

Phylum **Phoronida** Hatschek, 1888 (0 class)¹

CLASS (0 order)

Order (0 family)

Family (2 genera, 10 species)

Phoronis Wright, 1856 (7 species)^{2 3}

Phoronopsis Gilchrist, 1907 (3 species)^{2 3}

Cited references

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- Gilchrist, J.D. (1907) New forms of the Hemichordates from South Africa. *Transactions of the South African Philosophical Society*, 17, 151–176.
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1. The title of this contribution should be cited as “Phylum Phoronida Hatschek, 1888. In: Zhang, Z.-Q. (Ed.) Animal biodiversity: An outline of higher-level classification and survey of taxonomic richness”.

In the hierarchy of the Phoronida, now accepted, no class, order, family have been expressly described and no diagnosis is available. The increase of databases regarding biodiversity tends towards an alteration in classification, because technically the hierarchical fields must be filled. Consequently the tendency is to use the designation family Phoronidae, which has no validity. The proposal of a revision in order to satisfy the Preamble of the ICZN, that is interpreted as requiring the preservation of the hierarchic succession *species* > *genus* > phylum is needed to avoid imbroglia in a group composed of only 10 valid species (Emig, 1985; Emig *et al.*, 2005).

Note: The phoronid larva, which common name is actinotroch, keeps a separate “generic” name considered as a technical term under *Actinotrocha* followed by a “*species*” name which is sometimes still different from the adult species name.

2. See <http://paleopolis.rediris.es/Phoronida/> and <http://www.marinespecies.org/phoronida/>
3. About fossil forms see Emig (2010) and http://paleopolis.rediris.es/Phoronida/SYST/PHORONIDA/Pho_Fossil_EN.html