

ON SOME POLYCHAETES FROM GANGETIC DELTA,
WEST BENGAL, INDIA

By

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(With 1 Text-figure)

The estuarine regions of Gangetic delta, seem to harbour a rich and varied polychaete fauna, though much attention has not been given to the same. Hence, with a view to initiate a systematic study of these worms, the first author during 1974-80 undertook some faunistic surveys of Sagar Island and its environs along the Sunderbans where some polychaetes were collected together with other intertidal organisms. For obtaining the material, the soil had to be dug and rotten wooden logs and posts cut open when they were exposed at low tide.

The present paper deals with 27 species of these worms spread over 18 genera and 10 families. In spite of the paucity of the collected material, the specimens are interesting taxonomically as they present hitherto unrecorded morphological variations and besides, some form new locality records (marked with an asterisk). Under each species, only the original synonymy and the name as reported by Fauvel (1953), have been given, but the complete distribution of the same in Indian waters has been included alongwith important key characters as well as unrecorded variations.

SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Family APHRODITIDAE

Subfamily POLYNOINAE

***Gattyana deludens* Fauvel, 1932**

Gattyana deludens Fauvel, 1932 : 18, figs. 1, 2 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 39, figs. 15 & 16.

Material : 14 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1459/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Is., 24-Parganas, A. Misra, 12.2.78.

Habitat : An associating partner of Hermit-barnacle-sea anemone associating form on the sandy mid-littoral zone.

Description : Prostomium bilobed with four small eyes ; elytra 15 pairs, each with fringed outer border and smooth upper surface divided into polygonal areas ; notosetae long, slender and spinulose excluding the tip, neurosetae long and spinulose with unidentate smooth tip.

Distribution : Ganghipur, Gangetic delta ; Balassore, Orissa ; Pondichery ; Madras and Maharashtra coast.

Family PHYLLODOCIDAE

* *Phyllodoce (Anaitides) madeirensis* Langerhans, 1880

Phyllodoce (Anaitides) madeirensis Langerhans, 1880 : 307, pl. XVII, fig. 44 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 120, fig. 59.

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1460/1, Dhamakhali, 24-Parganas, A. Misra and T. K. Samanta, 11.3.75.

Habitat : Low-littoral mud.

Description : Body long ; prostomium heart-shaped ; proboscis with six lateral rows of papillae at base ; dorsal cirri lanceolate, uniramous parapodia ; setae with oval shaft-heads marked by distal striation and with long tapering blades.

Distribution : Andamans and Lakshadweep.

Remarks : This is the first record of the species from the mainland.

Family PILARGIDAE

* *Talehsapia annandalei* Fauvel, 1932

Talehsapia annandalei Fauvel, 1932 : 251, pl. IX, figs. 19-20 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 113, fig. 55.

Material : 2 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1461/1, Kachuberia, Sagar Is., 24-Parganas, A. Misra and P. Roy, 5.7.75.

Habitat : Low-littoral patches of hard soil.

Description : Body cylindrical with more than 180 segments ; first 4-5 setigerous segments slightly swollen ; prostomium bluntly conical ; parapodium uniramous with capillary setae only.

Distribution : Baitarani river, Chandbali and Talchua, Orissa.

Remarks : This species was originally described from two incomplete specimens collected from Taleh-sap, Thailand (then Siam). Later Soota and Rao (1977) furnished descriptions of complete specimens from estuarine waters of Orissa.

Family NEREIDAE

Dendronereis aestuarina Southern, 1921

Dendronereis aestuarina Southern, 1921 : 598, pl. XX, fig. 4 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 173, fig. 86.

Material : 6 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1462/1, Muriganga creek, Sagar Island, 24-Parganas, A. Chowdhury, 13.6.76.

Habitat : Swimming in swarms.

Description : Oral ring of proboscis with soft papillae, maxillary ring without papillae ; gills lateral, bipinnate on dorsal cirri from 14th/15th to 24th/25th segment ; setae all homogomph spinigers with fine serrations.

