

R.

CIRRATULIDAE KEY (PROVISIONAL D.GEORGE) 1984

1. 2 large tentacular palps (on peristomium) which leave stump if knocked off 3
Groups of tentacles situated behind peristomium which leave scars but not stumps 2
2. Numerous short body segments particularly front and rear end. Body domed dorsally flattened or concave ventrally. Tentacles start after branchiae. Prostomium conical **Cirriformia**
[no eyes meaty animals]
Segments fewer and longer. Body approximately cylindrical in median transverse section. Tentacles start on same segment as branchiae. Rounded prostomium **Cirratulus**
[C.cirratus dark eyes dead give away]
3. 4-8 pairs of robust branchiae on anterior segments. Body short expanded and flattened posteriorly. **Dodecacaria**
[Brown colour]
More than 4-8 pairs of filamentous branchiae. Body elongated 4
4. Chaetae all capillaries except occasionally at the extreme rear end. Numerous segments especially crowded at front and rear. **Tharyx**
[Tail sometimes meaty, bulbous]
With stout hooks (crotchets) as well as capillaries. Slowly tapering rear end. 5
5. With dorsal and ventral bidentate hooks starting at the anterior end of the body. Notopodium and neuropodium widely separated. **Caulleriella**
[Middle of body looks shredded]
With unidentate (or bluntly ending) crotchets (in adults) which are situated ventrally except at rear end.
Notopodium and neuropodium run into each other posteriorly.
Rear end often 'concertina like' **Chaetozone**
[Hairs extending far from body real pointed nose
branchiae often fallen off completely or partly]

CIRRATULID KEY CONT'D

Cirriiformia tentaculata

Near Northern limit very common intertidally ,near Southern Limit found in crevices in rocks

Very noticeable short segments front and rear
Feeding palps always grooved

Cirratulus cirratulus

Found further down shore but similar range.

Virtually all feeding palps on peristomium sometimes derived from these and occassionally found on prostomium. May look as though they are further back because tentacles grow back over tentacles (histologically)

Dodecaceria

Ecologically isolated generally boring in limestone, calcareous algae
Only one species

Dodeccaceria asexually reproductive resulting in several forms body type found

Caulleriella and Chaetozone

Caulleriella and chaetozone slowly tapering rear end can be picked out at low power.

Caulleriella/Chaetozone confused maybe need for a new genus between them .

Chaetozone juveniles have bidentate chaetae

NB Fauvel Heterocirrus zetlandicus and Heterocirrus killariensis are both presently Caulleriella George feels should be Chaetozone.

Chaetozone setosa capillary and acicular chaetae alternate around ring of rear segments and on concertina segments. Neuro and notopodial running into each other [Squarer rear section different around sp. called cf. marioni]

Tharyx

Tharyx definitely more than one species typically offshore, new species called cf marioni

(Cirriiformia filiformis likely to be Tharyx marioni)

Tharyx 2 large tentacular palps: a bit like Cirriiformia tentaculata - rear normally expanded

Tharyx multibranchus eyes dodgy.

Other genera not even in cirratulids at all eg Ctenodrilus.