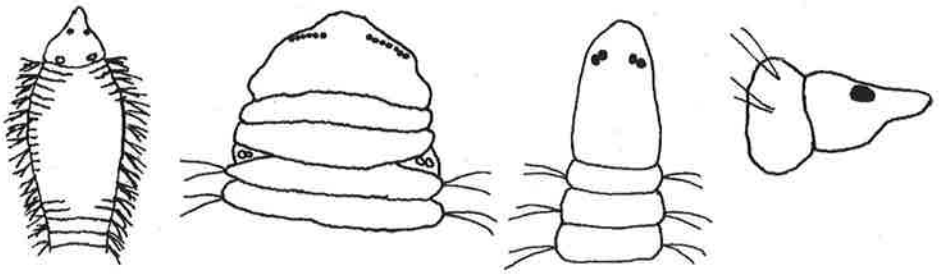
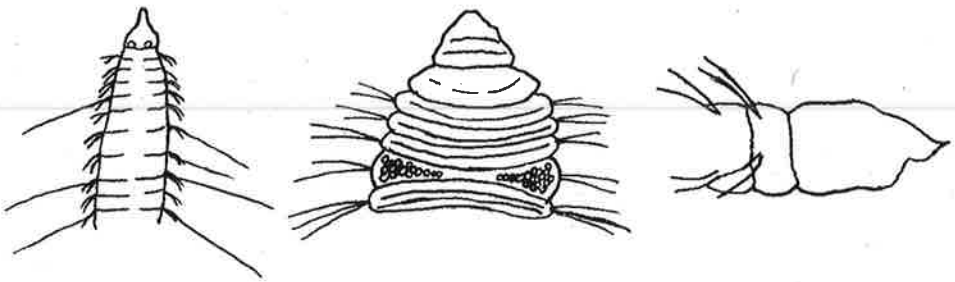
Key

1. ➔ Prostomium with visible eyes.



.....2

➔ Prostomium without visible eyes, ie. absent or faded.



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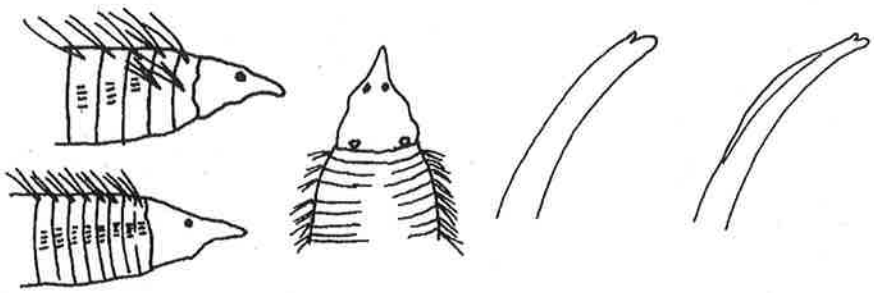
2. ➔ Acicular chaetae in anterior (1st 5 chaetigers) as well as posterior parapodia.
Acicular chaetae all strongly bidentate and strongly curved.
Prostomium distally pointed
Capillary chaetae short, less than 1/4 of body width.



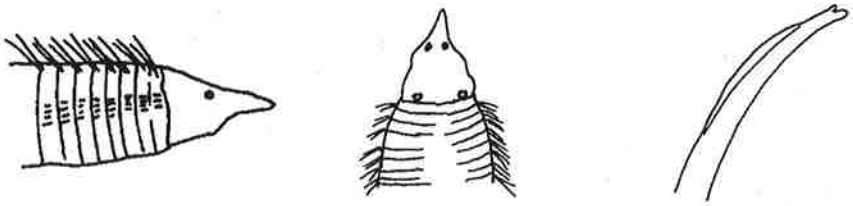
.....3

➔ Acicular chaetae absent from anterior parapodia, may or may not be present in posterior parapodia.
Prostomium blunt or pointed.
Capillary chaetae variable.....5

3 ➔ First two neuropodia with capillaries as long as those in notopodia (much shorter after the third chaetiger).
Bidentate chaetae without flange.
Bidentate chaetae start on third neuropodium.

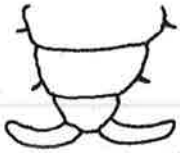
.....4

➔.All neuropodia with capillaries much shorter than those in notopodia, almost as short as bidentate chaetae and difficult to see.
Bidentate chaetae with narrow flange on convex side.
Bidentate chaetae start on first neuropodium.



