

Sublittoral Eunicidae and Onuphidae (Polychaeta) from soft bottom off El Salvador, eastern Pacific

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Four new species belonging to the families Eunicidae and Onuphidae are described on the basis of specimens collected from El Salvador, Central America. Additionally ten species belonging to Onuphidae are mentioned, nine of these are newly reported from El Salvador. *Eunice chicasi* sp. nov., belong to the group of species with acicula distally hammer head, peristomial cirri smooth only reaching middle peristomium, branchiae from chaetiger 5 to the end of body, with up to six filaments, falcigers with lateral tooth triangular, well developed. *Eunice salvadorensis* sp. nov. has moniliform and cylindrical articles in the antennae, peristomial cirri with 17 small moniliform articles. *Kinbergonuphis kristiani* sp. nov. presents up to ten branchial filaments, ventral cirri digitiform on the first seven chaetigers, pseudocompound hooks tridentate appear on chaetigers 1–5, large tridentate hooks on chaetigers 5–7, and subacicular hooks from chaetiger 19. *Paradiopatra barrazai* sp. nov. belongs to the group of species with inner lateral antennae longer than the median antennae, ceratophores with four rings, ventral cirri of chaetigers 1–2 cirriform, postchaetal lobe digitate visible to the end of the body, tridentate pseudocompound hooks on chaetigers 1–4, large tridentate hook on chaetigers 5–28, subacicular hooks from chaetiger 30.

INTRODUCTION

Polychaete annelids from El Salvador have been studied by few authors, such as Hartmann-Schröder (1959), Molina (1992), Calles et al. (1994), Rivera & Ibarra (1995), Canjura (1996) and Vasconcelos & Fuentes (1997); all these works were carried out in tidelands and rocky beaches. The present contribution is the first on polychaete fauna of the continental shelf off El Salvador.

Only two species of Eunicidae and two others of Onuphidae were reported from the area (*Eunice goodie* Fauchald, 1992, *Nematoneis unicornis* Grube, 1840, *Onuphis brevicirris* (Grube, 1856) and *Diopatra ornata* (Moore, 1911)). Only the last one was found in this work and, the other species were originally described from the Atlantic sea; therefore, we consider that these reports may be doubtful. This paper presents species of Eunicidae and Onuphidae from El Salvador, some previously reported, and four new species. The samplings were carried out on board the RV ‘Urraca’ of the Smithsonian Institute of Tropical Research.

Type material is deposited in the Polychaete Collection of the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León (UANL), non type material is deposited in the Universidad de El Salvador (UES).

SYSTEMATICS

Family EUNICIDAE Berthold, 1827

Genus *Eunice* Cuvier, 1817

Eunice chicasi sp. nov.

(Figure 1A–G)

Material examined

Holotype (UANL 5488) and one non type specimen (UES), Station 2, Meanguera Island, 13°10.12'N 087°43.37'W, 4 m, 7 March 2001.

Description

Holotype complete, with 97 chaetigers, 31 mm long, 2.5 mm wide excluding parapodia, without colour pattern. Prostomium longer than wide, with a pair of subtriangular superior lips. Ceratophores ring-shaped in all antenniform structures, without articulations. Antennae short, with moniliform articles. Middle antenna with 17 articles, lateral antennae with 15, and antenniform dorsal palps with ten moniliform articles. With a pair of rounded black eyes posterior to basis of lateral antennae. Peristomium cylindrical, separation between rings distinct; anterior ring $\frac{3}{4}$ of total peristomial length. Peristomial cirri reach middle length of the peristomium, smooth, short and cirriform (Figure 1A).

Parapodia with smooth and cirriform dorsal cirri. Branchiae pectinate, present from chaetiger 6 to the end of the body, with up to six branchial filaments on chaetigers 10–15, from middle segments branchial filaments diminish in number to one per branchia. Prechaetal lobe truncate and postchaetal lobe rounded in all parapodia. Anterior and midbody parapodia with short and subconical ventral cirri, with basal swollen (Figure 1B,C), posterior parapodia with long and digitiform ventral cirri (Figure 1D).

One to two yellow acicula per parapodium, with hammer-shaped tip (Figure 1E). Bidentate falcigers with slightly serrated hood, distal tooth thin, lateral one triangular and thick, shaft slightly widened distally (Figure 1F). Subacicular hooks tridentate yellowish, beginning on chaetiger 24 (Figure 1G). Pectinate chaetae asymmetrical, with nine small teeth and one large lateral teeth (Figure 1H).

Pigidium with terminal anus, two pairs of short ventral anal cirri, and two pairs of large cirri dorsally, all smooth.

