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PORT PHILLIP SURVEY 1957–1963.

HYDROIDA.

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SUMMARY.

Athecate hydroids (5 species) and thecate hydroids (28 species) were taken from 23 of the 70 areas sampled. Approximately one-third of the total number of species have not previously been recorded from Port Phillip. The thecate family Sertulariidae is represented by the greatest number of species namely thirteen, and areas 58 and 59 are particularly rich in hydroids both in respect to numbers of species and quantity of material collected.

INTRODUCTION.

During the Port Phillip Bay ecological survey from 1957 to 1963, 33 species of hydroids in all were collected from 23 of the 70 areas sampled. These hydroids were taken either by dredging or skin-diving down to a depth of approximately seven fathoms. Eleven species, Eudendrium capillare Alder; Tubularia (?) larynx Ellis and Solander; Myriothela australis Briggs, 1928; Orthopyxis crenata (Hartlaub); Hincksella corrugata Millard, 1958; Dynamena quadridentata (Ellis and Solander); Symplectoscyphus subdichotomus (Kirchenpauer); Symplectoscyphus sp.; Sertularella simplex (Hutton); Sertularella undulata Bale and Aglaophenia decumbens Bale have not previously been recorded from Port Phillip. Two of these species however, namely Dynamena quadridentata and Symplectoscyphus subdichotomus have been taken in the adjacent Bass Strait area; Sertularella undulata and Aglaophenia decumbens from Tasmania and Myriothela australis from New South Wales waters. Of the remaining six species, Eudendrium capillare and Tubularia larynx are cosmopolitan, Sertularella simplex and Orthopyxis crenata are best known from New Zealand waters. Symplectoscyphus sp. is known only from Port Phillip, and Hincksella corrugata from the Natal coast of South Africa.

Thecate hydroids are dominant both in number of species taken and in quantity, although large handsize "tufts" of *Tubularia* (?) *larynx* were present in the collections. The family of thecate hydroids represented by the greatest number of species is the Sertulariidae with thirteen species, followed by the Plumulariidae with seven species and the Campanulariidae with five species. The families Haleciidae, Lafoeidae and Syntheciidae are represented by one species each.

Three species only from the family Sertulariidae were taken in the inner-Bay areas, the others were found towards the entrance of the Bay particularly in areas 58 and 59. Collections from these latter areas

together with those from the nearby areas of 60, 61, 62, 63, 66, and 68 showed by far the greatest variety of species. Of the plumularians, only *Plumularia setaceoides* (Areas 30; 31) was not collected in the outer-Bay area. Area 59 (36) Popes Eye Bank and Area 58 seem especially rich in hydroid species as 26 of the 33 species recorded here were taken from these areas. Collection at Point Cook Jetty (Area 10; (103)) during the same time period yielded the next largest number of species, that is five in all. The species most frequently taken over the whole collection range were *Plumularia wattsii*, *Obelia australis* and the small sertularian *Amphisbetia minima*.

LIST OF HYDROID SPECIES TAKEN DURING THE SURVEY OF PORT PHILLIP 1957–1963.

Species previously recorded from Port Phillip are given in boid face type.

ATHECATA

Areas 10 (103), 59 (36).
Areas 14 (117), 58 (-).
Areas 10 (11), 12 (110-3); 60 (268).
Areas 58 (80), 61 (37); 62 (221-2).
Area 59 (24).
Areas 12 (110-3); 21 (115); 30 (130); 31 (10): 43 (303), 61 (37): 63 (16); >5 (218-9).
Areas 30 (130): 58 (50).
Areas 42 (108); 55 (79); 59 (36).
Area 59 (57).
Areas 5 (54); 10 (103); 59 (36); 61 (204).
Area 59 (87).
Area 59 (36).
Area 59 (36).
Areas 58 (80); 59 (36).

