



Key to the Family Cossuridae of SCAMIT Ed. 14 and Local Provisional Species



B. Haggin (LACSD)
June, 2025

Definitions

MGS - Methyl Green Stain pattern

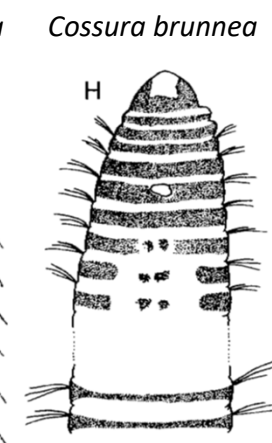
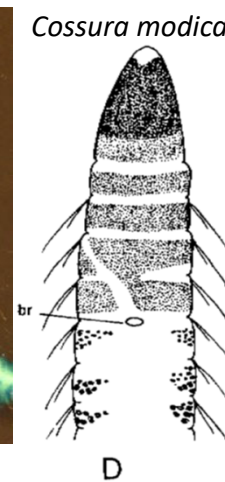
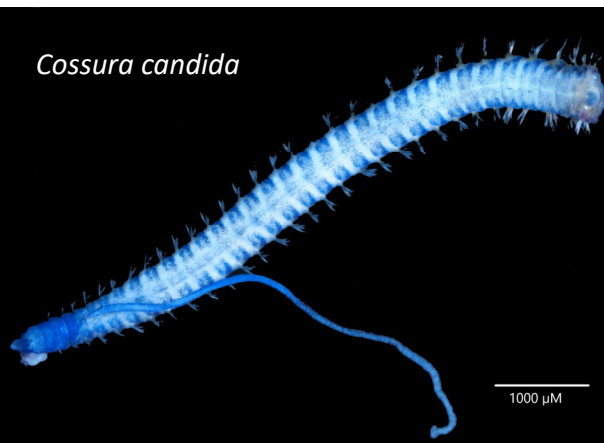
1a. Branchial filament inserted on chaetiger 2 or 3	2
1b. Branchial filament inserted on Chaetiger 4	<i>Cossura modica</i> Fauchald & Hancock, 1981
2a. (1a) Branchial filament inserted on chaetiger 2 (appears even with or anterior to the chaetae on chaetiger 3)	3
2b. Branchial filament inserted on chaetiger 3 (appears posterior to the chaetae on chaetiger 3)	7
3a. (2a) Anterior fragment with at least 35 segments	4
3b. Anterior fragment with fewer than 35 segments	<i>Cossura</i> sp
4a. (3a) MGS with dorso- & ventrolateral patches remaining separate in posterior thorax	5
4b. MGS with dorso- & ventrolateral patches merging in posterior thorax, forming continuous band; branchial filament inserted in segmental furrow between chaetigers 2 & 3; 32-33 thoracic chaetigers	<i>Cossura</i> sp LA2 Haggin, 2025 §
5a. (4a) Specimen with pygidium present	6
5b. Specimen with pygidium absent	<i>Cossura</i> sp
6a. (5a) Pygidium with 3 long pygidial cirri & 8-20 digitate pygidial processes	<i>Cossura pygodactylata</i> Jones, 1956
6b. Pygidium with 3 long pygidial cirri only, digitate pygidial processes absent	<i>Cossura</i> sp A Phillips, 1987 §
7a. (5b) MGS connecting laterally between chaetal fascicles; branchial filament inserted in anterior 1/2 chaetiger	8
7b. MGS not connecting laterally between chaetal fascicles; branchial filament inserted in posterior 1/2 of chaetiger, closer to chaetiger 4; thorax with 20-31 chaetigers; pygidium with 3 long pygidial cirri, pygidial processes absent	<i>Cossura bansei</i> Hilbig, 1996
8a. (3b) Thorax with more than 20 chaetigers (counting transitional chaetigers)	9
8b. Thorax with fewer than 16-18 chaetigers; body often pigmented brown; pygidium with 3 very long pygidial cirri	<i>Cossura brunnea</i> Fauchald, 1972
9a. (8a) MGS of posterior thoracic chaetigers forming a continuous band ventrally	<i>Cossura rostrata</i> Fauchald, 1972
9b. MGS of posterior thoracic chaetigers in discrete patches, not forming continuous bands ventrally	<i>Cossura candida</i> Hartman, 1955