Distribution : Gangetic delta ; Madras & Travancore.

*** Dendronereis arborifera** Peters, 1854

Dendronereis arborifera Peters, 1854 : 612 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 172, fig. 86.

Material : 2 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1346/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Is., A. Misra, 21.9.79.

Habitat : Soft mud in low-littoral zone.

Description : Proboscis without chitinous paragnaths ; lateral pinnate gills on dorsal cirri from 10th/12th to 22nd/24th segment ; setae all homogomph spinigers.

Distribution : Visakhapatnam back waters ; Baitarani river, Chandbali, Orissa.

Namalycastis indica (Southern, 1921)

Lycastis indica Southern, 1921 : 578, pl. 19, fig. 2 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 167, fig. 84.

Material : 4 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1274/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Is., A. Misra, 12.6.76.

Habitat : Soft mid-littoral mud.

Description : Proboscis without paragnaths and papillae ; parapodia uniramous ; neuropodial falcigers with blunt and serrated blades.

Distribution : Gangetic delta ; Chilka lake, Orissa ; coasts of Madras & Gujarat ; Andamans.

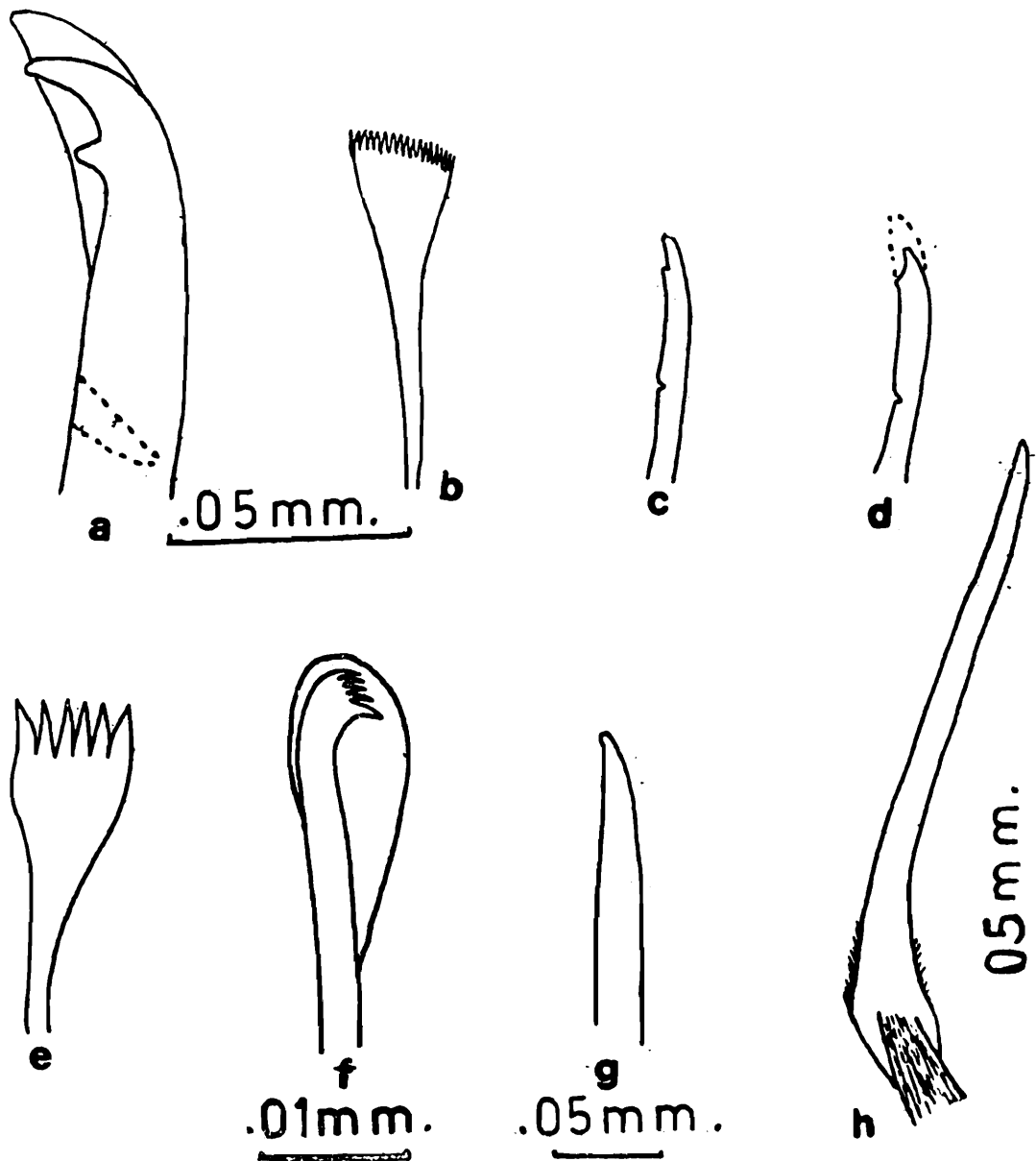
Remarks : This species, originally described as *Lycastis indica* Southern from Chilka lake, Orissa, was placed under the genus *Namalycastis* by Day (1967).