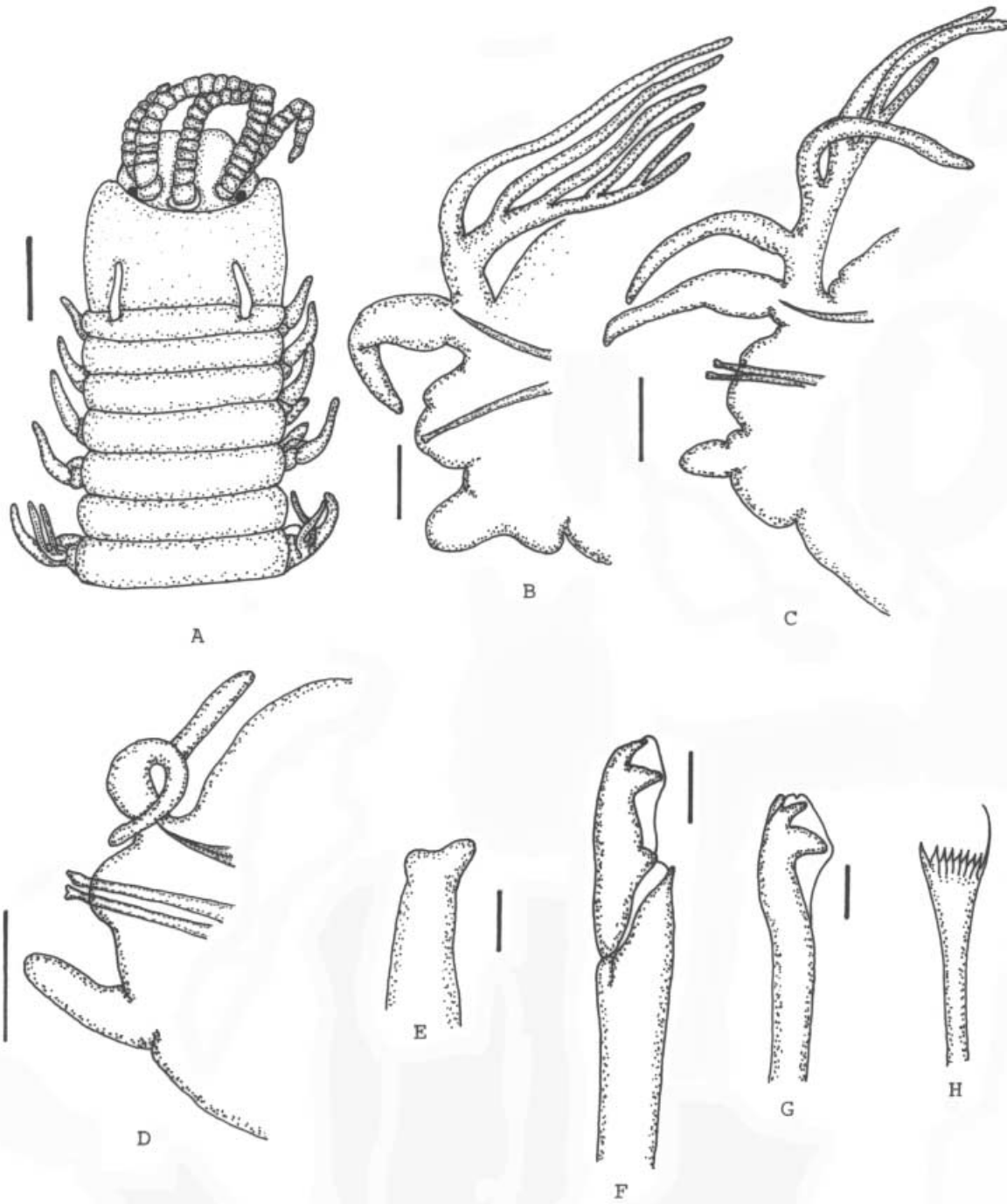


Figure 1. *Eunice chicasi* sp. nov. Holotype. (A) Anterior end, in dorsal view; (B) parapodium 7, in anterior view; (C) parapodium 23, in anterior view; (D) parapodium 43, in anterior view; (E) aciculum; (F) compound falciger; (G) subacicular hook; (H) pectinate chaetae. Scale bars: A, 1 mm; B–D, 200 μ m; E, F, H, 15 μ m; G, 30 μ m.

Maxillary formula: $M \times I = 1 + 1$; $M \times II = 5 + 6$; $M \times III = 8 + 0$; $M \times IV = 7 + 9$; $M \times V = 1 + 1$.

Discussion

Eunice chicasi sp. nov., belongs to the small group of species provided with acicula distally hammer-shaped. Other species in the group are: *E. aedificatrix* (Monro, 1933), *E. cirrobranchiata* McIntosh, 1885, *E. denticulata* Webster, 1884, *E. equibranchiata* McIntosh, 1885, *E. filamentosa* Grube, 1856, *E. iabrzabale* Carrera-Parra & Salazar-Vallejo (1998), *E. lucei* Grube, 1856, *E. marconii*

Nogueira, Steiner & Amaral, 2001, *E. panamea* (Chamberlin, 1919), *E. papeetensis* (Chamberlin, 1919), *E. pellucida* Kinberg, 1865, *E. spongicola* (Treadwell, 1921) and *E. weintranbi* Lu & Fauchald, 1998. Fauchald (1992) consider indeterminate *E. equibranchiata*, and its features corresponding to *E. filamentosa* and related species. These species differ in the shape of both antennae and peristomial cirri, only *E. aedificatrix* and *E. chicasi* have moniliform antennae and smooth peristomial cirri, but they differ from each other because in *E. aedificatrix* the peristomial cirri reach the middle of the prostomium,

branchiae start on chaetiger 4, with up to 11 filaments, and bidentate falcigers have a small lateral tooth. On the other hand in *Eunice chikasi* peristomial cirri only reach the middle peristomium, and branchiae start on chaetiger 5, with up to six filaments, and bidentate falcigers have a large triangular tooth. Other similar species is *E. panamensis*, described from the Pacific coast of Panama, but this species have articulate peristomial cirri, and branchiae beginning on chaetiger 3.

Etymology

The species name is in honour of Francisco Antonio Chicas-Batres who has been inspiring natural sciences in El Salvador.

Type locality

Meanguera Island, off El Salvador, eastern Pacific.

Distribution

Only known from the type locality.

Eunice salvadorensis sp. nov.

(Figure 2A–G)

Material examined

Holotype (UANL 5489), Station 5, Fonseca Gulf, 13°10.05'N 087°43.44'W, 5 m depth, 11 March 2001.

