

PHYLUM ENTOPROCTA

By Mary D. Rogick

Entoprocta and Ectoprocta are zoologically distinct but because they bear superficial resemblance to each other they have been treated together by systematists, as "moss animals", Polyzoa, or Bryozoa (sensu lato).

Entoprocts are minute, less than one centimeter tall. They are usually sessile, pseudocoelomate, and generally of soft texture. Their anus is within the ring of tentacles, which number 8 to 36, depending on the species. Tentacle number and stalk flexibility are important, so should be noted in living specimens wherever possible. The "heads" or calyces of some nod constantly. Some species are solitary, others colonial. Entoprocts may be found attached to rocks, algae, shells, or growing on various organisms as hydroids, sponges, crustacea, ectoprocts and worms.

KEY TO LOCAL ENTOPROCTA (partly after Osburn)
(Figure references are to Plate 23)

1. Individuals solitary, not colonial or stolonate, provided with a contractile stalk and enlarged basal disc (fig. 1); characteristically found on bodies of tube dwelling annelid or sipunculid worms Loxosoma spp.
(Consult Prenant and Bobin for species differences).
1. Individuals colonial, arising from creeping stolons, forming low, whitish, simple tracteries or sometimes denser tufts 2
2. Stalks of individuals with distinct muscular dilations at bases, near junction with stolons, and sometimes elsewhere along stalk; stalks spineless Barentsia 3
2. Stalks without such muscular dilations, tapering, usually with small spines on stalk and/or calyx (fig. 2) Pedicellina cernua
3. Stalk thin walled and muscular, its distal end very flexible, actively curling into a loose spiral (fig. 3). Barentsia laxa
3. Stalk heavier walled, straight and rigid 4
4. Stalk wall appears as if punctured by irregularly spaced minute, cone shaped pores. Colony delicate, small Barentsia discreta
4. Stalk wall without pores Barentsia major

LIST OF LOCAL ENTOPROCTA

Family Loxosomatidae

Loxosoma davenporti Nickerson, 1901. Reported (Nickerson) associated with the polychaete "Clymene producta". It is not clear what maldanid is meant, possibly Maldane.

Loxosoma minuta Osburn, 1912. May possibly be a Loxosomella? Reported on Phascolion strombi (Sipunculoidea).

Family Pedicellinidae

Barentsia discreta (Busk, 1886). Inconspicuous but of world wide distribution. Found on algae, stones, hydroids, ectoprocts. See Rogick (1956).

Barentsia laxa Kirkpatrick, 1890. Forms furry patches to half an inch high on Mercenaria shells which had been bored by the sponge Cliona. See Rogick (1948).

- Barentsia major Hincks, 1888. Found on pilings, stones, shells, and around leg bases of spider crabs and Limulus.
- Pedicellina cernua (Pallas, 1771). On pilings and elsewhere, among bryozoans and other creeping growths.

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