STEREOTHECA ELONGATA (Lamou- roux, 1816).	Areas 58 (88); 59 (36).
DIPIIASIA SUBCARINATA (Busk, 1852).	Areas 58 (88); 59 (36).
AMPHISBETIA MINIMA (Thompson, 1879).	Areas 5 (54); 29 (107); 58 (79); 59 (24. 87).
AMPHISBETIA OPERCULATA (Lin- naeus, 1758).	Area 59 (87).
SERTULARIA UNGUICULATA Busk, 1852.	Area 58 (88).
THUIARIA LATA Bale, 1882	Area 58 (223).
Dynamena quadridentata (Ellis and Solander, 1786).	Area 10 (103).
Symplectoscyphus subdichotomus Kir- chenpauer, 1884).	Area 51 (271); 62 (99).
Symplectoscyphus sp	Area 59 (36).
Sertularella simplex (Hutton, 1873)	Areas 43 (303); 58 (79); 59 (36).
SERTULARELLA ROBUSTA Coughtrey, 1876.	Area 10 (103).
Sertularella undulata Bale, 1915.	Area 59 (36).
PLUMULARIIDAE	
PLUMULARIA SETACEOIDES Bale, 1882.	Areas 30 (130); 31 (10).
PLUMULARIA WATTSH Bale, 1887	Areas 19 (179); 43 (303); 51 (271); 53 (253); 58 (223); 66 (292); 68 (218-9).
PLUMULARIA PROCUMBENS Spencer, 1891.	Area 58 (223).
AGLAOPHENIA DIVARICATA (Busk, 1852).	Areas 58 (223); 59 (36); 66 (292).
Aglaophenia decumbens Bale, 1914	Areas 59 (36); 69 (221-2).
HALICORNARIA LONGIROSTRIS (Kir- chenpauer, 1872).	Area 69 (221-2).

A description of the above species with the exception of Eudendrium capillare, Tubularia ralphii, Myriothela australis, Hincksella corrugata, Thyroscyphus marginatus, Thuiaria lata, Sertularella undulata, Plumularia procumbens, Aglaophenia divaricata, and Aglaophenia decumbens was given by Ralph (1953, 1957, 1958, 1961a, 1961b,). Hodgson (1950) is a reference source for a description of Sertularella undulata, Aglaophenia divaricata and A. decumbens; Bale (1884) for Tubularia ralphii and Thuiaria lata; Hincks (1868) for Eudendrium capillare; Spencer (1891) for Plumularia procumbens; Millard (1958) for Hincksella corrugata; Splettstosser (1929) for Thyroscyphus marginatus, and Manton (1940) for Myriothela australis.

AREA DISTRIBUTION.

Full details of the collecting schedule is given in the introductory paper to the Port Phillip Survey. (cf. Macpherson and Lynch, page 1.)

Positions of Areas and Stations are shown on Charts I and 2 (back of volume).

Chart 1 is a bathymetric chart plotted from Admiralty Chart 1171, Port Phillip with the numbered area grid superimposed.

Chart 2 shows position of the stations numbered 1-317 with the same grid superimposed to aid in location of the stations and for correlation with depth, etc.

Localities in the text are shown as Area number followed immediately by the station number in brackets. Table A (back of volume) records station number, date, method of collecting (dive or dredge) and depth in fathoms.

AREA 5 (54)

Ampluisbetia minima. Silicularia bilabiata forma subtropica.

AREA 10 (103).

Silicularia bilabiata forma subtropica, Dynamena quadridentata, Eudendrium capillare, Orthopyxis crenata forma subtropica, Sertularella robusta,

AREA IO (II).

Tubularia (?) larynx

- AREA 12 (110–3), Tubularia (?) larynx, Obelia australis,
- AREA 14 (117).

Tubularia ralphii,

- AREA 19 (179), Plunularia wattsii.
- AREA 21 (115)

Obelia australis.

AREA 29 (107), Amphisbetia minima.

AREA 30 (130).

