



***Phyllophorus (Phyllophorus) maculatus*, a new species of sea cucumber from the Yellow Sea (Echinodermata: Holothuroidea: Dendrochirotida)**

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Abstract

Phyllophorus (Phyllophorus) maculatus new species is described from a depth of 22–45 meters near the western edge of the Yellow Sea. The body is cylindrical, with body wall ossicles present only in the anal region. Ossicles are four-pillared tables with low spires and indented disc margin. A revised key to the eleven phyllophorine (Family Phyllophoridae, Subfamily Phyllophorinae) species now known from China is presented.

Key words: *Phyllophorus (Phyllophorus) maculatus*, Yellow Sea, Holothuroidea, Dendrochirotida

Introduction

Since the publication of Liao and Pawson (2001) on the dendrochirote and dactylochirote sea cucumbers of China, further investigations in the collections of the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS), have revealed ten specimens of a new phyllophorid species from the Yellow Sea. This new species brings to 36 the number of phyllophorids now known from China.

Order Dendrochirotida

Family Phyllophoridae Östergren, 1907

The family Phyllophoridae is well represented in China by 36 species.

Subfamily Phyllophorinae Heding & Panning, 1954

Including the new species described here, eleven species of phyllophorines are now known from China. Two new species were described by Liao and Pawson (2001).

The relevant section of the key to holothurians of China, provided by Liao (1997), is revised and presented below.

Key to members of the subfamily Phyllophorinae known from China

1. Tentacles 30..... *Anthochirus loui* Chang, 1948
- Tentacles 202
2. Ossicles four-pillared tables with high spires, the pillars connected by three or more transverse bridges.....3
- Ossicles four-pillared tables with low spires, one transverse bridge present, or bridges absent7
3. Tentacles 20 in a single ring..... *Phyllophorus (Isophyllophorus) orientalis* Liao & Pawson, 2001
- Tentacles 20 in two rings.4