



Some New Zealand Polyclads (Platyhelminthes, Polycladida)

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Abstract

Eight species of polyclads from New Zealand are presented. Five species were already known to science, and are redescribed. Four of these species have been previously reported from New Zealand, the fifth, *Echinoplana celerrima*, is new to New Zealand. Two are new species of the genus *Chromoplana*, *Chromoplana sirena* n. sp. and *Chromoplana kaikouris* n. sp. One species belongs to a new genus, *Aotearoa ballantiniensis* n. gen. n. sp. All new species and the new genus are described and discussed. The taxonomic status of *Postenterogonia orbicularis*, *Notoplana suteri* with *Notoplana australis*, and *Leptostylochus elongatus* is reviewed.

Key words: Polycladida, Acotylea, Cotylea, New Zealand, species descriptions

Introduction

This is the third in a series on polyclads of New Zealand. The previous reports, Holleman (1998, 2001) described three new species bringing to fifteen the number of recognized species in New Zealand. A number of species are placed in an uncertain status because they were inadequately described and until a comprehensive study of New Zealand polyclad fauna is undertaken their status remains uncertain. The specimens for this study were collected at various intertidal regions on both the north and south islands of New Zealand between July 1970 and January 1971. Of eight species of polyclads, four have previously been reported from New Zealand; one, *Echinoplana celerrima* Haswell, 1907 is new to New Zealand, and three new species, two of the genus *Chromoplana* and *Aotearoa ballantiniensis* a new genus and species, are described. The description of the species *Enterogonia pigrans* var. *novae-zealandiae* Bock, 1925 is reviewed and Prudhoe's (1982) and Faubel's (1983) classification of the genus *Enterogonia* is discussed. *Notoplana australis* Bock, 1913 and *N. suteri* (Jacubowa, 1906) Faubel 1983 are discussed and *Leptostylochus elongatus* Bock, 1925 is reviewed.

Materials and methods

Specimens were preserved by the method described by Hyman (1953). Wholemounts were stained with Schneider's aceto-carmin and cleared with methyl salicylate. Serial sagittal sections at 10 or 15 µm were stained with hematoxylin and eosin. The specimens were mounted with Permount.

Species list

Postenterogonia orbicularis
Echinoplana celerrima