Obelia geniculata forma subtropica. Plumularia setaceoides. Obelia australis.

AREA 31 (10),

Plumuiaria setaceoides. Obelia australis,

AREA 42 (108).

Orthopyxis crenata forma subtropica.

AREA 43 (303).

Obelia australis, Sertularella simplex. Plunularia wattsii.

- AREA 51 (271), Symplectoscyphus subdichotomus Plumularia wattsii.
- AREA 53 (253), Plumularia wattsii,
- AREA 58 (—). Tubularia ralphii. Thyroscyphus marginatus.

AREA 58 (79). Orthopyxis crenata forma subtropica. Amphishetia minima. Sertularia unguiculata. Sertularella simplex. AREA 58 (80). Obelia geniculata lorma subtropica. Pennaria disticha. AREA 58 (88). Diphasia subcarmata. AREA 58 (223), Stereotheca elongata. Thuiaria lata Plumularia wattsii. Plumularia procumbens. Aglaophenia divaricata. AREA 59 (24). Myriothela australis, AREA 59 (36). Amphisbetia minima. Sertularella simplex. Aglaophenia divaricata. Hebella calcarata. Sertularella undulata. Stereotheca clongata, Symplectoscyphus sp. Aglaophenia decumbens. Eudendrium capillare. Silicularia bilabiata lorma subtropica Diphasia subcarinata. Amphisbetia operculata. Hincksella corrugata. Thyroscyphus marginatus, AREA 59 (87). Orthopyxis caliculata, Halecium delicatulum. Amphisbetia minima. Aglaophenia decumbens. AREA 60 (268). Tubularia (?) larynx. AREA 61 (37). Pennaria disticha. AREA 61 (240). Obelia australis. Silicularia bilabiata forma subtropica AREA 62 (99). Symplectoscyphus subdichotomus. AREA 62 (221-2). Pennaria disticha. Aglaophenia decumbens. Halicornaria longirostris. AREA 63 (16). Obelia australis. AREA 66 (292). Plumularia wattsii. Aglaophenia divaricata. AREA 68 (218-9). Obelia australis. Plumularia wattsii.

SYSTEMATIC REMARKS ON SOME OF THE SPECIMENS COLLECTED.

Genus Eudendrium Ehrenberg, 1834.

A small *Eudendrium* sp. rather similar in erect stem habit to the present specimens was described by Bale from the neighbouring area of Portland in 1884. The Port Phillip specimens have irregularly branched stems up to 1.75 cm. in height and a few possessed male gonophores on the proximal third of the stem. The position and characters of these male gonophores as well as the characters of the erect, monosiphonic stem determine the present specimens as *Eudendrium capillare* Alder, 1857.

Genus Tubularia Linnaeus, 1758.

The two tubularians collected were very different in size. The smaller has irregularly corrugated stems averaging in height $4 \cdot 0$ cm, while the larger possesses tall smooth stems about $10 \cdot 0$ cm, in height. The shorter species is tentatively identified as *T. larynx* because of the stem size and the presence of corrugations. When collected the two hand-size clumps of this small tubularian appear to have been in a moribund state and the two or three immature hydranths observed did not allow a firm decision on the status of the material to be made. The tall-stemmed tubularian possesses characters similar to that described by Bale (1884) for specimens from Port Phillip, and by other workers (Broch, 1948) for *T. ralphii* Bale.

Genus Pennaria Oken, 1815.

The present specimens possess stem characters similar to those described for *Pennaria disticha* var. *disticha*, in that the pedicel of the hydranth is ringed along its whole length and not just at the proximal and distal ends as in the more common variety taken in Australian and New Zealand waters, namely *P. disticha* var. *australis*. The number of capitate tentacles on the hydranth cannot be accurately determined in the present material. No eyespot at the tentacular base of the attached gonophores was observed in the few fertile polyps available for study.

Genus Myriothela Sars, 1849.

