Scoloplos acmeceps and Scoloplos armiger complex

I have been methyl green staining Scoloplos specimens primarily to see if there are differences that might correlate with the multiple taxa that are contained with the current concepts of these two "species". (Scoloplos acmeceps might also represent a complex of species)

The following is preliminary but it does look like there is a difference between S. acmeceps and S. armiger complex.

It appears that our common Orbiniidae taxa (Scoloplos and Leitoscoloplos) possess a thin ciliary band that surrounds thoracic setigers (midsegmentally). In Leitoscoloplos it is often visible as a thin, brown, encircling band.

That ciliary band appears to stain in Scoloplos armiger complex (at least the several specimens encountered in CSD SBOO 13 rep. 2 22Jan2007 27 m.) but not in Scoloplos acmeceps encountered in the same sample.

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**Scoloplos acmeceps** Chamberlin 1919

Thoracic setiger one of first branchiate (~ setiger 14)

Abdominal setiger

Figure from Blake 1996 MMS Vol.6 part 3 reformatted from Hartman 1957 (RRowe added parapod captions)

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**Scoloplos armiger** Muller 1776

Thoracic parapodium

Anterior abdominal parapodium

Lateral view thoracic to abdominal transition (~setigers 17-26)

Thoracic spine (note # of ridges)

Figure from Hartman 1957 reformatted and captioned by RRowe