A new species of *Pectinaria* (Annelida, Pectinariidae), with a key to pectinariids from the South China Sea

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Abstract

Pectinariidae is a family of polychaetes building unique ice-cream cone shaped sandy tubes. *Pectinaria torquata* sp. n. (Pectinariidae) is described from the coastal waters of the northern South China Sea. This new species can be distinguished from all other 25 recognized species in the genus by a combination of characters: 16 chaetigers; 26–32 cirri in the cephalic veil; 11–12 pairs of cephalic spines; uncini with major teeth arranged in two rows, each with 7–8 major teeth; presence of a dorsal posterior lobe on segments 2 and 20; 4–5 pairs of curved scaphal hooks; and an anal flap with a crenulated margin. A key to all recognized pectinariids in the South China Sea is provided.

Keywords

invertebrate, *Pectinaria*, polychaete, South China Sea, taxonomy

Introduction

Pectinariidae is a family of polychaetes commonly found in the soft bottom of coastal shallow waters. They are easily recognized by their unique ice-cream cone shaped sandy tube, and two bundles of golden thick chaetae called paleae on the first segment which...
they use for sediment digging (Fauchald 1977, Wolf 1984). There are 50 recognized species of Pectinariidae in five genera: 15 species of *Amphictene* Savigny, 1818; six species of *Cistenides* Malmgren, 1866; ten species of *Lagis* Malmgren, 1866; 25 species of *Pectinaria* Savigny, 1818; and four species of *Petta* Malmgren, 1866 (Hartman 1941, Hutchings and Peart 2002, Sun and Qiu 2012, García-Garza and de León-González 2014, Nishi et al. 2014, Wong and Hutchings 2015, Zhang et al. 2015). Ten species of Pectinariidae have been recorded from the South China Sea, including four species of *Amphictene*, three species of *Lagis*, and three species of *Pectinaria* (Wu and Chen 1985, Yang and Sun 1988, Paxton and Chou 2000, Sun and Qiu 2012, Salazar-Vallejo et al. 2014, Zhang et al. 2015, Glasby et al. 2016).

*Pectinaria* can be distinguished from other genera of Pectinariidae by a combination of characters: smooth opercular rim; cephalic veil free with numerous cirri; and neurochaetal uncini having major teeth arranged in two or more rows (Wong and Hutchings 2015). Here a new species of *Pectinaria* is described, based on three specimens collected from the coastal waters of the northern South China Sea.

**Materials and methods**

Specimens were collected while undertaking a benthic ecology monitoring program of the South China Sea Environmental Monitoring Center (SCSEMC), State Oceanic Administration. Benthic samples were collected from the northern South China Sea using a 0.05 m² van Veen grab, and rinsed through a sieve with 0.5 mm mesh size. Samples retained on the sieve were collected, fixed in 5% formalin, and later transferred to 70% ethanol. Type specimens are deposited at the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Science (IOCAS), Qingdao. Specimens were examined under a Carl Zeiss Stemi 2000-C dissecting microscope. Morphological features were recorded using a Carl Zeiss AxioCam ICc 1 digital camera attached to the microscopes. A paratype was freeze-dried using a Xiangyi CFD-10D, gold coated using an EDT SC-150, and examined under a TESCAN CEGA 3 scanning electron microscope (SEM). Line drawings were made using a Wacom Intuos Pro Pen and Touch Large Tablet. The taxonomic terms defined by Hutchings and Peart (2002) were used in the species description.

**Results**

**Pectinariidae de Quatrefages, 1866**

*Pectinaria* Savigny in Lamarck 1818: 348

**Type species.** *Nereis cylindraria belgica* Pallas, 1766, designated by Hartman (1959)
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Pectinaria torquata sp. n.
http://zoobank.org/DAFE1881-63F0-454B-922B-8E32B878B7CB
Figs 1–3

Material examined. All type specimens are deposited in the Marine Biological Museum (MBM), Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Qingdao

Holotype. MBM240082: complete specimen, 22°45.17′N, 114°42.98′E (Daya Bay, Guangdong Province), 9.0 m water depth, muddy sand, August 2015.

Paratypes. MBM240083: complete specimen, 22°35.50′N, 114°33.22′E (Daya Bay, Guangdong Province), 11.0 m water depth, muddy sand, June 2015. MBM240084: incomplete specimen with 17 anterior segments, 21°39.42′N, 108°34.46′E (Beibu Gulf, Guangxi Province), 9.7 m water depth, muddy sand, August 2015.

Etymology. The specific epithet torquata is a Latin adjective for collar, which refers to the elevated collar-like dorsal posterior lobe on segment 2, a distinctive feature for this species.

Diagnosis. Opercular margin smooth. Cephalic veil free from operculum, with 26–38 cirri along the rim. Segments 2 and 20 with a dorsal posterior lobe respectively. Body with 16 chaetigers. Neurochaetal uncini with major teeth arranged in two rows. Scaphe formed by fusion of five posterior segments. Four or five pairs of scaphal hooks.