Description

Holotype posteriorly incomplete, with 65 chaetigers, 36 mm long, 4 mm wide excluding parapodia, without colour pattern. Prostomium longer than wide, with a pair of subtriangular superior lips. Ceratophores ring-shaped in all antenniform structures, without articulations. Antennae with moniliform and cylindrical articles; middle and left lateral antennae are missing; the right lateral antennae reach chaetiger 3, have ten basal moniliform, three cylindrical and one conical articles; antenniform dorsal palps short, as long as the peristomium, with four basal moniliform, and four cylindrical articles. One pair of rounded black eyes between palps and lateral antennae. Peristomium cylindrical, separation between rings distinct; anterior ring $\frac{3}{4}$ of total peristomial length. Peristomial cirri reach anterior end of peristomium, formed by 17 small moniliform articles (Figure 2A).

Parapodia with dorsal cirri smooth, long and cirriform. Branchiae pectinate, present from chaetiger 4, initially with three branchial filaments and increasing in up to six filaments (Figure 2B). Prechaetal lobes truncated in all parapodia, postchaetal lobes rounded on anterior parapodia, and oblique on posterior ones. Ventral cirri short and subtriangular on anterior parapodia, with basal swelling, digitiform on posterior parapodia (Figure 2C).

With one pair of thick yellowish acicula. Hooded bidentate falcigers from anterior chaetigers with the basal tooth short and triangular, distal one longer and thin (Figure 2D); on posterior parapodia, falcigers with subequal teeth (Figure 2E). Subacicular hooks bidentate, yellowish, one per parapodium from chaetiger 39, (Figure 2F). Pectinate chaetae nearly symmetrical, small, with seven little median teeth and two subequal longer lateral ones (Figure 2G).

Pygidium unknown.

Maxillary apparatus soft, yellowish. Maxillary formula: $M \times I = 1 + 1$; $M \times II = 6 + 7$; $M \times III = 7 + 0$; $M \times IV = 7 + 13$; $M \times V = 1 + 1$.

Discussion

The most characteristic feature of *Eunice salvadorensis* is the presence of moniliform and cylindrical articles in antennae, other similar species are: *E. articulata* Ehlers, 1887, *E. australis* Quatrefages, 1866, *E. bowerbanki* Baird, 1869, *E. collaris* Grube, 1869, *E. dubitata* Fauchald, 1979, *E. fravenfeldi* Quatrefages, 1866, *E. laurillardii* Quatrefages, 1866 and *E. ornata* Andrews, 1891. Antennae of *Eunice salvadorensis*, *E. grubei* and *E. laurillardii* are formed by moniliform articles basally and one cylindrical distally; the other species present cylindrical and moniliform respectively. *Eunice salvadorensis* differs from *E. grubei* and *E. laurillardii*, in the number and shape of articles of peristomial cirri, 17 moniliform in *E. salvadorensis*, and five cylindrical ones in the other species; subacicular hooks are bidentate and yellowish in the new species, and bidentate and black in *E. grubei* and *E. laurillardii*.

Etymology

This species name is taken from the name of the country, El Salvador.

Type locality

Fonseca Gulf, El Salvador, eastern Pacific Ocean.

Distribution

Only known from the type locality.

Family ONUPHIDAE Kinberg, 1865

Americanuphis Fauchald, 1973

Americanuphis reesei Fauchald, 1973

Americanuphis reesei Fauchald, 1973: 22, figure 3a–c

Material examined

One specimen (UANL 5492) and five specimens (UES), Station 30, south part of Jiquilisco Bay, 13°03.92'N 088°40.02'W, 20 m, 27 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 31, same area and date, 13°00.64'N 08°840.20'W, 50 m.

Remarks

The specimens collected from El Salvador differ slightly from those from the Gulf of Panama, mostly by the maxillary formula and the shape of distal tooth of the pseudocompound anterior hooks. Fauchald (1973) indicated the maxillary formula of this species as: $M \times I = 1 + 1$; $M \times II = 10 + 12$; $M \times III = 14 + 9$; $M \times IV = 4 + 0$; $M \times V = 1 + 1$; while our specimens have: $M \times I = 1 + 1$; $M \times II = 8 + 9$; $M \times III = 10 + 0$; $M \times IV = 6 + 10$; $M \times V = 1 + 1$. It is important to notice that Fauchald probably confused the left side of the $M \times III$, with the left side of the $M \times IV$ in *A. reesei*.

Distribution

Tropical eastern Pacific. Previously recorded from the Gulf of Panama, this is the first record for El Salvador.