Nereis (Neanthes) chingrighattensis Fauvel, 1932

Nereis chingrighattensis Fauvel, 1932 : 90, fig. 14 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 179, fig. 90.

Material : 3 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1463/1, Kachuberia, Sagar Island, 24-Parganas, A. Misra and P. Roy, 5.7.75.

Habitat : Rotten wooden logs in the intertidal zone.



Text-fig. 1. (a) Hook (strongly bidentate) and
 (b) Comb seta of *D. cuprea cuprea*.
 (c) & (d) Hooks (weakly bidentate) and
 (e) Comb setae of *D. neapolitana*.
 (f) Hook of *P. cirrifera*.
 (g) & (h) Blunt and spinigerous setae of *Polydora* sp.

Description : Arrangement of paragnaths on the proboscis is as : Gr 1, two conicals in a vertical line ; Gr. II, several conicals in a crescentic patch ; Gr. III, several conicals in a transverse group of 3-4 rows ; Gr. IV, each with several conicals in an oblique wedge-shaped group ; Gr. V, VI, VII and VIII, forming a continuous belt of which V & VI

forming a single row and VII & VIII forming a band of 2 to 4 lines ; spinigerous bristle through-out the body only.

Distribution : Salt water lake, Chingrighatta, Gangetic delta ; Chandipur, Orissa.

***Nereis (Neanthes) cricognatha* Ehlers, 1904**

Nereis cricognatha Ehlers, 1904 : 29, pl. 4, figs. 3-7 ; Fauvel, 1953 ; 180, fig. 91 (a-c).

Material : 3 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1464/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Is., A. Misra, 30.7.74.

Habitat : Soft low-littoral mud.

Description : Arrangement of paragnaths on the proboscis is as : Gr. I, 3 to 4 conicals ; Gr. II, III and IV, conicals, arranged in patches but fused together ; Gr. V, VI, VII and VIII, forming a continuous belt, broad ventrally ; larger dorsal ligule with dorsal cirrus at the base ; no dorsal falcigerous bristles on the posterior feet, ventral homogomph falcigers with knife-like terminal piece.

Distribution : Gangetic delta, ; Gulf of Mannar and Andamans.

*** *Perinereis cultrifera* var. *helleri* (Grube, 1878)**

Perinereis camiguina Grube, 1878 : 87.

Perinereis cultrifera var. *helleri* Fauvel, 1953 : 208.

Material : 4 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1275/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Island ; 24-Parganas, A. Misra, 10.5.78.

Habitat : Soft mud in the intertidal zone.

