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**On a collection of hydroids (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa,
Hydroidolina) from the west coast of Sweden,
with a checklist of species from the region**

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Abstract

An account is given of 48 species identified in a small collection of hydroids from the west coast of Sweden. Assigned to 39 genera and 18 families, most are well-known from boreal waters of the North Atlantic Ocean. *Campanulina panicula* G.O. Sars, 1874 is referred to *Racemoramus*, a new genus of leptothecates distinguished in part by having monopodial growth, rigid and non-segmented hydrocauli, and grape-like clusters of hydrothecae that arise at irregular intervals from the stem. The name *Sertularia dumosa* (now *Lafoea dumosa*) is taken to have been made available by Fleming (1820), not Fleming (1828). As such, it is not threatened by a virtually unused subjective synonym (*Lafoea cornuta* Lamouroux, 1821). *Aselomaris michaeli* Berrill, 1948 and *Rhizorhagium navis* Millard, 1959 are regarded as synonyms and combined under the binomen *Pachycordyle michaeli* (Berrill, 1948). Confusion in the literature over the identity of *Sertularia tenera* G.O. Sars, 1874 is addressed, and distinctive characters of the species are discussed. A species often misidentified as *S. tenera* is assigned to *Sertularia spitzbergensis* (Jäderholm, 1909); the name *spitzbergensis* is elevated in rank from sub-specific to specific, and assigned priority over its simultaneous synonym *siberica* Jäderholm, 1909 under the First Reviser Principle. Gonothecae of *Clytia gigantea* (Hincks, 1866) (type locality: Lamash Bay, UK) are reported for the first time in material from Europe. Although much like *Clytia hemisphaerica*, this species is retained as valid due to its remarkably robust colony form, elongate and gradually tapered hydrothecae, and linguiform rather than wavy or pointed marginal cusps. *Eudendrium album* Nutting, 1896, *Pachycordyle michaeli* (Berrill, 1948), and the hydroid stage of *Halitholus cirratus* Hartlaub, 1913 are reported for the first time from the study area. A checklist of hydroids from the study area is included.

Key words: Anthoathecata, Kattegat, Kosterhavet, Leptothecata, marine invertebrates, northwest Europe, Skagerrak, taxonomy, zoological nomenclature

Introduction

Reports of hydroids from the west coast of Sweden appear in works as early as those of Linnaeus (1761, 1767) and Forsskål (1775). Following them, Lovén (1836, 1858) and Lindström (1856b) provided information on certain species in the area. Later still, Segerstedt (1889) and Jäderholm (1909) published the first comprehensive accounts of these cnidarians in Swedish waters. The monograph by Jäderholm, based on materials at the Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet in Stockholm, is the most thorough study ever published on hydroids of the country. Details on expeditions from which those collections came are given in Théel (1905). Another large collection of marine macroinvertebrates was obtained at stations from the Norway border to the southern Kattegat between 1921 and 1938 under the direction of L.A. Jägerskiöld. The hydroids, identified by A.E. Jäderholm and P.L. Kramp, are at the Göteborgs Naturhistoriska Museum. Species were listed, with station data, in Jägerskiöld (1971). Later, Rees & Rowe (1969) provided information on hydroids collected from *Lophelia* reefs in the study area.