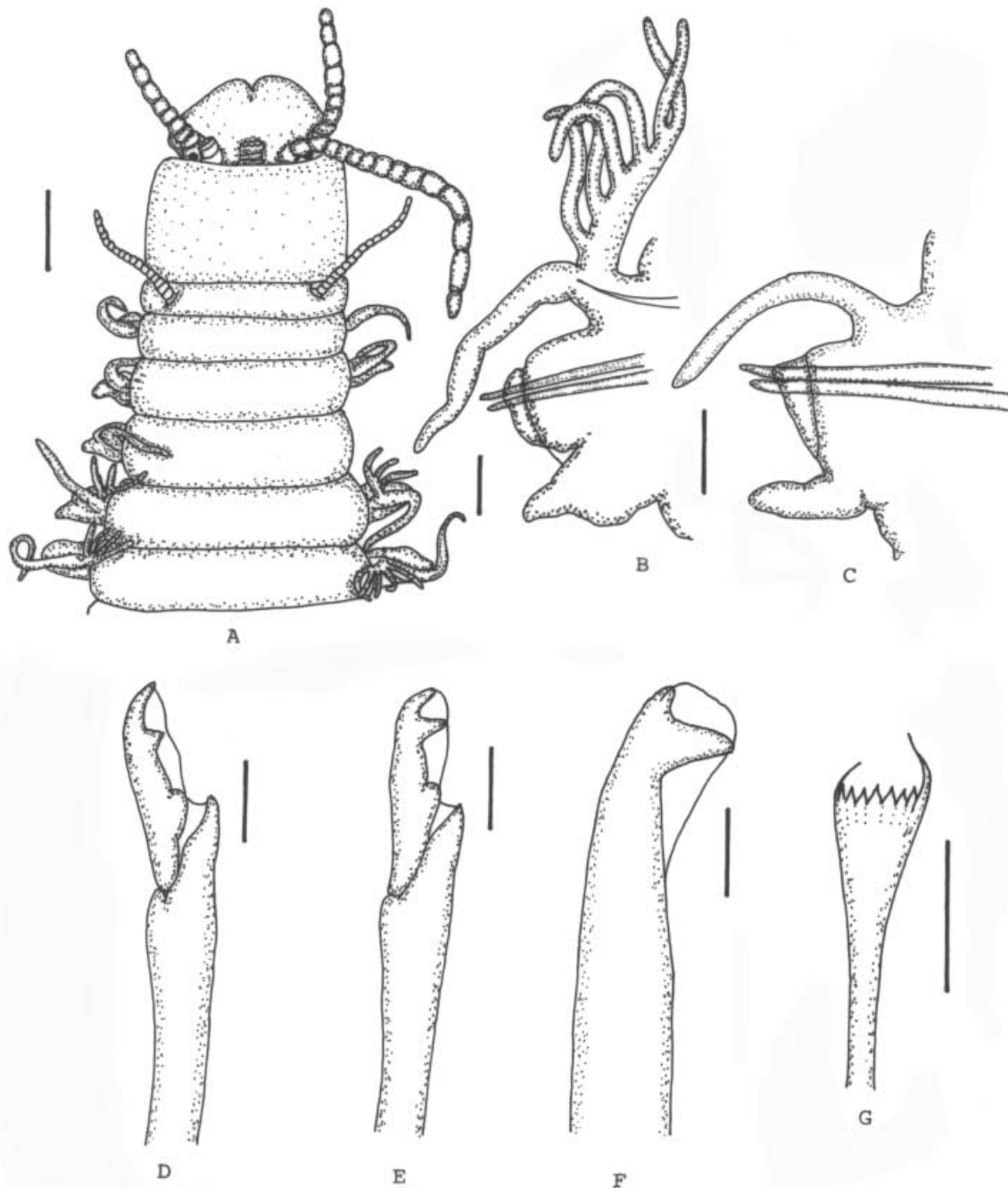


Figure 2. *Eumice salvadorensis* sp. nov. Holotype. (A) Anterior end, in dorsal view; (B) parapodium 10, in anterior view; (C) parapodium 63, in anterior view; (D) compound falciger from chaetiger 10; (E) compound falciger from chaetiger 63; (F) subacicular hook; (G) pectinate chaetae. Scale bars: A, 1 mm; B–C, 200 μ m; D–G, 30 μ m.

Diopatra Audouin & Milne-Edwards, 1833
Diopatra farallonensis Fauchald, 1968

Diopatra farallonensis Fauchald, 1968: 7, pl. 1, figures h–n; de León-González, 1994: 58.

Material examined

One specimen (UES), Station 8, in front Ahuachapán, 13°33.40'N 090°03.33'W, 50 m, 15 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 33, South of El Pimiental, 13°21.07'N 089°07.48'W, 20 m, 28 March 2001.

Distribution

Tropical eastern Pacific. Gulf of California to El Salvador.

Diopatra neotridens Hartman, 1944

Diopatra neotridens Hartman, 1944: 63, pl. 2, figures 44–48, pl. 3, figures 49–54, pl. 16, figure 334; Fauchald 1968: 9, pl. 2, figure b.

Material examined

One specimen (UES), Station 9, in front Ahuachapán, 13°15.71'N 090°02.20'W, 125 m, 15 March 2001; two specimens (UES), Station 28, south of El Ical, 13°08.22'N 087°54.66'W, 20 m, 26 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 31, south part of Jiquilisco Bay, 13°03.92'N 088°40.02'W, 20 m, 27 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 33, South of El Pimiental,

