



Marine Rhabdocoela (Platyhelminthes, Rhabditophora) from Uruguay, with the description of eight new species and two new genera

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Abstract

An overview of the marine rhabdocoel fauna of Uruguay is given. Eight species, new to science, are described and discussed. Two of these, *Acirrostylus poncedeleoni* n.g. n.sp. and *Polliculus cochlearis* n.g. n.sp. could not be placed in any existing genera. *A. poncedeleoni* n.g. n.sp. can be recognized from other Cicerinidae Meixner, 1928 by the fact that there is only one ovovitellarium and by the lack of a cirrus in the male atrium. *P. cochlearis* n.g. n.sp. is characterized by the fact that there is only one testis and vas deferens, a unique situation within the Dalyelliidae Graff, 1905. Apart from these two species, six other new species are described: *Cheliplana triductibus* n.sp. and *C. uruguayensis* n.sp. (Karkino-rhynchidae Meixner, 1928), *Carcharodorhynchus viridis* n.sp. (Schizorhynchidae Graff, 1905), *Baicalellia forcipifera* n.sp. (Provorticidae Beklemischew, 1928) and *Vauclusia multistriata* n.sp. and *Coronhormis mimosa* n.sp. (Promesostomidae Den Hartog, 1964). All these species can be recognized from their congeners by the detailed structure of the genital organs in general, and the copulatory organ in particular. For four known species of Dalytyphloplanida Willems, 2006 new data are given: *Ceratopera axi* (Riedl, 1954) Den Hartog, 1964 (Trigonostomidae Graff, 1905), *Lurus evelinae* Marcus, 1950 (Luridae Sterrer & Rieger, 1990), *Byrsophlebs caligulachaena* (Ehlers & Ehlers, 1981) Karling, 1985 (Byrsophlebididae Graff, 1905) and *Oneppus lacus* Marcus, 1954 (Placorhynchidae Meixner, 1938). The occurrence of one new species of Polycystididae Graff, 1905 and the possible occurrence of *Cheliplana firmata* Brunet, 1968 and *Proschizorhynchus atopus* Marcus, 1950 are also mentioned.

Key words: turbellaria, Kalyptorhynchia, Dalytyphloplanida, Uruguay, taxonomy, new taxa, new records

Introduction

Although the turbellarian fauna of South America has recently received some attention, very little is known. Moreover, recent literature almost exclusively focuses on the freshwater turbellaria (e.g. Amato *et al.* 2005, 2006; Brusa *et al.* 2003; Brusa 2006a; Brusa & Damborenea 2000; Curino & Cazzaniga 1993; Damborenea & Cannon 2001; Moretto 1996; Noreña-Janssen 1995; Noreña *et al.* 2005a, b, 2006a, b; Noreña-Janssen & Faubel 1996; Volonterio 2007). Only Marcus (1945a, b, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1954), du Bois-Reymond Marcus (1958), Brusa (2006b), Brusa *et al.* (2006), Ponce de León & Mañé-Garzón (1979) and Ponce de León (1984) have examined and described a large number of marine species from localities in southern Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina. Only a minority of these species (38; see table 1) belong to the rhabdocoels. Apart from the studies mentioned above, no other work has been done on marine rhabdocoels from this region.