

Tetrastemma "albidum" Coe 1905
Group: Nemertea: Enopla: Hoplonemertea
:Tetrastemmatidae

SCAMIT Vol. , No

SCAMIT CODE: None

Date Examined: 16 May 2007
Voucher By: Tony Phillips

SYNONYMY: *Prosorhochmus albidus* (Coe 1905)
~~*Tetrastemma* sp A (SCAMIT 1995) of Hyperion~~
Monostylifera sp B SCAMIT 1995
Monostylifera sp C SCAMIT 1995

LITERATURE:

- Bernhardt, P. 1979. A key to the Nemertea from the intertidal zone of the coast of California. (Unpublished).
Coe, W.R. 1905. Nemerteans of the west and north-west coasts of North America. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. Harvard Coll. 47:1-319.
Coe, W.R. 1940. Revision of the nemertean fauna of the Pacific Coast of North, Central and northern South America. Allen Hancock Pacific Exped. 2(13):247-323.
Maslakova, S.A. et al., 2005. The smile of *Amphiporus nelsoni* Sanchez, 1973 (Nemertea:Hoplonemertea:Monostylifera:Amphiporidae) leads to a redescription and a change in family. Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, 118(3):483-498.

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

1. Body white, thick, generally of uniform width
Proboscis sheath extends almost full length of body, proboscis papillated
3. basis even to slightly less than stylet (s/b ratio .57 - .67), basis truncate shaped, 1-2 accessory pouches (2 stylets)
4. eyes not visible uncleared, cleared specimens with single pair of eyes near anterior edge of head, a second pair of eyes just posterior to cephalic furrow, both eyes can have elongate projections of pigment emanating outward from eye; speckled brownish-red pigment on the dorsum between both sets of eyes

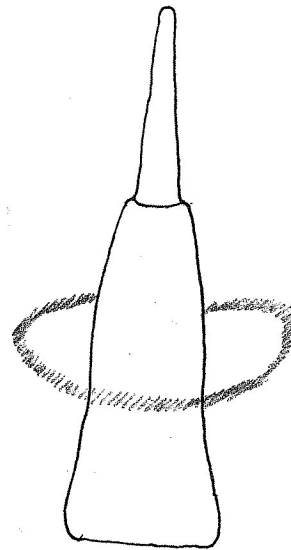
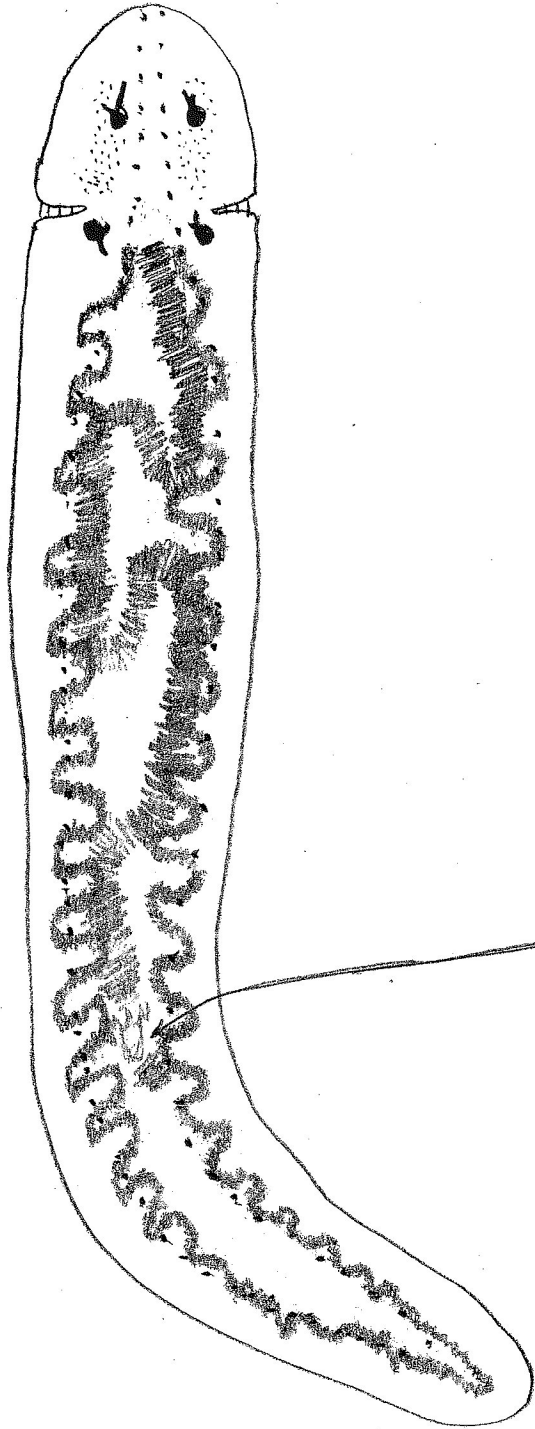
RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

This is the only species of *Tetrastemma* observed that has pigmented speckling on the head in the southern California Bight. It is also the only species of *Tetrastemma* that has a truncate basis. At this time Dr. Svetlana Maslakova feels that this species should be left as a *Tetrastemma*. The primary external morphological character of *Prosorhochmus* is the prosorhochmid "smile" (see Maslakova et al., 2005), a horizontal transverse epithelial fold on the head that has not been observed in any of the specimens I examined. She examined specimens collected from southern California in 2002 and found a couple of species that fit Coe's original description, but is certain neither is a *Prosorhochmus* due to the above mentioned morphological character and other internal characters. For now she feels that this species is of uncertain taxonomic affinities and best to leave as *T. albidus*. She is preparing to submit a manuscript to the Journal of Natural History discussing briefly the status of *Prosorhochmus albidus* (Coe 1905).

DEPTH RANGE: 15 - 80 meters

DISTRIBUTION: San Diego to San Francisco

Tetrastemma "albidos" albulum



← musculature ring
surrounding basis.