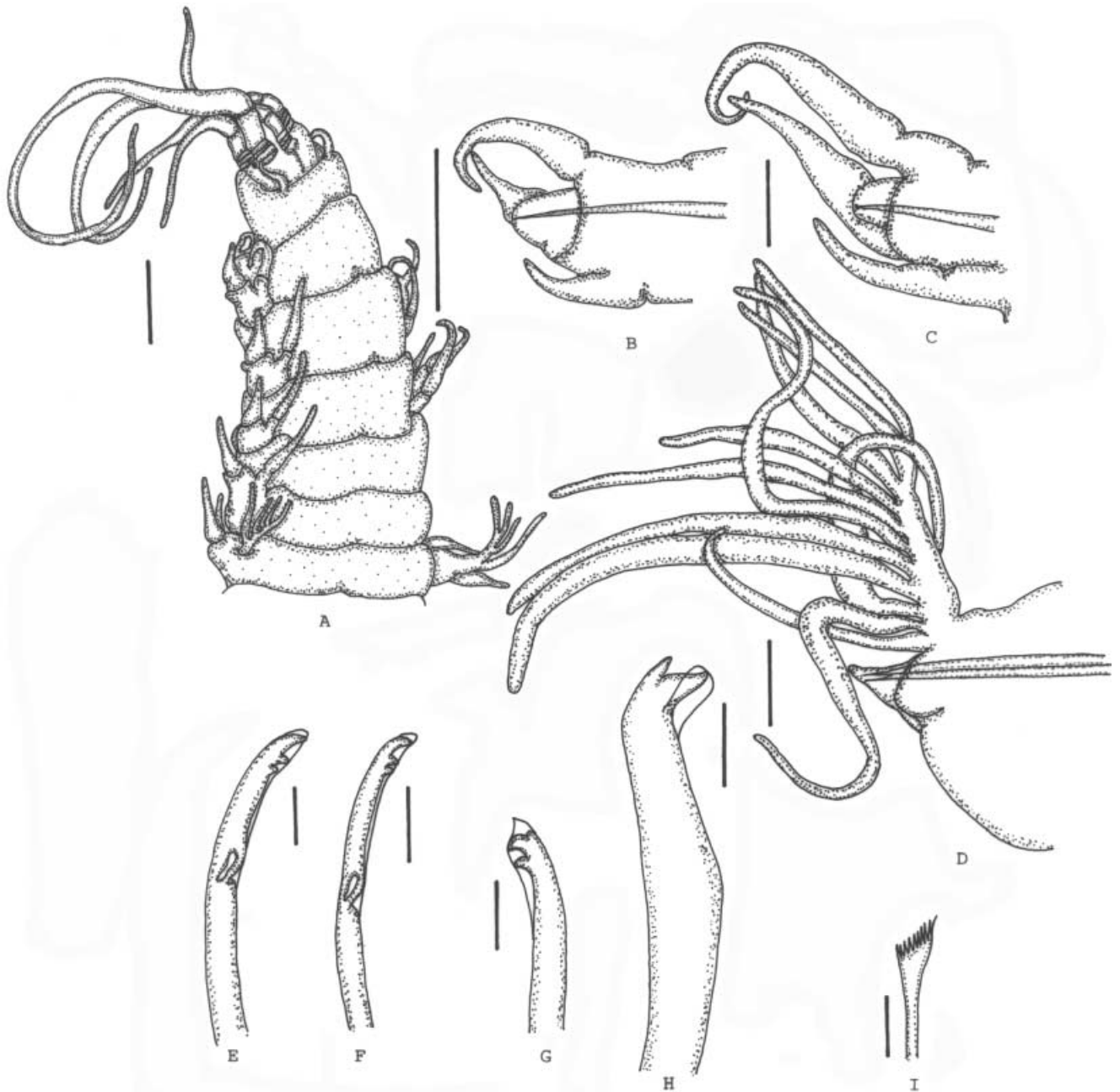


Figure 3. *Kinbergonuphis kristiani* sp. nov. Holotype. (A) Anterior end, in dorso-lateral view; (B) first parapodium, in anterior view; (C) parapodium 5, in anterior view; (D) parapodium 25, in anterior view; (E&F) pseudocompound hooks from first chaetiger; (G) tridentate simple hook from chaetiger 6; (H) subacicular hook; (I) pectinate chaetae. Scale bars: A, 1 mm; B–D, 200 μ m; E–I, 30 μ m.

13°21.07'N 089°07.48'W, 20 m, 28 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 37, south to Barra Salada, 13°28.20'N 089°37.78'W, 34 m, 28 March 2001.

Distribution

Tropical eastern Pacific. Baja California, Mexico to Panama.

Diopatra obliqua Hartman, 1944

Diopatra obliqua Hartman, 1944: 57, pl. 2, figures 24–36; pl. 16, figures 331–333; Fauchald, 1968: 9, pl. 2, figure a; de León-González, 1994: 60.

Material examined

Six specimens (UES), Station 7, in front of Ahuachapán, 13°36.65'N 089°58.12'W, 30 m, 15 March 2001; 12 specimens (UES), Station 33, South of El Pimiental, 13°21.07'N 089°07.48'W, 20 m, 28 March 2001.

Distribution

Tropical eastern Pacific. Western Mexico to Peru.

Diopatra ornata Moore, 1911

Diopatra ornata Moore, 1911: 273, pl. 18, figures 77–85; Berkeley & Berkeley, 1939: 338; Treadwell, 1941: 22;

Hartman, 1944: 55, pl. 1, figures 15–20; Fauchald, 1968: 10, pl. 2, figure c; de León-González, 1994: 60.

Material examined

Two specimens (UES), Station 37, south to Barra Salada, 13°28.20'N 089°37.78'W, 34 m, 28 March 2001.

Distribution

Eastern Pacific. From Canada to El Salvador.

Diopatra splendidissima Kinberg, 1857

Diopatra splendidissima Hartman, 1944: 56, pl. 1, figures 21–23; 1968: 661, figures. 1–6; Fauchald, 1968: 12, pl. 2, figure j.

Material examined

Three specimens (UES), Station 14, in front of Usulután, 12°51.56'N 088°10.80'W, 65 m, 19 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 26, south to Meanguera Island, 13°01.70'N 087°49.97'W, 55 m, 25 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 35, south to La Libertad, 13°17.23'N 089°18.07'W, 50 m, 28 March 2001.

Distribution

Tropical eastern Pacific. From California to Ecuador.

Diopatra tridentata Hartman, 1944

Diopatra tridentata Hartman, 1944: 61, pl. 2, figures 37–43, pl. 17, figures 335–336.

Material examined

One specimen (UES), Station 24, south of Meanguera Island, 13°09.40'N 087°49.79'W, 15 m, 25 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 28, south to El Icacal, 13°08.22'N 087°54.66'W, 20 m, 26 March 2001; two specimens (UES), Station 29, south to El Icacal, 13°02.20'N 088°19.90'W, 30 m, 27 March 2001; three specimens (UES), Station 30, south to Jucuarán, 13°05.19'N 088°29.79'W, 20 m, 27 March 2001; two specimens (UES), Station 31, south to Jiqilisco Bay, 13°03.92'N 088°40.02'W, 20 m, 27 March 2001; six specimens (UES), Station 33, south to El Pimental, 13°03.92'N 088°40.02'W, 20 m, 27 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 35, south to La Libertad, 13°17.23'N 089°18.07'W, 50 m, 28 March 2001; two specimens (UES), Station 37, south to Barra Salada, 13°28.20'N 089°37.78'W, 34 m, 28 March 2001.

