

Date Examined: 16 May 2010

Voucher By: Tony Phillips

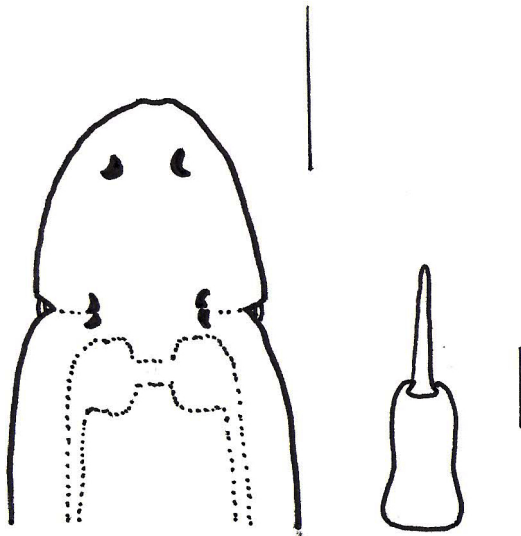
SYNONYMY: Tetrastemma sp 1 (Phillips 2006)
Tetrastemma sp HYP1 (Phillips 2008)

LITERATURE:

- Bernhardt, P. 1979. A key to the Nemertea from the intertidal zone of the coast of California. (Unpublished).
 Coe, W.R. 1901. Papers from the Harriman Expedition, 20, the Nemerteans. Proc. Wash. Acad. Sci., 3:1-110.
 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.

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

1. Body white, thick, generally of uniform width.
2. Proboscis sheath extends almost full length of body, proboscis papillated.
3. basis slightly longer than stylet (s/b ratio .60 - .93), basis pear shaped and base slightly rounded, 1-2 accessory pouches (1 – 2 stylets).



4. eyes not visible uncleared, cleared specimens with single pair of crescentic eyes near anterior edge of head, double pair of crescent eyes (facing slightly to outside) on top of each other (anterior/posterior), just posterior to cephalic furrow and above brain lobes.
5. Size of specimens observed 3 – 6 mm.

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

The distinct, double crescent posterior eyes observed has only been seen in one other provisional Tetrastemma found in the southern California Bight. That species was described as Tetrastemma sp CARP 1 (for this presentation as T. sp C SCAMIT) for specimens that were found in samples collected around the Carpenteria outfall. There are several characters that can be used to separate the two provisional species. Tetrastemma sp C SCAMIT is much narrower than T. sp B SCAMIT, the anterior portion of the head is narrow, becoming a more uniform width posterior of the cephalic groove. The shape of the cephalic groove is distinctive for T. sp C SCAMIT. Where other Hoplonemertea have a shallow groove that connects in a slightly curved furrow

between both sides, the cephalic groove has a anterior prolongation dorsally. The groove is also very evident ventrally (not usually seen in other Hoplonemertea from the SCB) with a wider anterior prolongation than dorsally. T. sp C SCAMIT(13 – 47 mm) is a larger animal than T. sp B SCAMIT(3 – 6 mm). The s/b ratios and basis shape are similar for the two species.

DEPTH RANGE: 15 meters

DISTRIBUTION: Santa Monica Bay; fine to medium sands