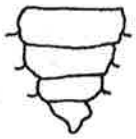
..... ***Caulleriella alata*** (Southern, 1914)
[Common subtidally in gravel, ubiquitous.in British waters]
[Posterior angular in cross section with hooks in both rami.]

4. ➔ Pygidium with a pair of anal cirri.



..... ***Caulleriella bioculata*** (Keferstein, 1862)
[offshore mud, western British waters ?]

➔ Pygidium without anal cirri.

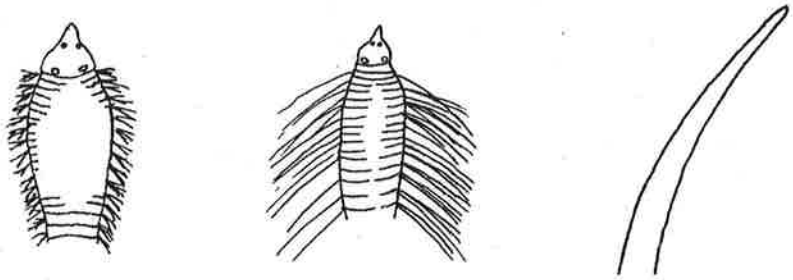


..... ***Caulleriella*** cf. ***viridis*** (Langerhans, 1880)
[Occasional subtidally in stony ground, southern British waters?]
[Posterior angular in cross section with hooks in both rami.]

Additional species from literature:

Adults less than 3 mm in length, fewer than 60 segmentsC. *parva* Gillandt, 1979

5. ➔ Prostomium conical and distally pointed.
(Acicular chaetae mostly pointed in adults, faintly bifid in juveniles).

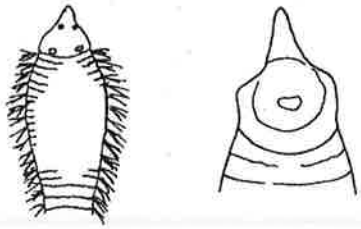


.....6

➔ Prostomium distally rounded and excavate ventrally.
(Acicular chaetae mostly blunt ended in adults, faintly bifid in juveniles).

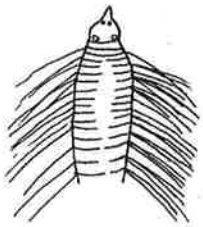
.....7

6. ➔ Thoracic capillaries fine, irregularly directed and shorter than body width.
Thoracic region often strongly swollen dorsally, behind head, giving hump-backed appearance tapering rather abruptly towards mid body.



.....***Chaetozone gibber*** Woodham & Chambers, 1994
[May be common subtidally in mud, southern British waters ?]
[Posterior with acicular spines in both rami; capillaries and awl-shaped chaetae.]

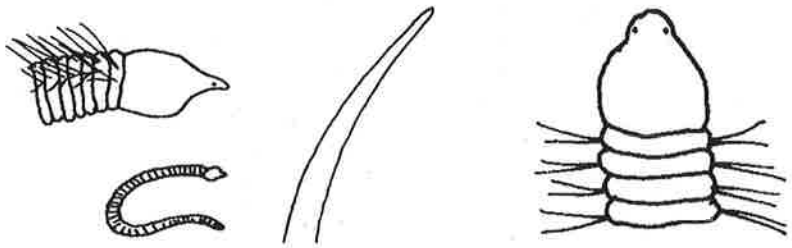
➔ Thoracic capillaries fairly robust, directed backwards (usually in parallel) and equal to or longer than body width.
Thoracic region may be swollen dorsally, tapering gradually towards head and mid body.



..... ***"Caulleriella" zetlandica*** (McIntosh, 1911)
[Common subtidally in sand and gravel, ubiquitous.in British waters]
[Posterior with acicular spines in neuropodia only; capillaries and awl-shaped chaetae.]

Additional species from literature:
Hooks from chaetiger 10 in neuropodia..*C. caputesocis* (Saint-Joseph, 1894)
Hooks absent. Capillaries very fine*Aphelochaeta multibranchis* (Grube, 1863)

7. ➔ Eyes very small, positioned on front half of prostomium.