Distribution

Amphiamerican. Known from southern California to Colombia in the Pacific, and Caribbean Sea.

Kinbergonuphis Fauchald, 1982

Kinbergonuphis cedroensis (Fauchald, 1968)

Onuphis cedroensis Fauchald, 1968: 31, pl. 8, figures a–g.

Kinbergonuphis cedroensis Fauchald, 1982: 16, figure 6b; de León-González, 1994: 61.

Material examined

One specimen (UES), Station 20, south of Los Cóbano, 13°28.86'N 089°47.87'W, 20 m, 24 March 2001.

Distribution

Tropical eastern Pacific. From southern California to Ecuador. This is the first report from El Salvador.

Kinbergonuphis kristiani sp. nov.

(Figure 3A–I)

Material examined

Holotype (UANL 5490), Station 10, off La Libertad, 13°23.10'N 089°31.70'W, 50 m, 16 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 15, off Usulután, 12°57.95'N 088°09.71'W, 55 m, 19 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 18, South of Costa Azul, 13°32.40'N 090°00'W, 50 m, 23 March 2001; three specimens (UES), Station 21, south of Los Cóbano, 13°26.40'N 089°48.04'W, 50 m, 24 March 2001; one specimen (UES), Station 28, south to El Icacal, 13°08.22'N 087°54.66'W, 20 m, 26 March 2001.

Description

Holotype incomplete, with 89 chaetigers, 11 mm long, 2 mm wide excluding parapodia, body yellowish.

Prostomium small, rounded. Frontal antennae well developed, subtriangular. Antennae with ceratophores formed by short basal rings, and a long distal one. Middle antenna and antenniform dorsal palps with three short basal rings, lateral antennae with four basal rings. Middle antenna reaches chaetiger 3, lateral antennae reaching chaetiger 6, antenniform dorsal palps reaches chaetiger 2. One pair of small rounded eyes between basis of dorsal palps and lateral antennae. Peristomial cirri thin, not exceeding the distal end of prostomium (Figure 3A).

First chaetiger (Figure 3B) with double prechaetal lobe, proximal one as a transverse flap, distal one rounded. Post-chaetal lobe extended to the end of the fragment, well developed in the first five chaetigers (Figure 3C). Dorsal cirri broad basally, distally thin; ventral cirri digitiform to chaetiger 7. Dorsal cirri on branchial parapodia thin and long, ventral cirri reduced to pads (Figure 3D). Branchiae on chaetigers 6–50, with up to ten filaments, diminishing to four filaments posteriorly.

Tridentate pseudocompound hooks on chaetigers 1–5, hood short, in two forms: thick (Figure 3E) and thin (Figure 3F). Large tridentate hooks present on chaetigers 5–7, with apical tooth blunt and median tooth strongly curved (Figure 3G). Bidentate subacicular hooks from chaetiger 19, 2–3 per parapodium, hood short, covering the distal part of proximal tooth (Figure 3H). Pectinate chaetae on middle and posterior parapodia, strongly oblique, with 11 long and thin teeth (Figure 3I).

Maxillary apparatus not dissected.

Discussion

Kinbergonuphis kristiani sp. nov., is similar to *K. taeniata* (Paxton, 1979) described from Queensland, Australia. *Kinbergonuphis kristiani* has up to ten branchial filaments; ventral cirri digitiform on the first seven chaetigers; only tridentate pseudocompound hooks, appearing in chaetigers 1–5; large hooks present in chaetigers 5–7; and subacicular hooks from chaetiger 19. While *K. taeniata* has up to four branchial filaments; digitiform ventral cirri on first 8–9 chaetigers; bi- and tri-dentate pseudocompound hooks, appearing in chaetigers 4–10; and subacicular hooks present from chaetigers 37–42.

Etymology

The species is named after Kristian Fauchald in recognition of his valuable contribution to the systematics of onuphid polychaetes.

Type locality

Off La Libertad, El Salvador, eastern Pacific Ocean.

Distribution

Sublittoral bottoms in El Salvador, in 20 to 50 m.

Kinbergonuphis pigmentata (Fauchald, 1968)

Onuphis pigmentata Fauchald, 1968: 38, pl. 9, figures f–n.

Kinbergonuphis pigmentata: Fauchald, 1982: 28, figure 5d.

Material examined

One specimen (UES), Station 33, South of El Pimental, 13°21.07'N 089°07.48'W, 20 m, 28 March 2001.

Distribution

Tropical eastern Pacific. From San Quintin Bay, Baja California México to El Salvador. This is the first report from El Salvador.

Kinbergonuphis vermillionensis (Fauchald, 1968)

Onuphis vermillionensis Fauchald, 1968: 41, pl. 11, figures a–i.

Kinbergonuphis vermillionensis: Fauchald, 1982: 35, figure 9g.

Material examined

One specimen (UES), Station 20, south of Los Cóbanos, 13°28.86'N 089°47.87'W, 20 m, 24 March 2001.

Distribution

Tropical eastern Pacific. Known from Gulf of California to El Salvador. This is the first report from El Salvador.

