

## Hesionidae Grube, 1850 (Annelida: Polychaeta) from South-Southeastern Brazil, with descriptions of four new species

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### Abstract

On the basis of extensive intertidal and subtidal samplings in South-Southeastern Brazil, five hesionid species were found; four are newly described and *Podarkeopsis levisfuscina* Perkins, 1984 is redescribed. *Micropodarke pleijeli* n. sp. differs from the other species because it lacks eyes, and by having a large number of pharynx papillae and by neurochaetal features; this species differs from *M. dubia* (Hessle, 1925) by lacking eyes, having a pharynx with more papillae, and by the neurochaetal features. *Syllidia amaralae* n. sp. resembles more closely *S. armata* sensu Day, 1967 (non *S. armata* de Quatrefages, 1865) because both have dorsal and tentacular cirri annulated or moniliform, and 10–15 pharyngeal papillae. However, *S. amaralae* n. sp. specimens differ from Day's ones because they have a quadrangular prostomium, by the relative size and arrangement of eyes, and by a reduced number of chaetae which are disposed in two bundles; these features are consistent and present in juveniles and mature specimens. *Neogyptis nonatoi* n. sp. is distinguishable from the others by having four types of neurochaetae; this species resembles *N. crypta* (Pleijel, 1993), and *N. plurisetis* (Hilbig, 1992). It differs from *N. crypta* by having a few acicular notochaetae with blunt tip, a small number of compound neurochaetae, simple capillary neurochaetae distally curved, and much slender notopodial and neuropodial lobes. The new species also differs from *N. plurisetis* by having four types of neurochaetae instead of having only falciger chaetae; there are less pharyngeal papillae and they are far apart to each other, conical and shorter in *N. plurisetis* when compared to those of *N. nonatoi* n. sp., which are fringed, longer and closer among them, having some other longer lateral papillae. *Oxydromus lanai* n. sp. resembles *O. obscurus* (Verrill, 1873) as recorded by Uebelacker (1984), *O. pugettensis* by Hilbig (1994), *O. guanicus* by Hoagland (1919), and *O. cf. guanicus* by Hartman (1951). The pharynx of *O. obscurus* does not have fringe or papilla on its border, and it has two types of neurochaetae, differing from *O. lanai* n. sp. which has a single furcate notochaeta, with its shorter tine serrated. *Oxydromus pugettensis* and *O. cf. guanicus* also have usually two, instead of one, furcate notochaeta, differing from *O. lanai* n. sp. *Oxydromus guanicus* differs from our new species in having a characteristic pigmentation pattern, to be very large, its median antenna is less than one-third as long as lateral antennae, and its cirrophores are distally constricted producing a colorless ring, whereby the cirrostyle is inserted. These species are the first Brazilian records for the genera *Podarkeopsis* and *Syllidia*, and for *Micropodarke*, it is newly recorded from the Atlantic Ocean. Keys are included to identify hesionid genera and the species of *Syllidia*, *Micropodarke*, *Neogyptis*, and *Podarkeopsis*.

**Key words:** *Gyptis*, *Micropodarke*, *Oxydromus*, *Podarkeopsis*, *Syllidia*, keys, new species

### Introduction

Hesionids are errant polychaetes whose bodies have a relatively small number of chaetigers. The members of this family have some anterior chaetigers displaced towards the head, or cephalized, which is notable by the development of several pairs of elongated cirri. Hesionids live in consolidated or soft substrates and can be associated with many groups of invertebrates, especially echinoderms, and live in a wide range of depth. As they have a definite growth and striking coloration patterns, some species have been proposed by using variations of the body pigmentation. Hesionids have a muscular pharynx, sometimes provided with jaws; the larger hesionids might

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