..... ***Cirriformia*** (juv.)
[Common in many habitats, ubiquitous in British waters]

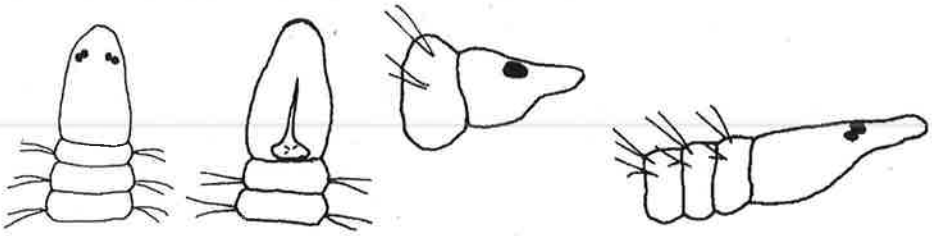
➔ Eyes large, placed above mouth, on prostomium.

.....8

8. ➔ Prostomium only slightly flattened (anterior rounded in cross section).
Eyes placed dorsolaterally.

.....9

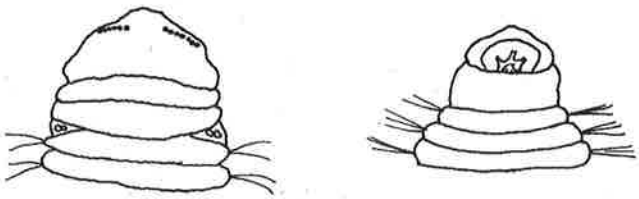
➔ Prostomium and anterior segments strongly flattened.
Eyes large, dorsally placed, one, or occasionally, two pairs.



..... ***Cirratulus* "A"**
[Occasional subtidally; ubiquitous in British waters ?]

Possibilities ..... *C. incertus* McIntosh, 1923

9. ➔ Prostomium with two transverse rows of up to 8 eyes.



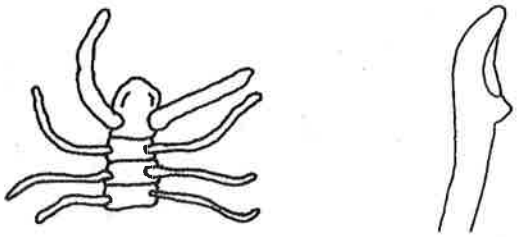
..... ***Cirratulus cirratus*** (O.F. Muller, 1776)
[Common intertidally in mud and rock crevices, northern British waters?]

Additional species from literature:
2 gills per segment throughout ..... *C. borealis* Lamarck

➔ Prostomium with one pair of eyes, placed dorsolaterally.

..... ***Cirratulus*** juv.
[Occasional subtidally]

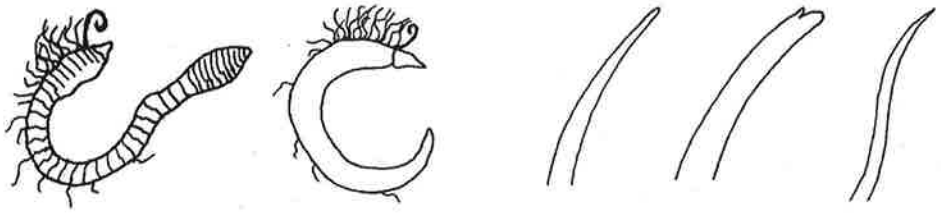
10. ➔ Acicular chaetae (in posterior segments only) spoon-shaped, with or without conical projection.
Palps and gills thick and sparse (fewer than 8 pairs).
Prostomium broadly rounded, with large nuchal organs, ie. sensory pits placed dorsally on the prostomium (may be confused with eyes).



..... ***Dodecaceria***
[Occasional subtidally in gravel and stony ground, often boring into shell, ubiquitous.in British waters]

Species from literature:
See separate notes and key.

➔ Acicular chatae simple pointed, bidentate or absent.
Gills thin and numerous (more than 8 pairs).
Prostomium more or less conical, nuchal organs indistinct or absent.



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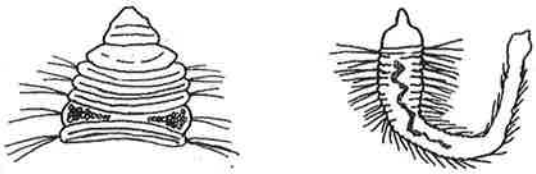
11. ➔ More than one pair of feeding tentacles (here shown as round scars), placed after the first chaetiger (difficult to see in some but should be clearly non-bipalpate).