Description of holotype. Preserved specimen pale cream in color. Body stout with cephalic region enlarged (Figs 1A, 3A–B). Body length 38.5 mm including scaphe, width 9.0 mm at cephalic region. Tube straight, conical, composed of cemented sand grains and shell fragments (Fig. 3C).

Opercular margin raised with smooth edge (Figs 1A–B, 2A, 3A–B). Cephalic veil free from operculum on dorsal side, with 26 cirri distributed along the rim (Figs 1A–B, 2A–B). Operculum with two bundles of paleae, each bundle with 12 stout, flattened, golden bristles curved dorsally and tapering to pointed tip (Figs 1A–B, 2A–B, 3A–B).

Segment 1 with pair of tentacular cirri arising from antero–ventral edge near outer most paleae. Segment 2 with pair of tentacular cirri arising from both sides; tentacular cirri connected by flattened ridge running across venter (Figs 1B, 2A–C), and dorsal posterior lobe running across both sides and dorsum (Figs 1B, 2A, 3A, 3G). Segments 3 with pair of comb-like lateral branchiae, and a median ventral lobe (Figs 1A–2, 2B, 3B). Segments 4 with pair of comb-like lateral branchiae which are smaller than the branchiae on segment 3, a small medial ventral lobe and two large ventral lateral lobes. Segment 5 with a small medial lobe and two large lateral lobes. Segment 6–9 also with pair of ventral lateral lobes but the size gradually decreased posteriorly. Segment 10 and posterior segments without ventral lateral lobes (Figs 1A, 2A, B). Segment 20 with dorsal posterior lobe.

Chaetigers 1–3 (segments 5–7) uniramous with pair of wedge-shaped notopodia only (Fig. 1A–B). Chaetigers 4–16 (segments 8–20) biramous with pair of wedge-shaped notopodia and pair of ear-shaped neuropodia (Fig. 1A–D). Segment 21 with a dorsal posterior lobe and pair of lateral lobes, but without chaetae (Figs 1C–D, 3H–I).
Figure 1. *Pectinaria torquata* sp. n. Holotype MBM240082. A ventral view of the whole worm B lateral view of anterior body C lateral view of the posterior including the scaphe D dorsal view of the posterior including the scaphe E an uncinus F scaphal hooks G anterior view of a notochaeta H posterior view of a notochaeta. Abbreviations: al, anal lobe; an, anus; br, branchia; c3 chaetiger 3; (segment 7) c16, chaetiger 16 (segment 20); cv cephalic veil; op opercular palea; pp peristomial palp; s2 dpl, dorsal posterior lobe on segment 2; s21 segment 21 sc, scaphe; sh, scaphal hooks; tc, tentacular cirrus.
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Figure 2. Pectinaria torquata sp. n. paratype MBM240084. A lateral view of anterior body B ventral view of anterior body C tentacular cirri II D–F close-up of notochaetae from chaetiger 3 G, a notochaeta from chaetiger 5 H–J close-up of notochaeta from chaetiger 12 K uncini from chaetiger 12 Abbreviations: br, branchia; c4, chaetiger 4 (segment 8); cv, cephalic veil; op, opercular palea; pp, peristomial palp; s2 dpl, dorsal posterior lobe on segment 2; s2 vl, ventral lobe on segment 2; tc, tentacular cirrus.

Notopodia with two kinds of capillaries forming bundle: both with finely hirsute surface on anteromedian margin and smooth surface on posterior margin; one kind with serrations along anterior portion of tip; the other kind smooth, tapering to very acute tip (Figs 1G–H, 2D–J). Neuropodia with uncini arranged in row along the ridge, each uncinus with major teeth arranged in two rows, 7–8 teeth per row (Figs 1E, 2K).

Scaphe distinctly separated from segment 21 (Figs 1A, 3A–B), formed by fusion of five posterior segments. Scaphe longer than broad, arched ventrally and flattened dorsally with crenulated lateral margin (Figs 1B–C, 3D, H–I). Anal flap tongue-shaped
with tip extending beyond posterior scaphal edge; anal flap margin crenulated (Figs 1D, 3D–E). Scaphal hooks short, barely visible, with a curved blunt tip; five on right and four on left; present in the dorsolateral region of scaphe, approximately half way between the junction with segment 21 and the posterior edge (Figs 1F, C–D, 3F, I).

