

***Rhopalomenia glandulosa* spec. nov., and the restoration of *Entonomenia* Leloup (Mollusca: Solenogastres)**

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Abstract

A new species of Solenogastres from the Rockall Basin (NW of Scotland) at 1270 m is described. The organisation of *Rhopalomenia glandulosa* spec. nov. coincides with that of the type species *R. aglaopheniae* (Kowalevsky & Marion, 1887) in the presence of two different types of foregut glandular organs (characterised as type A or extraepithelial and type C or intraepithelial). Compared with other Rhopalomeniidae, this condition is generic and leads to the restoration of the currently synonymised genus *Entonomenia* Leloup, 1948, which has glandular organs consisting of ducts with subepithelially/extraepithelially arranged glandular cells only (= type A). Besides *E. atlantica* Leloup, 1948 (type species), six species described as *Rhopalomenia* are transferred to *Entonomenia*.

Key words: Solenogastres, Mollusca; Rhopalomeniidae, *Rhopalomenia*, *Entonomenia*; revision; foregut glands; northeastern Atlantic

INTRODUCTION

The Solenogastres (neomeniomorphs) and the Caudofoveata (chaetodermomorphs) represent two aplacophoran clades, both externally marked by a mantle with chitinous cuticle as well as unicellularly produced aragonitic sclerites and reflecting the conservative level of molluscan configuration (Salvini-Plawen 1985, 1988, 2003; Salvini-Plawen & Steiner 1996; Haszprunar 2000). They long remained on the scientific sidelines, and although more intensive research during the last 35 years has distinctly enlarged our knowledge on their organisation and evolutionary significance (summarised in Salvini-Plawen 1985, Scheltema et al. 1994), their presently known range by no means includes the true biodiversity.