Description : Arrangement of paragnaths on the proboscis is as : Gr. I, 2 conicals in a vertical line ; Gr. II. a few conicals forming a triangle ; Gr. III, several conicals forming a rectangle ; Gr. IV, several conicals forming a wedge on each side ; Gr. V, three conicals forming a triangle ; Gr. VI, a transverse bar ; Gr. VII & VIII, several conicals in 2-3 rows of continuous belt ; tentacular cirri long reaching upto 8-9th segment ; notopodial falcigers with short sickle-shaped blades and neuropodial falcigers with moderately straight blades.

Distribution : Gulf of Mannar ; Bombay harbour ; Aberdeen Bay, Port Blair, Andamans.

*** *Perinereis nigropunctata* (Horst, 1889)**

Nereis nigro-punctata Horst, 1889 : 171 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 210, fig. 107 (b-f).

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1465/1, Kachuberia, Sagar Island, 24-Parganas, A. Misra, 5.7.75.

Habitat : Inhabiting the rotten log in the intertidal zone.

Description : Arrangement of paragnaths on the proboscis is as : Gr. I, a cluster of about 10-12 conicals ; Gr. II, 2-3 rows forming a triangle ; Gr. III, a crescentic patch of several conicals ; Gr. IV, several conicals forming a wedge ; Gr. V, three conicals in a triangle ; Gr. VI, a transverse bar on each side ; Gr. VII & VIII, a double row of conicals forming a continuous belt ; falcigerous bristles with short sickle-shaped blades.

Distribution : Andamans ; Chilka Lake, Orissa ; Gujarat coast ; Cape comorin, Tamil Nadu.

Family NEPHTYIDAE

Nephtys oligobranchia Southern, 1921

Nephtys oligobranchia Southern, 1921 : 610, pl. XXIV, fig. 12 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 228, fig. 115 (d-f).

Material : 6 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1466/1, Port canning, N. Sarangi, 20.1.80.

Habitat : Soft fine muds in the low-littoral zone.

Description : Branchiae small and foliaceous, extending only upto middle of body ; posterior bristles long capillary without serrations.

Distribution : Pulta, Salt Lakes, Gangetic delta ; Chilka Lake, Baitarani river, Chandbali, Orissa ; Visakhapatnam ; Cochin backwaters.

Family GLYCERIDAE

**Glycera alba* (Muller, 1776)

Nereis alba Muller, 1776 : 217, pl. 2 figs. 6-7.

Glycera alba, Fauvel, 1958 : 292, fig. 149 (i-m.)

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1467/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Is., A. Misra, 21.9.79.

Habitat : Fine sandy mud in the mid-littoral zone.

Description : Proboscis with four horny jaws, papillae with a nail-like appendage ; parapodia with two equal presetal lobes and two unequal postsetal ones ; branchiae simple arising from dorsal edge of parapodium of 35th to 40th foot.

Distribution : Ganjam coast, Orissa ; Cochin backwater ; Ghogha, Gujarat coast.

****Glycera lancadivae* Schmarda, 1861**

Glycera lancadivae Schmarda, 1861 : 95, with text-figs. ; Fauvel, 1953 : 291, fig. 147 (g-h).

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1272/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Island, 24-Parganas, A. Misra, 30.7.74.

Habitat : Soft mud in the mid-littoral region.

Description : Papillae on proboscis with 15-20 rows, parapodium with two subequal presetal and one rounded postsetal lobes with dorsal projection, branchiae absent.

Distribution : Madras coast and Lakshadweep.

****Glycera rouxi* Audouin & Milne-Edwards, 1833**

Glycera rouxi Audouin and Milne-Edwards, 1833 : 264 ; Fauvel, 1953 ; 297, fig. 149 (a-d)

Material : 2 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1468/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Is., A. Misra, 4.8.1979.

Habitat : Fine sandy mud in the mid-littoral zone.

Description : Papillae on proboscis, some smooth conical, a few globular ; parapodia with two equal and pointed presetal lobes and two posterior subequal shorter ones ; branchiae simple, retractile, often indiscernible in preserved specimen.