Three specimens of the solitary capitate hydroid Myriothela australis Briggs, 1928 were taken. They range in length (as preserved) from $2 \cdot 0$ cm. to $3 \cdot 5$ cm. and all possess mature female blastostyles which show the features described and figured by Briggs (1929) and Manton (1940), for *M. australis*.

Genus Hincksella Billard, 1925.

Six unattached stems from one locality were collected of the small unbranched synthecid *H. corrugata* Millard, 1958, which also possess distinctive alternating hydrothecae. The maximum height of stem was $5 \cdot 0$ mm, and up to eight hydrothecae were present on a stem. The dimensional range of the hydrotheca, and the stem internodes falls within that given by Millard for her Natal specimens. Also, the faint transverse corrugations described by Millard on the walls of the hydrotheca, the everted margin to the hydrotheca, the presence of basal corrugations on

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the stem and the similar ratio of the length of free hydrothecal wall to adnate wall (1: 1 approx.) are characters easily observed in the present material.

The description of *Hincksella cylindrica* (Bale, 1884) shows this species to be rather similar to *H. corrugata*. However, Millard (1958) clearly distinguishes the two species, and although the present material comes from the same locality as Bale's *H. cylindrica* the present material shows the characters of *H. corrugata* and is here recognized as the latter species.

Genus Symplectoscyphus Marktanner-Turneretscher, 1890.

The erect stem characters of one of the two symplectoscyphids taken in Area 59 suggest that it is a new species, but the colonies are infertile and the decision on the specific status of this material must await the collection of fertile specimens. A description of the erect stem characters is as follows.

Symplectoscyphus sp.

(Figs. 1-4).

Erect stem monosiphonic, up to 3.5 cm. in height, stem stiff, usually subdichotomously branched; branches arising from stem at approximately 75 ; branch internodes not readily distinguishable from those of the stem except for the proximal internode, which is borne on an apophysis of the stem internode, and is distinctive in that it is approximately twice the length (0.75 mm.) and half the width (0.18 mm.) of other branch internodes (Fig. 1); nodes regular and clearly marked on stem and branches by an oblique twisted constriction which directs the hydrothecae towards the front of the stem; internode swollen immediately above and below the nodal constriction; two hydrothecae of the stem between each subdichotomy and one in the axil of each branch; internodes (other than proximal branch internodes) 0.50 to 0.80 mm. in length and 0.09 to 0.125mm, in width at the middle; hydrothecae set at an angle of opproximately 40 to stem and branches; adcauline side of hydrotheca from two-thirds to three-quarters of its length from stem and branches; hydrotheca large, with adcauline side, measured from margin to base 0.40 to 0.50 mm. in length, and adcauline side, 0.25 to 0.37 mm. in length; greatest width of hydrotheca, which occurs about half-way up the theea, is from 0.20 mm. to 0.25 mm.; width at margin of hydrotheca approximately 0.14 mm. hydrotheca flattened on three sides, so that it is subtriangular in cross section, the "angles" of the triangle corresponding approximately in position to the marginal teeth (Fig. 4); edge and sides of hydrotheca facing toward stem or branches with, in most cases, three well formed ridges; adcauline edge without ridges and straight in outline from margin to base of hydrotheca; adcauline edges bulging towards the stem or branch, at the base of the hydrotheca (Fig. 3); margin of hydrotheca with three very well developed, thick, robust, bluntly pointed teeth, the outermost tooth being the largest, and the inner median adcauline tooth the smallest; three deep embayments between the teeth; margin of hydrotheca greatly thickened down to the level of the origin of the three components of the operculum, at which level the thickening ceases abruptly; three large, internal submarginal teeth present (Fig. 2).



- Fig. 1. Symplectoscyphils sp. Portion of erect stem to show growth habit (branches of left side detached from stem).
- Fig. 2. Aperture and marginal region of hydrotheca showing operculum and one internal submarginal tooth.
- Figs. 3-4. Hydrothecae from different aspects.

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