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DASYCHONOPSIS ARENOSA, A NEW SPECIES OF POLYCHAETOUS ANNELID FROM PORTO RICO

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Dasychonopsis arenosa, new species

The general color is yellowish brown with the ventral shields slightly darker than the remainder of the body. Along the dorsal surface and on the ventral shields are sparsely scattered dark-brown spots which are larger and more prominent on the anterior ventral surface and on the collar. The total body length is 35 mm., of which 10 mm. represents the gills. The greatest width is 2 mm.

The thorax has eight somites with eight tufts of setae and seven rows of uncini. The collar is two-lobed and its rounded dorsal ends are widely separated. Toward the ventral region the collar becomes more prominent and its ventral ends have the form of two prominent lobes deeply incised on the basal portion of the ventral margin of each lobe. These lobes overlap one another (Fig. 1), but there is no regularity in this overlapping since either may lie on top. The lobes extend to a distance of about 1 mm. in front of the collar which elsewhere is very low. The tentacles are 3 mm. long, relatively broad, and more or less folded.

The gills have from fifteen to twenty radiibles on either side and have a ground color a little lighter than the general surface of the body but are banded at frequent intervals by pigment patches which extend across the radioles and over the corresponding barbs thus giving a banded effect to the entire gill. The apex of each radiole for about 1 mm. is free from barbs, there are extremely minute dorsal appendages (Fig. 2), and each carries about twenty pairs of small dark eye-spots. There is no basal membrane and the basal portion of each gill is colored in such a fashion that colorless lines which lie between the pigment patches seem to bifurcate and each half go into a radiole.

The thoracic setae are all alike in form, differing only in length. They are slightly bent toward the apex and have striated borders of which only one can be seen in profile (Fig. 4), while in full face they appear bilimbate. The uncini begin on somite 2. Each has a single large tooth, with apical ridges hardly prominent enough to be called teeth (Fig. 3). In the abdomen there are two sets of setae, both of which might be formed by modifications of the one figured above, some being thicker and heavier than the thoracic, others being much more slender. The abdominal uncini are essentially similar to those of the thorax.

The tubes are smooth and are covered with very fine sand grains firmly cemented together. Those in this collection were composed of dark-gray sand but had irregularly arranged light-brown bands.

I have located this in the genus *Dasychonopsis* as defined by Bush ('Annelids,' Harriman Alaska Expedition, XII, pp. 198 and 199).

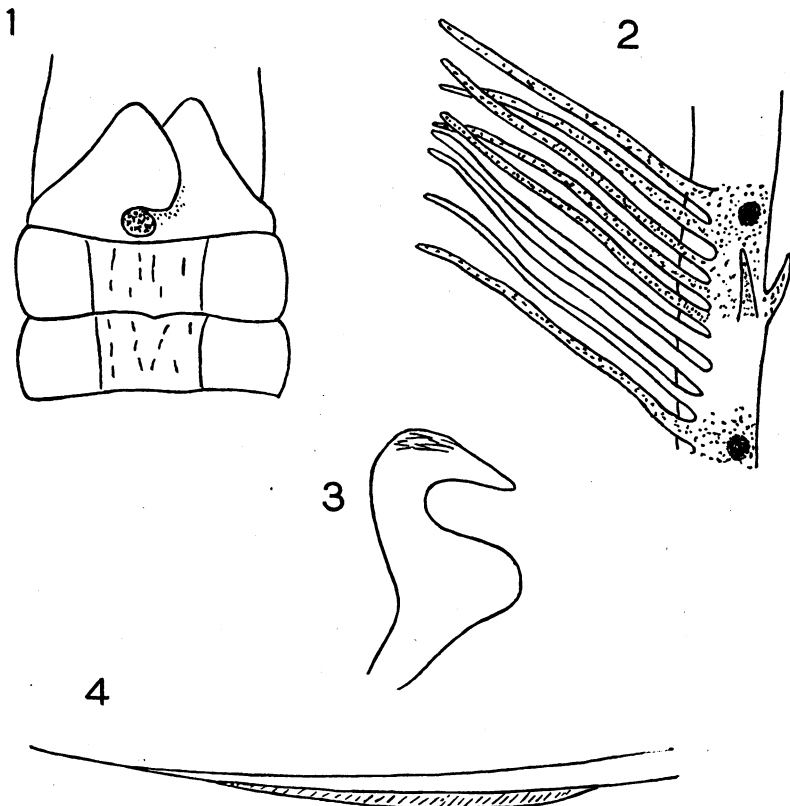


Fig. 1. Ventral view of collar, $\times 18$.

Fig. 2. Detail of gill, $\times 27$.

Fig. 3. Uncinus, $\times 250$.

Fig. 4. Thoracic seta, $\times 185$.

In certain respects it resembles *Dasychonopsis ponce* (*Dasychone ponce* Treadwell, 'Annelids from Porto Rico,' Bulletin U. S. Fish Commission for 1900, p. 209) but it is more slender than that species; the body color is lighter and with less noticeable dark spots; the eye-spots on the tentacles are more numerous.

The specimens were collected by R. W. Miner on July 17, 1914, at Caño de Martín Peña, San Juan, Porto Rico. The type is in The American Museum of Natural History.