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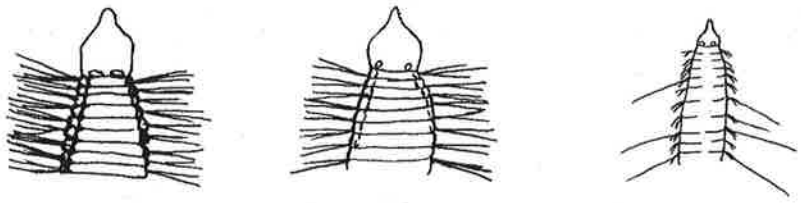
➔ One pair of feeding tentacles (palps) on last achaetous segment.



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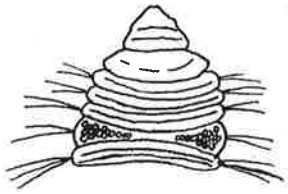
12. ➔ Two rows of feeding tentacles placed dorsally on the 4th./5th. or 6th./7th. chaetiger.
Blunt unidentate acicular chaetae in anterior (1st. 10) and posterior parapodia.



..... ***Cirriformia tentaculata*** (Montagu, 1808)
[Common in many habitats, ubiquitous.in British waters]
[Posterior angular in cross section.]

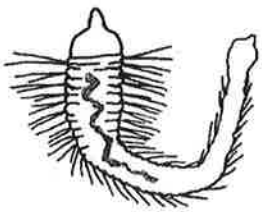
NB.: The species below are not yet well defined and most specimens are referred to ***C tentaculata***

Species from literature:

Many feeding tentacles placed dorsally on the in an almost continuous band across segment.
Feeding tentacles on 6th / 7th chaetiger (on one segment only).
Distance between cirri and notopodia very small posteriorly
..... *C. tentaculata* (Montagu, 1808)

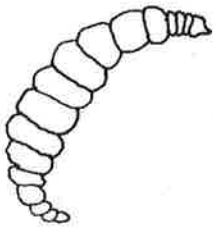
Few tentacular filaments in two separate rows.
Feeding tentacles on 4th / 5th chaetiger (on one segment only).
Distance between cirri and notopodia 2/3 of that between rami, posteriorly.
..... *C. norvegica* (Quatrefages, 1865/6)
Few tentacular filaments in two separate rows.
Feeding tentacles on 5th - 7th chaetiger (on more than one segment).
Distance between rami 2/3 of that between cirri and notopodia, posteriorly.
..... *Timarete filigera* (Delle Chiaje, 1841)

➔ Feeding tentacles few, placed dorsally on more than one chaetiger (hard to see).
Acicular chaetae absent.



.....cf. ***Protocirrineris chrysoderma*** (Claparede, 1868)
[Subtidal; southwest ern British waters only ?]

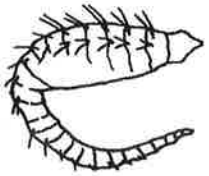
13. ➔ Body relatively short and grub like, widest in centre, tapering gradually at head and tail.
Head may show signs of regeneration.



..... ***Cirratulus*** juv.

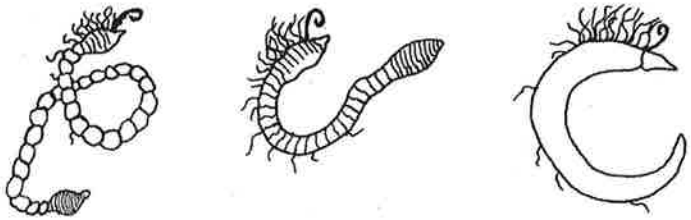
➔ Body may be variously shaped but not as described above.
Head well proportioned 14

14. - Body of characteristic shape. Expanded in thoracic region, abruptly tapering towards tail, which is narrow, slightly flattened and as long as the thorax. Tadpole-shaped.
Worm short and usually complete in samples.
(Posterior with occasional blunt-tipped capillaries, no acicular chaetae.)



.....***Aphelochaeta vivipara*** (Christie, 1984)
[Often common in estuarine mud, northeast.England only?]