Distribution : Chandipore, Orissa ; Visakhapatnam ; Gulf of Mannar ; Pamban backwater ; Andamans ; Lakshadweep.

****Goniada emerita* Audouin & Milne Edwards, 1833**

Goniada emerita Audouin & Milne Edwards, 1833 : 268 : 268 ; 1833 Fauvel, 1953 : 282, fig. 144 (h-q).

Material : 2 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1345/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Island, 24-Parganas, A. Chowdhury & party, 30.7.78.

Habitat : Moderately soft mud in the mid-littoral zone.

Description : Proboscis with small rounded papillae, 10-15 V-shaped paragnaths (chevrons) at base on each side ; anterior 65 segments uniramous, rest biramous ; notosetae robust, acicular, neurosetae all spinigerous.

Distribution : Visakhapatnam ; Vandruthi, Cochin ; Gujarat Coast.

Family EUNICIDAE

Subfamily EUNICINAE

Eunice aphroditois (Pallas, 1788)

Nereis aphroditois Pallas, 1788 : 229.

Eunice aphroditois, Fauvel, 1953 : 233, fig. 117 (a-g.)

Material : 2 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1469/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Is., A. Misra, 4.8.79.

Habitat : Fine sand in the low-littoral zone.

Description : Anterior end with white bar across setiger 4 ; branchiae from 10th foot as simple filaments, these at first branching to show maximum of 15-16 filaments and then gradually diminishing posteriorly ; acicular setae bidentate, compound setae bidentate falcigers with guards.

Distribution : Gangetic delta ; Andamans.

Remarks : The members of this species although large, are very difficult to collect due to their cryptic nature as well as their rapid locomotion within sandy substrata. The method employed for obtaining these worms was to sprinkle the area in which they occur, with water in which rotten fish had been washed when the heads of the worms emerged out and then they were easily removed by hand. They are generally collected to serve as fish bait.

* **Lysidice collaris** Grube, 1870

Lysidice collaris Grube, 1870 : 495 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 248, fig. 124 (a-g).

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1276/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Island, A. Misra, 10.5.78.

Habitat : Solid mud in mid-littoral zone.

Description : Eyes reniform ; second dental plate with three heavy teeth ; notosetae capillaries and comb-setae, neurosetae bidentate falcigers.

Distribution : Andamans ; Kilakarai, Pamban, Tamil Nadu ; Gujarat coast.

* **Marphysa macintoshi** Crossland, 1903

Marphysa macintoshi Crossland, 1903 : 137, pl. 14 figs. 3-6, text-fig. 12 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 246.

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1470/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Is., 24-Parganas, A. Misra, 30.7.74.

Habitat : Low-littoral soft mud.

Description : Prostomium undivided and horse-shoe shaped ; gills from 20th foot, increasing to a maximum with six filaments and then gradually decreasing ; notosetae capillaries and comb setae, neurosetae compound with knife-shaped terminal piece, acicular setae unidentate.

Distribution : Krusadai Island, Pulicat lake, Tamil Nadu ; Gopalpur, Orissa.

* ***Marphysa mossambica*** (Peters, 1854)

Eunice mossambica Peters, 1854 : 612.

Marphysa mossambica, Fauvel, 1953 : 246.

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1273/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Is., A. Misra, 10.5.78.

Description : Prostomium deeply bilobed ; gills on 25th foot, gradually increasing to a maximum of six filaments, continuing upto end of body ; all simple capillaries with fine striations, no comb setae, bidentate acicular setae.

Distribution : Andamans ; Pondichery ; Kilakarai, Gulf of Mannar, Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu.

* ***Marphysa sanguinea*** (Montagu, 1815)

Nereis sanguinea Montagu, 1815 : 20

Marphysa sanguinea, Fauvel, 1953 : 245

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1471/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Island, A. Misra, 4.8.79.

