

Date Examined: 15 May 2011
Voucher By: Tony Phillips

SYNONYMY: None

LITERATURE:

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DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

1. Body white, generally of uniform width.
2. Proboscis sheath extends almost full length of body, proboscis papillated.
3. Basis slightly greater than stylet (s/b ratio .61 - .95), basis thin-pear shaped and base slightly rounded, 1-2 accessory pouches (1 – 2 stylets).
4. Eyes not visible uncleared; cleared specimens with single pair of round to crescent eyes near anterior edge of head, second pair of round to crescent eyes (smaller) just posterior to cephalic furrow.

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

Unless cleared there are many species of Amphiporus, Tetrastemma and provisional species of Hoplonemertea that have a similar appearance. The southern California Bight has several species of Tetrastemma that could be confused with *T. candidum* if they are not cleared. *T. sp B SCAMIT* can be differentiated by the posterior pair of eyes being double. *T. albidum* has a speckled brownish-red pigment between the anterior and posterior eyes, the eyes are not crescent shaped and can be distorted in shape by elongate projections, and the basis is truncate, not pear shaped. All other species of Tetrastemma identified from the SCB have distinctive dorsal pigmentation.

DEPTH RANGE: Intertidal - 78 meters

DISTRIBUTION: Circumpolar; Alaska to Ensenada, Mexico

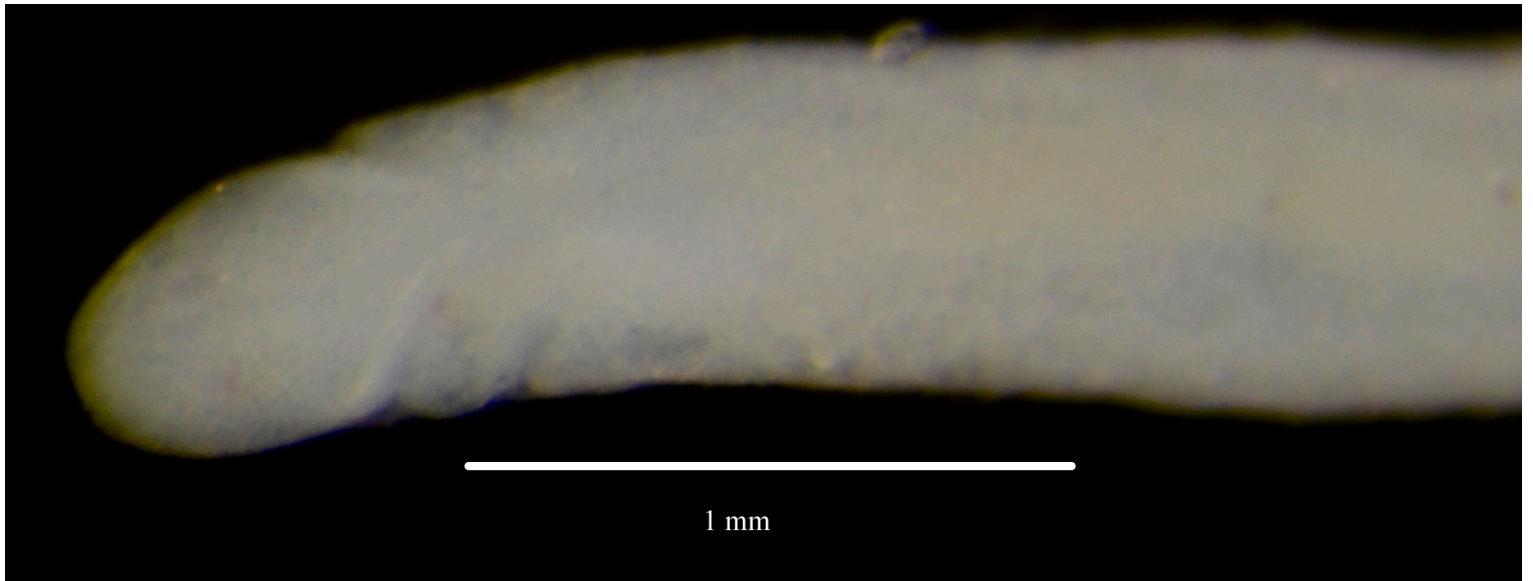


Figure 1. *Tetrastemma candidum* (uncleared) [note that eyes are barely visible]