➔ Body may be variously shaped but not as described above.
Worm usually elongated, often missing tail in samples.
(Acicular chaetae present or absent).



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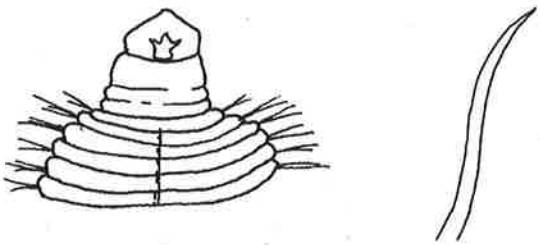
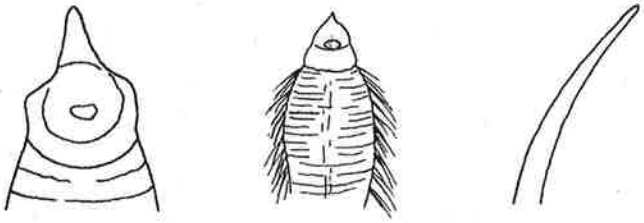
15. ➔ Prostomium broader than long, bluntish, rather flattened and excavate ventrally.
Mid body [and posterior] with narrow, sinuous, unidentate acicular spines.



.....***Cirratulus*** cf. ***caudatus*** Levinsen, 1893
[Body often inflated anteriorly; glandular area often visible on achaetous segments]
[Subtidal; northern British waters only ?]

➔ Prostomium at least as long as broad, acutely or bluntly conical.
Acicular chaetae, regularly curved or absent.

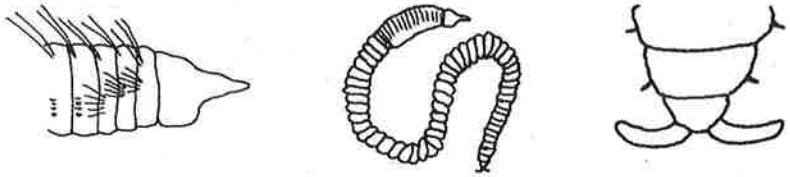


..... 16

16. ➔ Acicular chaetae in anterior (1st 5 chaetigers) as well as posterior parapodia. 17

➔ Acicular chaetae absent from anterior parapodia, may or may not be present in posterior parapodia. 18

17. ➔ 1st. three neuropodia with capillaries as long as those in notopodia.
Bidentate chaetae start on fourth neuropodium.
Mid body segments may be very convex and "beaded".



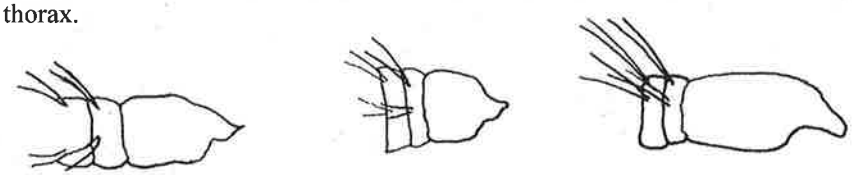
..... ***Caulleriella* "A"**
[Northern British waters ?]
[Pygidium has a pair of anal cirri]

➔ Capillaries of neuropodia much shorter than those of notopodia in all, or all but first two chaetigers.
Bidentate chaetae start on first or third neuropodium.
Segments short and not "beaded" 3

18. ➔ (Posterior acicular chaetae are stout unidentate spines, sometimes arranged in rings around abdomen - NB. anterior features given below are subjective).
Prostomium elongated and sharply conical.
In lateral view, distance from mouth to tip of prostomium about equal to that from mouth to first neuropodium
Anterior chaetigers generally similar in length to those of mid body region.

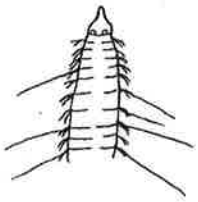
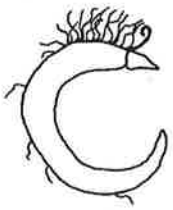
..... 19

➔ (Posterior acicular chaetae knob-tipped, serrated or absent).
Prostomium relatively short, sharply or obtusely conical.
In lateral view, distance from mouth to tip of prostomium much less than that from mouth to first neuropodium.
Anterior chaetigers markedly shorter than those behind and swollen to form a distinct thorax.