Version History

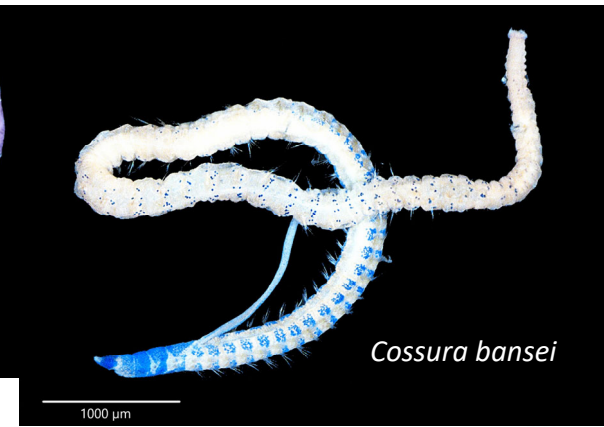
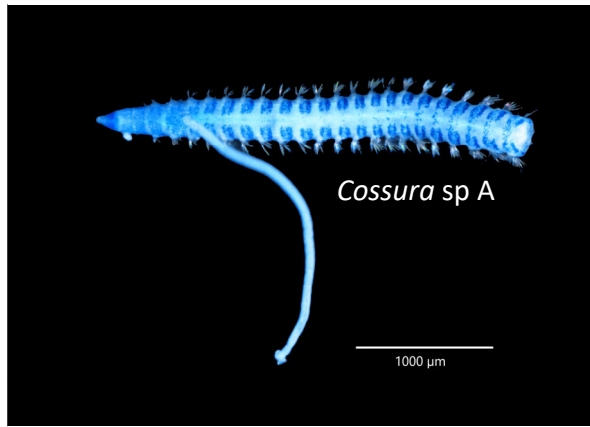
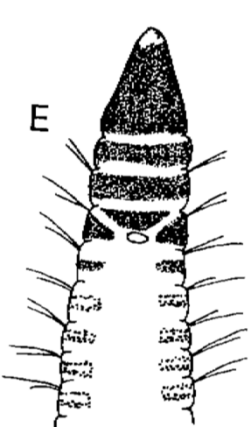
1.0 Key Created.

June, 2025 - BMH

Cossura Stain Comparison - Dorsal



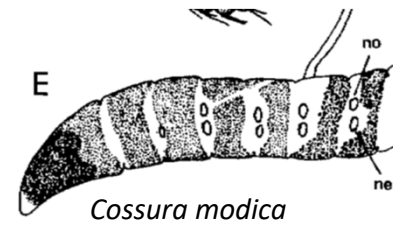
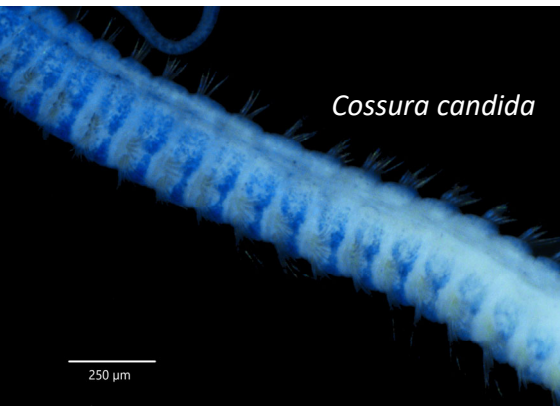
Cossura pygodactylata



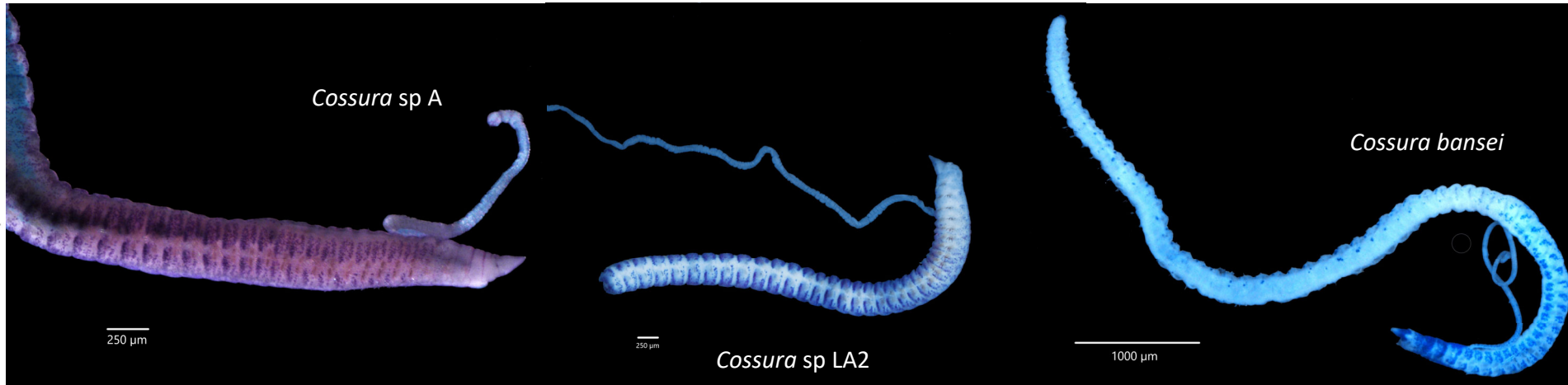
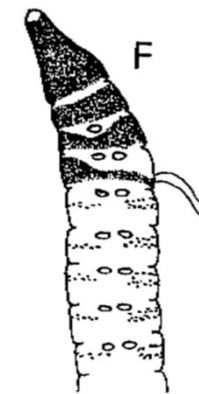
Source: Hilbig (1996); Images by B. Haggin