Description : Prostomium bilobed ; long dorsal cirri ; Gills appearing on 16th foot, gradually increasing to seven filaments and then decreasing onwards ; notosetae capillaries and comb setae, neurosetae compound and spinigerous only, acicular setae bidentate with small guards.

Distribution : Andamans ; Visakhapatnam ; Pondichery ; Gulf of Mannar, Pamban, Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu ; Travancore, Kerala ; Umbargaon (Damam), Mormagao Bay (Goa) ; Gujarat.

Subfamily ONUPHINAE

* ***Diopatra cuprea cuprea*** (Bosc, 1802)

(Text-fig. 1, a-e)

Nereis cuprea Bosc, 1802 : 142.

Diopatra neapolitana (in part) Fauvel, 1953 : 252, fig. 126 (a-h)

Material : 5 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1472/1, Bhangatushkhali, 24-Parganas, A. Misra & T. K. Samanta, 13.3.75.

Habitat : In tough tubes embedded in soft or sandy mud of mid-littoral zone.

Description : Exposed part of tube with shell fragments ; anterior part diffusely brown without any colour pattern ; eyes absent ; frontal antennae subulate ; gills large with spirally inserted filaments, on 5th foot, increasing in size and then gradually decreasing to completely disappear at about 60th to 70th foot ; pseudo-compound setae hooded and strongly bidentate present on first 4 or 5 setigerous segments, comb setae appearing on and from 10th foot and having numerous fine teeth (20-30), bidentate acicular setae beginning from 9th or 10 foot.

Distribution : Part of the material widely recorded from almost all places of Indian coast as *D. neapolitana*, may be *D. cuprea*.

Remarks : Only one species of *Diopatra*, viz., *D. neapolitana* Delle Chiaje has been recorded from the Indian coast by Fauvel (1953) and others. According to Day (1960), however, "It is very probable that many of the records of *D. neapolitana* from the Indian Ocean which refer to specimens with bidentate pseudo-compound setae and comb setae with numerous teeth really refer to *D. cuprea*". Hence, members with unidentate or weakly bidentate pseudo-compound setae and 5 to 10 coarse teeth in the comb setae are referred to *D. neapolitana*. Detailed results of the members of this genus from Indian waters, will appear in our next publication.

Subfamily LUMBRINERINAE

* *Lumbrineris heteropoda heteropoda* (Marenzeller, 1879)

Lumbriconereis heteropoda Marenzeller, 1879 : 138

Lumbriconereis heteropoda, Fauvel, 1953 : 268, fig. 135 (g-h)

Lumbrineris heteropoda heteropoda, Day, 1967 : 440, fig. 17. 17 (1-o).

Material : 10 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 14/3/1, Bhangatushkhali, 24-Parganas, A. Misra & T. K. Samanta, 14.3.75.

Habitat : Soft mud in the mid-littoral zone.

Description : Prostomium conical ; dorsal cirrus, rudimentary in anterior feet and absent from the rest, in the posterior feet the postsetal lobe long and erect ; anterior feet all with winged capillaries, posterior ones additionally with unjointed hooks.

Distribution : Holiday camp, Chorwad, Gujarat coast ; Marmugao Bay, Goa ; Bombay coast.

***Lumbrineris notocirrata (Fauvel, 1932)**

Lumbriconereis notocirrata Fauvel, 1932 : 156, pl. VII, figs. 1-8.

Lumbriconereis notocirrata Fauvel, 1953 : 271, figs., 138 (a-h) 139 (a-b).

Material : 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1475/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Island, *A. Misra*, 6.7.75 ; 2 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1474/1, Bhanga-tushkhali, 24-Parganas, *A. Misra & T. K. Samanta*, 14.3.75.

Habitat : Low-littoral soft mud.

Description : Prostomium blunt, conical ; dorsal cirrus reduced to small knob in anterior feet and long in middle and posterior ones, setigerous process of the feet with two ligules, anterior short, rounded, posterior long, conical, gradually increasing rearward and becoming erect in middle and posterior segments ; setae of two kinds, capillaries in anterior feet and capillaries and simple hooks in middle and posterior ones.