..... 22

19. ➔ Anterior capillaries (excluding long natatory chaetae,which are variable and may or may not be present - both types shown on left hand drawing) robust, flattened and regularly curved backwards; shorter than body width.
Worms widest in mid body.

..... ***Chaetozone setosa* agg.** Malmgren, 1867
[Common in many habitats, ubiquitous in British waters]
[Posterior with rings of alternating spines and capillaries.]

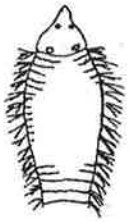
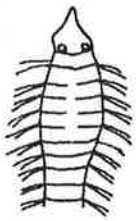
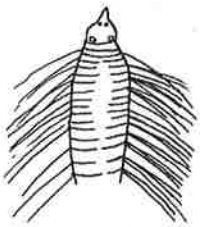
Species types from literature:

Palps on last achaetous segment, in front of 1st pair of gills.
..... type "A" (***C. setosa* ss.**)
[Posterior rounded in cross-section, with almost continuous rings of spines.]

Palps on last achaetous segment, alongside 1st pair of gills
.....type "B"
[Posterior strongly flattened in cross-section, with discrete rows of spines.]

Palps on chaetiger 1, alongside 1st pair of gills
.....type "C"
[Posterior slightly flattened in cross-section, with discrete rows of spines.]

➔ Anterior capillaries either all long, or all short and fine.
Worms widest in thoracic region.

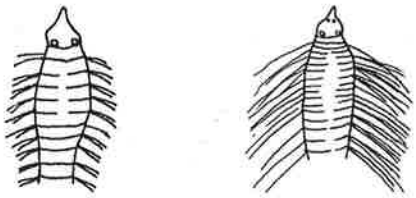




.....20

20. ➔ Anterior capillaries fine, irregularly directed and shorter than body width.
Anterior segments very short and poorly defined dorsally.


.....***Chaetozone gibber*** Woodham & Chambers, 1994
[May be common subtidally in mud, southern British waters?]
[Posterior with acicular spines in both rami; capillaries and awl-shaped chaetae.]

➔ Anterior capillaries robust, directed in parallel, at least as long as body width.



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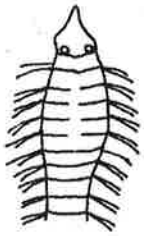
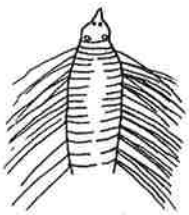
21. ➔ Anterior segments relatively long, well defined dorsally.



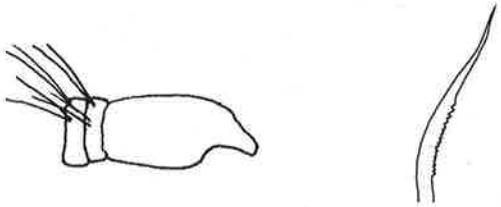
.....***Chaetozone* "D"**
[Offshore form, northern British waters?]
[Posterior with acicular spines in both rami, alternating with capillaries.]
[Concertina-like appearance to posterior segments. Mid body region very long.]

➔ Anterior segments short and poorly defined dorsally.



..... ***"Caulleriella" zetlandica*** (McIntosh, 1911)
[Common subtidally in sand and gravel, ubiquitous.in British waters]
.....[Posterior with acicular spines in neuropodia only; capillaries and awl-shaped chaetae.]

22. ➔ Prostomium elongated and flexible, with a rounded end, usually downturned
Rows of gills gradually converge to form a single mid dorsal line, behind thorax.

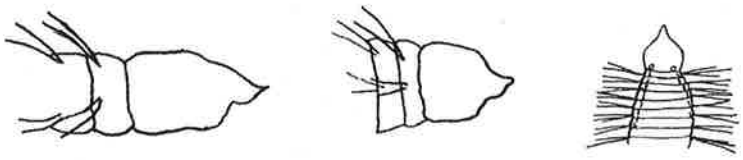


.....***Monticellina*** cf. ***dorsobranchialis*** (Kirkegaard, 1959)
[Often common in subtidal mud, western British waters?]
[Posterior with serrated capillaries.]