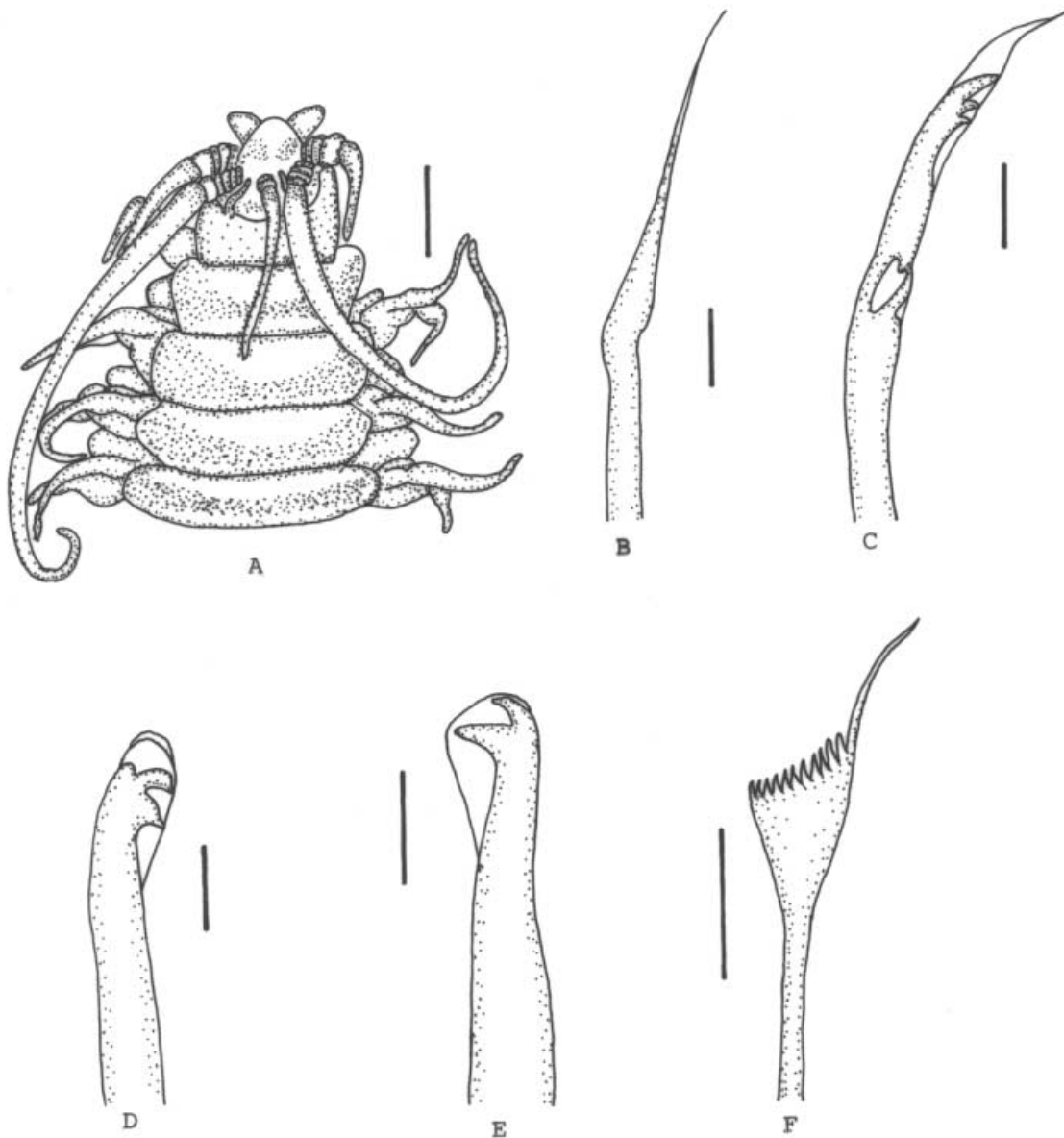


Figure 4. *Paradiopatra barrazai*, sp. nov. Holotype. (A) Anterior end, in dorsal view; (B) aciculum; (C) pseudocompound hook from first chaetiger; (D) tridentate simple hook; (E) subacicular hook; (F) pectinate chaetae. Scale bars: A, 1 mm; B–F, 30 μ m.