Distribution : Back waters of Visakhapatnam ; Orissa coast.

***Lumbrineris polydesma (Southern, 1921)**

Lumbriconereis polydesma Southern, 1921 : 622, pl., XXVI, fig., 15.

Lumbriconereis polydesma, Fauvel, 1953 : 264, figs., 133 (a-f).

Material : 2 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1477/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Is., *A. Misra*, 21.9.79., 1 ex., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1476/1, Mandirtala, Sagar Is., 24-Parganas, *A. Misra*, 12.7.76.

Habitat : Soft mud in the low-littoral zone.

Description : Body long ; prostomium round ; feet with anterior small, round lobe with capillary setae and posterior ones longer and conical with simple hooks.

Distribution : Chilka lake, Chandipur, Orissa ; Nani and Devka, Gujarat.

Family SPIONIDAE

Polydora sp.

(Text-fig. 1, g-h)

Material : 2 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1478/1, Harwood point, Kakdwip, 24-Parganas, *A. Misra*, 11.9.77.

Habitat : Within U-shaped tubes in medium hard soil in the mid-littoral zone.

Description : Posterior part missing ; 5th setigerous segment modified, with blunt hooks and hastate bristles ; posterior notopodial setae capillaries and neuropodial bidentate hooks without hood.

Remarks : As the specimens are incomplete, specific identification is not possible. The two types of setae in the 5th setigerous segment resemble with that of *P. caeca* (Oersted).

***Prionospio cirrifera** Wiren, 1883

(Text-fig. 1, f)

Prionospio cirrifera Wiren, 1883 ; 409

Prionospio cirrifera, Fauvel, 1953 : 324, fig. 164 (K-M).

Material : 10 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1479/1, Taldi, Canning, 24-Parganas, N. Sarangi, 28.4.79.

Habitat : Fine mud in brackish water pond.

Description : Prostomium almost rounded with four subdermal eyes ; gills simple, 10 to 12 pairs starting on setiger 2, simple capillaries in anterior feet, hooded hooks appearing in neuropodium of the middle part also in notopodium of the posterior one, hooks with two series of three long teeth above main fang.

Description : Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

Family SABELLARIDAE

Sabellaria pectinata var. **intermedia** Fauvel, 1932

Sabellaria pectinata var. *intermedia* Fauvel, 1932 : 210 fig. 35 ; Fauvel, 1953 : 397 fig. 207 (a-h).

Material : 4 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1480/1, Harwood point, Kakdwip, A. Misra, 11.9.77.

Habitat : Living in small, calcareous and fragile tubes.

Description : Outer paleae denticulate, gradually tapering and ending in long and smooth spine, middle ones short and cup-shaped with short smooth tip, inner ones long, spoon-shaped, with serrated margins.

Distribution : Matlah river, Gangetic delta.

Family TERBELLIDAE

Loimia medusa (Savigny, 1820)

Terebella medusa Savigny, 1820 ; 95, fig. 8.

Loimia medusa, Fauvel, 1953 : 416, fig. 218 (a-f).

Material : 3 exs., Z. S. I. Reg. No. An 1481/1, Gangasagar, Sagar Island, West Bengal, A. Misra & P. Roy, 10.7.75.

Habitat : Within membranous, sand coated tubes in hard sandy soil in the mid-littoral zone.

Description : Body long and slender ; short and collar-like lobe with numerous long tentacles ; gills three pairs with numerous slender branches ; thoracic segment seventeen with dorsal winged and smooth capillaries and ventral pectiniform uncini, latter set in double rows back to back on posterior thorax.

Distribution : Andamans ; Gujarat coast ; Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu.

SUMMARY

The paper deals with 27 species of polychaets from the material collected during 1974-80 from Gangetic delta. Nineteen species form new locality records including one from the mainland.

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