Species from literature

Short body with serrated and pseudocompound chaetae.
..... *"Caulleriella" serrata* Eliason, *1962*

➔ Prostomium regularly conical or with a pointed tip, usually straight.
Rows of gills always totally separate.

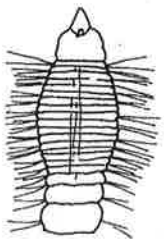


.....23

23. ➔ Anterior capillaries pale and fine, directed backwards.
Anterior segments poorly defined ventrally.
In thoracic region, body dorsoventrally flattened or only weakly expanded.
Prostomium sharply pointed at tip.
(Posterior with knob-tipped acicular chaetae).

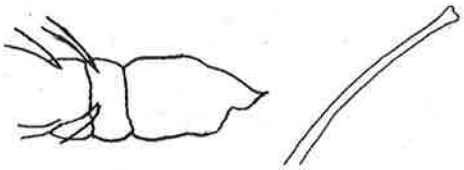
.....24

➔ Anterior capillaries robust, directed laterally.
Anterior segments well defined ventrally.
In thoracic region, body rounded in cross section and strongly expanded.
Prostomium pointed or rather bluntly conical.
(Posterior with capillaries only; acicular chaetae absent).



.....25

24. ➔ Achaetous segments long, ie. distance from mouth to first chaetiger greater than depth (dorsal to ventral) of achaetous segments.
Body elongated and rounded in cross section throughout.
Mid body segments often as long as wide.

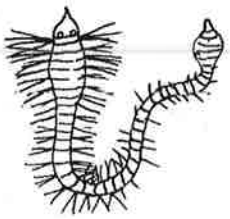


..... ***Tharyx killariensis*** (Southern, 1914)
[Occasional in subtidal mixed sediments ? ubiquitous in British waters?]
[Posterior tapered, with long, knob-tipped or faintly bidentate chaetae.]

➔ Achaetous segments short, ie. distance from mouth to first chaetiger about equal to depth (dorsal to ventral) of achaetous segments.
Body generally short, may be dorsoventrally flattened in thoracic region.
Mid body segments rarely as long as wide.

..... ***Tharyx*** **"A"**
[Often common in estuarine mud, southern British waters?]
[Posterior dorsoventrally flattened, with short, knob-tipped or faintly bidentate chaetae.]

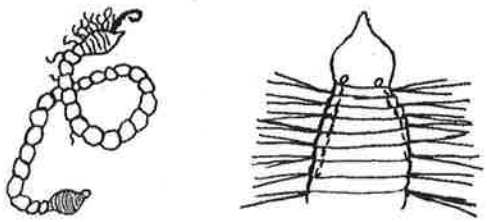
25. ➔ Prostomium finely pointed at tip.
Animals small and fine.
Body often colourless with greenish tinge and dark gut.



.....*Aphelochaeta* "B"
NB.: This is a tentative taxon, rarely found, and could be discounted. Identification is still very subjective.
[Found in shallow marine muds ? western British waters?]
[Posterior slightly swollen, fine capillaries only.]

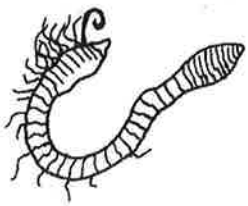
➔ Prostomium obtusely conical.
Animals generally large and coarse.
Body colour dark brown with darker gut.....26

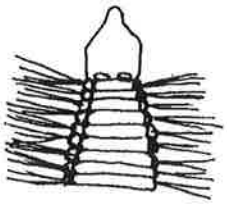
26. ➔ Mid body segments elongated (as long as width), beaded and delicate.
Palps rounded in cross section and generally widely separated.
Groove between dorsum and notopodia slight.



..... ***Aphelochaeta marioni*** (Saint-Joseph, 1894)
[Common in estuarine mud, ubiquitous in British waters?]
[Posterior often swollen and globe-like, short capillaries only.]

➔ Mid body segments only slightly more elongated and delicate than those anteriorly.
Palps thick, oval in cross section and generally close together.
Groove between dorsum and notopodia distinct.





.....***Aphelochaeta* "A"**
[Occasional in subtidal gravel, ubiquitous in British waters?]
[Posterior slightly swollen, short capillaries only.]

Possibilities : ..... *Aphelochaeta filiformis* (Keferstein, 1862)
..... *"Tharyx" macintoshi* (Southern, 1914)