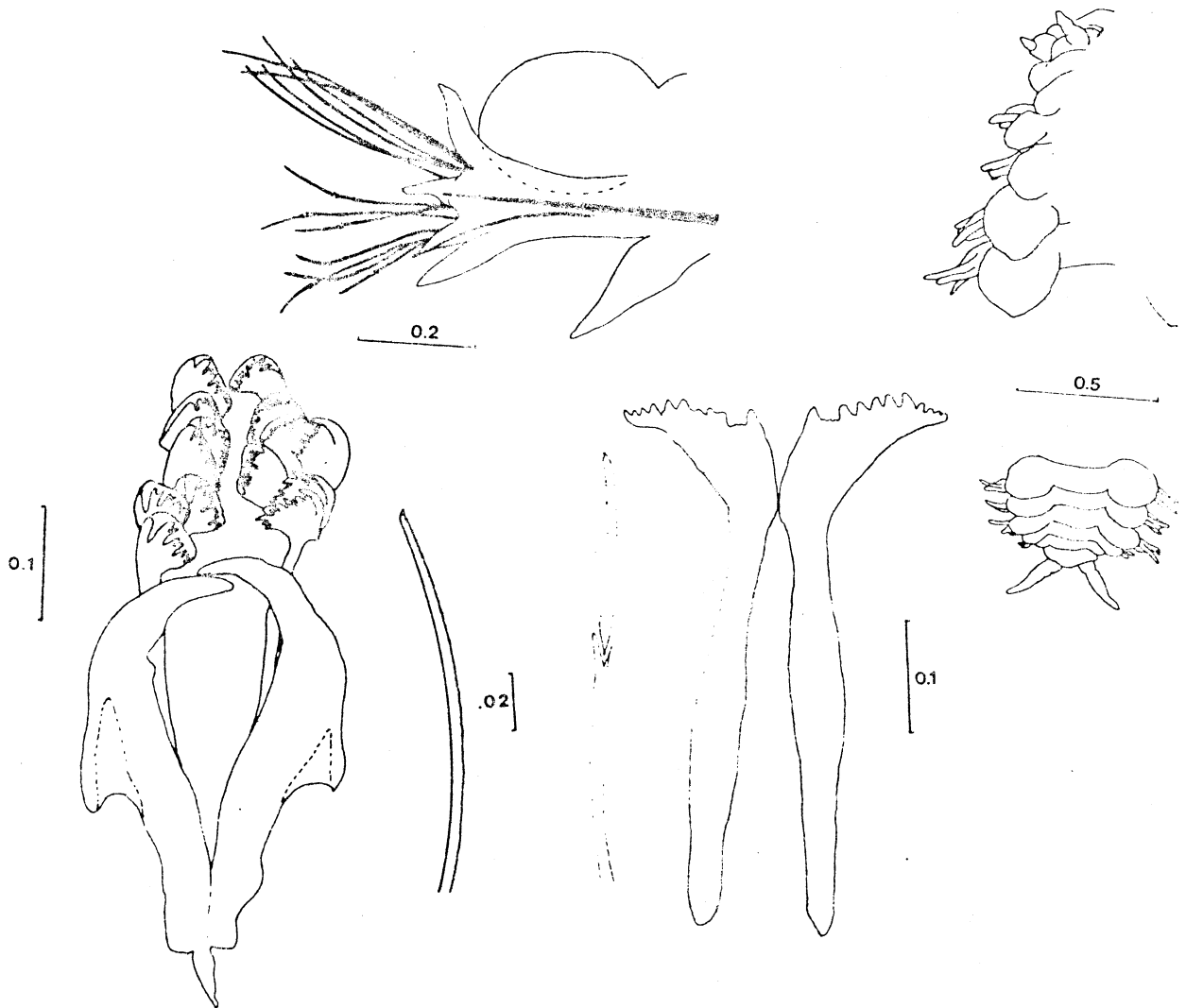
Ophryotrocha sp. A is most quickly distinguished from other Ophryotrocha by the presence of the large discoid dorsal lobes on the setigerous segments.

DISTRIBUTION:

Species A is known from two sites in southern California, where it occurs sympatrically with spp. B and C in 60m depths around the termini of the Los Angeles County Sanitation District's Whites Point outfalls, and in 95m depths around the terminus of the city of Los Angeles' 7 mile sludge line, discharging at the head of Santa Monica Canyon. It has also been collected in Howe Sound, British Columbia, at a site receiving pulp mill wastes in 20m of water where it co-occurs with a closely related undescribed species (O. sp. D of Montagne).

COMMENTS:

Ophryotrocha sp. A, B, C and D all appear to be confined to habitats characterized by highly organic sediments with high hydrogen sulfide concentrations.



Ophryotrocha sp. A