Family Sabellariiidae

General information (from Hobson and Banse, 1981)

- Form hard sand tubes, make a hard reef structure which forms habitat for many other species.
- Two genera found in Puget Sound:
  - *Idanthyrsus*
  - *Neosabellaria*
- The way they are situated in their sand tubes is that the anterior end sticks out. Lined with paleae...the difference between the two genera is the number of rows of paleae...*Idanthyrsus* has two rows, *Phragmatopoma* has three.
- See descriptions in Hobson and Banse, 1981, p. 78.

Genus *Idanthyrsus*

- Opercular paleae yellow, in bristly rows; inner row not covered by middle (or outer) row.
- Anterior end with 2 visible rows of opercular paleae; with stout dorsal hooks.

*Idanthyrsus saxicavus* (Baird, 1863)

- Thoracic paleae distally widened (oar-shaped) (unlike *I. ornamentatus*, in which paleae are not distally widened.)

Whole body, dorsal view (l); 2 rows of opercular paleae - outer plumose, inner fine tipped spines (r)
Family Sabellariidae

Anterior end, dorsal – pair of hooks (l); inner and outer rows of opercular paleae (r)

Anterior end, dorsal view (l); opercular paleae (r)

Anterior end, ventral view (l,r)
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Genus Neosabellaria

- Opercular paleae yellow, in bristly rows; inner row not covered by middle (or outer) row.
- Anterior end with 3 visible rows of opercular paleae; without stout dorsal hooks.

Neosabellaria cementarium (Moore, 1906)

- Opercular paleae of outer row with distal hairy spike.
- Paleae of middle row uniform in length.
- Paleae of inner row broader than paleae of middle row, distally smooth.

Whole body, dorsal view (l,r); with piece of cement tube (r)

Posterior end, note long neuropodial lobes (l); anterior end, dorsal view, opercular paleae of outer row with distal hairy spike (r)
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Anterior end, lateral view, opercular paleae of outer row (l); with distal hairy spikes in focus (r)

Anterior end, anterior view, note three rows of opercular paleae (l,r)

References


Family Sabellariidae

More Information

More information about Puget Sound benthic invertebrates is available at:
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/sediment/

This document is available on the Department of Ecology’s website at

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