



***Callinera emiliae* sp. nov. (Nemertea: Palaeonemertea) from Negros Island, the Philippines**

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Abstract

Callinera emiliae sp. nov., the ninth member of the genus, is described based on three specimens collected in Dumaguete, Negros Island, Republic of the Philippines. The new species can be distinguished from its congeners by the following characteristics: lateral sensory organs present; sub-epidermal glandular cells absent; blood vascular system without a ventral cephalic connective; nervous system with two dorsal cerebral commissures; and foregut nerves fused to form a ganglion in front of the mouth. In living specimens, epidermal constrictions were observed in the intestinal region; the presence of intestinal sphincters was confirmed in sectioned material and these correspond with the epidermal constrictions.

Key words: Nemertea, palaeonemertean, Philippines, taxonomy, new species

Introduction

The nemertean fauna of the Philippines is virtually unknown; only two species have previously been reported. One of these is a parasitic species to decapod crustaceans, *Carcinonemertes mitsukurii* Takakura, 1910, reported by Humes (1942) based on a museum specimen of the crab, *Charybdis miles* de Haan, collected in 1908 from San Andreas Island (between Marinduque Island and Luzon Island); the other is a terrestrial species, *Geonemertes philippinensis* Gibson & Moore, 1998, described from a cave ‘Cueva Santa,’ Quezon National Park, Luzon Island (Gibson & Moore 1998). A faunal survey carried out in the Philippines yielded an undescribed palaeonemertean species, which is fully described and illustrated in the present paper.

Material and methods

Sampling was made on 25 October 2005 at an exposed tidal flat (9°19'56.6''N, 123°18'35.2''E) in front of the Marine Laboratory, Silliman University, Dumaguete, Negros Oriental, Negros Island, Republic of the Philippines (Fig. 1), where the fiddler-crabs, *Uca tetragonon*, were also observed. Nemerteans were dug by a hand shovel from the sediment. Specimens were anaesthetized in MgCl₂ solution isotonic with seawater (about 25 psu), fixed in Bouin's solution for 24 hr, embedded in 56–57°C m.p. paraffin wax and sectioned at 8 µm. Sections were subsequently stained by the Mallory trichrome method. Type specimens are deposited in the Zoology Section (New Series), Museum of Natural History, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna, Republic of the Philippines (UPLB-MNH-Z-NS), and the Hokkaido University Museum, Sapporo, Japan (ZIHU). Terminology follows that used by Kajihara (2006); *E* (b) and *E* (i) correspond Sundberg and Hylbom's (1994: table 1) ‘5. Height of epidermis/body diameter in brain region’ and ‘6. Height of epidermis/body diameter in midgut region,’ respectively.