Cossura Stain Comparison - Lateral



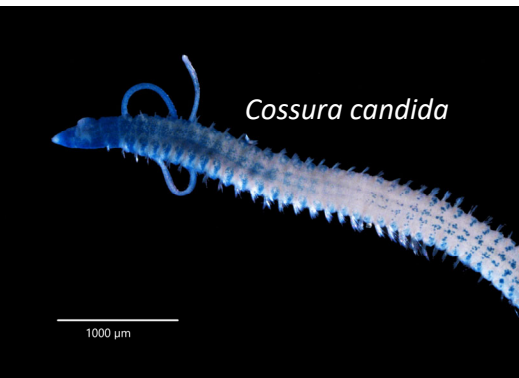
Cossura pygodactylata



Source: Hilbig (1996); Images by B. Haggin

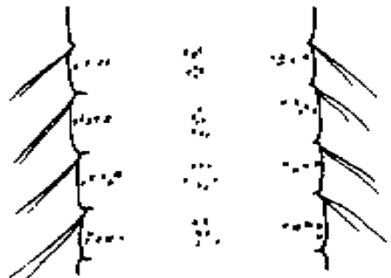


Cossura Stain Comparison - Ventral

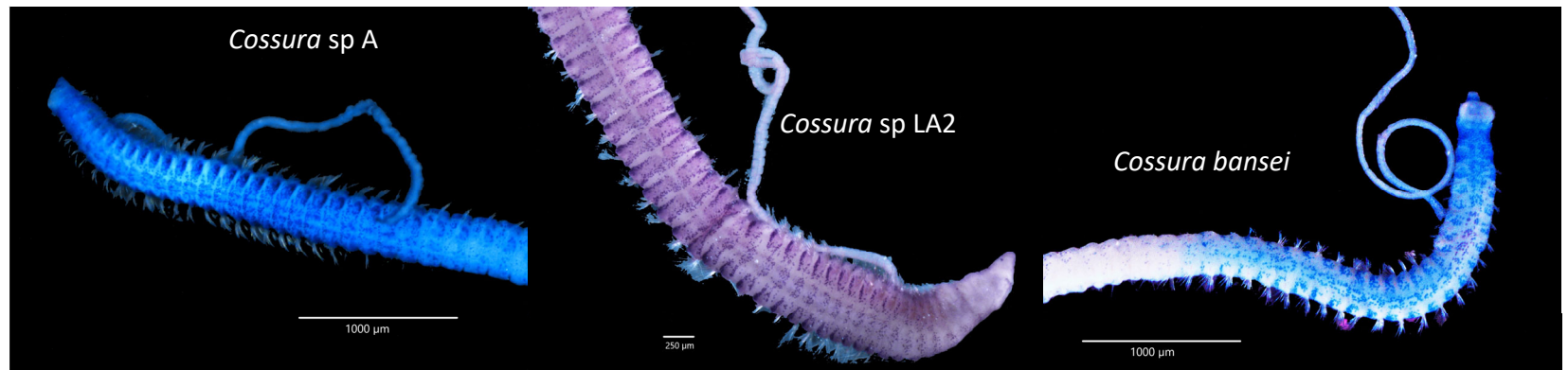


Cossura brunnea

Cossura pygodactylata



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Source: Hilbig (1996); Images by B. Haggin



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