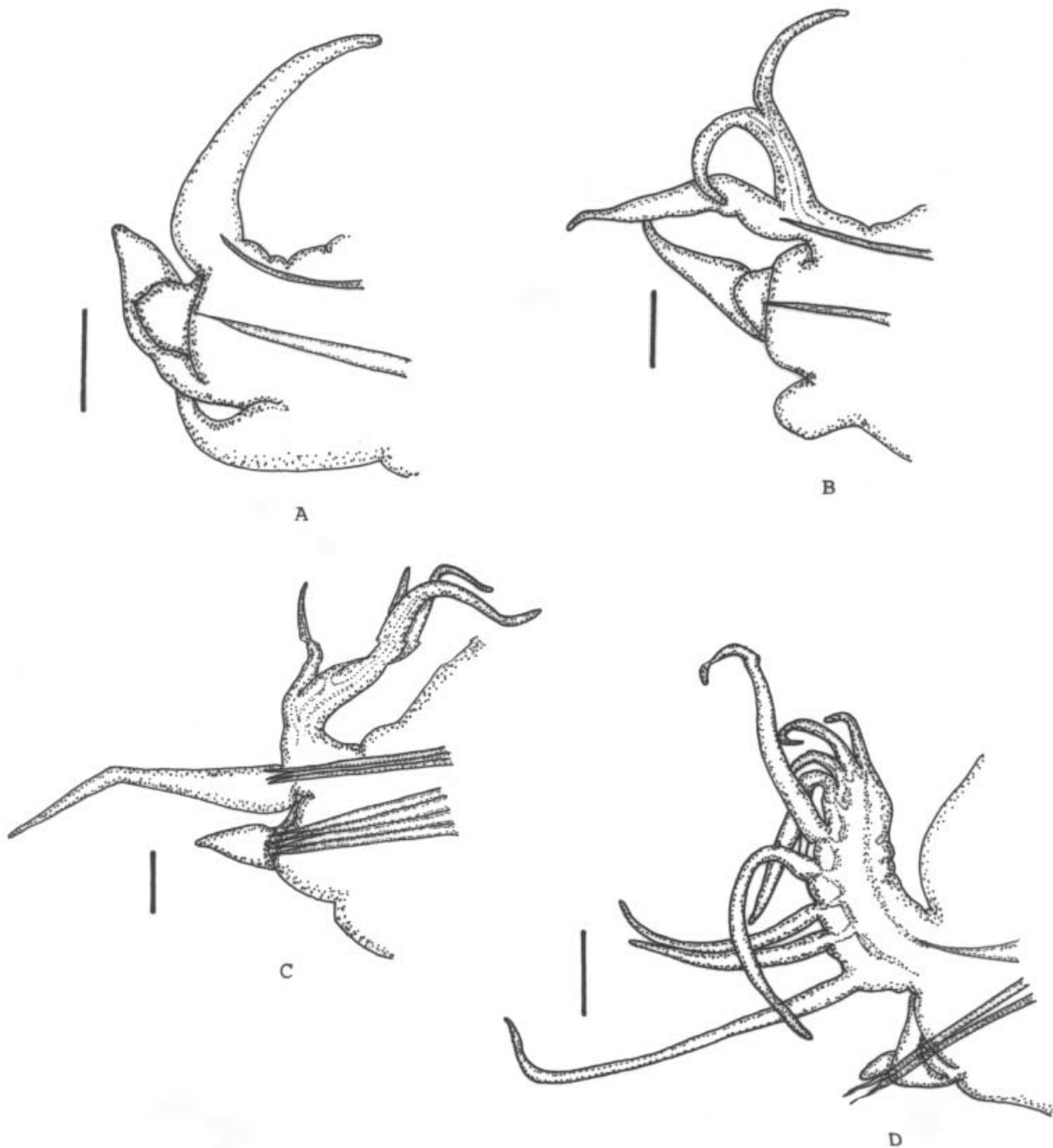


Figure 5. *Paradiopatra barrazai*, sp. nov. Holotype. (A) First parapodium, in anterior view; (B) parapodium 7, in anterior view; (C) parapodium 20, in anterior view; (D) parapodium 51, in anterior view. Scale bars: A–D, 200 μ m.

Paradiopatra Ehlers, 1887
Paradiopatra barrazai, sp. nov.
 (Figures 4A–F & 5A–D)

Material examined

Holotype (UANL 5491) and two non type specimens (UES), Station 31, south part of Jiquilisco Bay, 13°03.92'N 088°40.02'W, 20 m, 27 March 2001.

Description

Holotype incomplete posteriorly, with 51 chaetigers, 20 mm long, 3 mm wide excluding parapodia. Body yellowish with dark bands from peristomium to chaetiger 4, and over the bases of the styles of each antenna.

Prostomium without eyes. Occipital antennae with ceratophores formed by three short rings and one long distal ring. Style of the middle antenna reaches chaetiger 2, lateral antennae reaches chaetiger 7, antenniform dorsal palps reach the anterior end of the chaetiger 1. Peristomial cirri short and thin, inserted on the anterior peristomial margin (Figure 4A).

First chaetiger with double prechaetal lobe (Figure 5A), the proximal one as a transversal flap, distal one short, subtriangular. Postchaetal lobes long and subtriangular on anterior and midbody parapodia (Figure 5B,C), short and digitiform posteriorly (Figure 5D). Dorsal cirri digitiform, thick on anterior and middle parapodia, very thin longer on posterior parapodia. Ventral cirri cirriform to

chaetiger 2, then as pads. Branchiae from chaetiger 6, with two filaments initially, increasing in number to eight filaments on chaetiger 51.

Parapodia with tapered acicula (Figure 4B). Pseudocompound tridentate hooks with long hyaline hood on the first four chaetigers (Figure 4C). Large tridentate hooks present on chaetigers 5–28, with blunt apical tooth, bent middle tooth, and subtriangular inferior one, with short hood (Figure 4D). Subacicular bidentate hooks yellowish, from chaetiger 30, two per parapodium, apical tooth smaller than proximal one (Figure 4E). Pectinate chaetae asymmetrical, small, with 12 short teeth and one long lateral tooth (Figure 4F).

Maxillary apparatus not dissected.

Discussion

Paradiopatra barrazi sp. nov., together with *P. ehlersi* (McIntosh, 1887), *P. lepta* (Chamberlin, 1919) and *P. quadricuspis* (Sars, 1872) have lateral antennae longer than the median antenna. Other species have middle antenna as long as lateral antennae. Only *P. barrazi* and *P. lepta* have large tridentate hooks on anterior parapodia, but *P. barrazi* differs in having occipital ceratophores with four rings, cirriform ventral cirri to chaetiger 2, postchaetal digitate lobes visible throughout, tridentate pseudocompound hooks to chaetiger 4, large tridentate hooks on chaetigers 5–28, and subacicular hooks from chaetiger 30. While *P. lepta* has occipital ceratophores with eight rings, cirriform ventral cirri on first three chaetigers, postchaetal digitate lobes only present until chaetiger 20, bidentate pseudocompound hooks on the first three chaetigers, large hook present on chaetigers 4–9; and subacicular hooks from chaetiger 10.

Etymology

This new species is named after J.E. Barraza, who carefully collected and allowed us to study the specimens for this work.

Type locality

Jiquilisco Bay, El Salvador, eastern Pacific Ocean.

Distribution

Only known from the type locality.

We thank J.E. Barraza who carefully collected and allowed us to study the specimens for this work, and for the supervision during the BS programme of C.G.R. and M.R. We thank Sergio Salazar-Vallejo and Luis F. Carrera-Parra for their invaluable assistance with the revision of this paper. Two anonymous referees improved the manuscript greatly.

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