**Variation.** Comparison among the types shows that the body width in the cephalic region varies from 8 to 10 mm. The number of paleae varies from 11 to 12 pairs. The number of cirri on the cephalic veil margin varies from 26 to 32. The number of scaphal hooks varies from 4 to 5 pairs. Since there are only two complete and one
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| Species | Type | Number of pairs of paleae | Number of cirri on cephalic veil | Number of pairs of paleae in segment 2 | Posterodorsal lobe in segment 2 | Rows of major teeth per uncinus | Seaphal hooks | Distribution | Literatures cited |
|---------|------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|
| *P. aegyptia* (Savigny, 1818) | 60–65 | 15–17 | 2 | present | pointed, strongly curved | 14–17 | Red Sea, Japan | Hutchings and Peart 2002, Nishi et al. 2014 |
| *P. antipoda* Schmarda, 1861 | 17–29 | 5–13 | absent | 2–4 | present | pointed | 8–12 | Australia | Sweden, Japan | Hutchings and Peart 2002, Nishi et al. 2014 |
| *P. belgica* (Pallas, 1766) | 17–28 | 8–15 | absent | 2–4 | present | pointed | 6–12 | Southern California | Hutchman 1941, Nilsson 1928, Hartman 1991 |
| *P. brevispinis* Grube, 1878 | 22–30 | 10–13 | 2 | present | pointed, curved | 3 | 8–14 | Philippines, Indonesia | Hartman 1991, Nilsson 1928, Hutchings and Peart 2002 |
| *P. carnosus* Wong & Hutchings, 2015 | 16–28 | 11–12 | 2 | present | pointed, curved | 3 | 8–10 | Philippines, Indonesia | Hartman 1991, Nilsson 1928, Moreno et al. 2004 |
| *P. clava* Grube, 1878 | 10–12 | 11 | absent | 3 | pointed | curved | 6–10 | Lizard Island | Wong and Harman 2015 |
| *P. chilensis* (Nilsson, 1928) | 30–60 | 8–10 | n.r. | 2 | present | pointed, curved | 6–14 | Chile | Hartman 1991, Nilsson 1928, Moreno et al. 2004 |
| *P. torquata* sp. n. | 26–32 | 11–12 | 2 | n.r. | pointed | curved | 4–5 | North Sea, South China Sea | This study |
| *P. dimai* Zachs, 1933 | n.r. | n.r. | 3–4 | n.r. | present | pointed | n.r. | North Sea | Zachs 1933, Hutchings and Peart 2002 |
| *P. mesostoma* Zachs, 1933 | n.r. | 12 | n.r. | 3–4 | n.r. | pointed | n.r. | Northern Taiwan | Nilsson 1928, Zachs 1933 |
| *P. dodeka* Hutchings & Peart, 2002 | 16–28 | 11–13 | 2–4 | present | pointed, curved | 12–13 | Queensland, Australia | Hutchings and Peart 2002 |

**Table 1.** Major diagnostic characters of *Pectinaria.*
| Species                        | Number of cirri on cephalic veil | Number of pairs of paleae | Posterodorsal lobe in segment 2 | Rows of major teeth per uncinus | Middorsal anal cirrus of anal flap | Scaphal hooks type | Number of pairs | Distribution                  | Literatures cited                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| *P. gouldii* (Verrill, 1874)  | 12–38                            | 9–15                      | n.r.                            | 2–4                             | present                           | Lanciform, pointed, straight or slight curved | 8–22             | Long Island Sound               | Hartman 1941, Long 1973            |
| *P. hartmanae* Reish, 1968    | 30                               | 8–10                      | n.r.                            | 2                               | present                           | blunt              | 8–10             | California, USA                 | Reish 1968                        |
| *P. hiuchensis* Kitamori, 1965| 32–35                            | 9–10                      | absent                          | 2                               | absent                            | pointed, slight curved         | 8–9               | Kyushu, Japan                   | Nishi et al. 2014                 |
| *P. kanabinos* Hutchings & Peart, 2002 | 10–16                            | 12–14                     | absent                          | 2–4                             | present                           | pointed, strongly curved       | 4–6               | Queensland, Australia            | Hutchings and Peart 2002          |
| *P. longispinis* Grube, 1878   | 17                               | 13                        | absent                          | n.r.                            | n.r.                              | n.r.                            | 4                 | Philippines                     | Grube 1878, Hutchings and Peart 2002 |
| *P. meredithi* Long, 1973     | 16–21                            | 8–11                      | n.r.                            | 2–3                             | present                           | pointed, straight or slight curved | 7–9               | Bahamas and Florida Keys        | Long 1973                        |
| *P. nuna* Wesenberg-Lund, 1949 | 8                                | 11                        | absent                          | n.r.                            | present                           | n.r.                            | 3                 | Gulf of Oman Iran                | Wesenberg-Lund 1949              |
| *P. okudai* (Imajima & Hartman, 1964) | 10–15                           | 13–16                     | absent                          | 3–4                             | present                           | pointed, slight curved          | 12–13             | Japan                           | Nishi et al. 2014                 |
| *P. panavia* Willey, 1905     | 32                               | 10                        | n.r.                            | n.r.                            | n.r.                              | n.r.                            | 7                 | Sri Lanka                       | Hutchings and Peart 2002          |
| *P. papillosa* Caullery, 1944  | 24–46                            | 11–13                     | absent                          | 2                               | absent                            | n.r.                            | 3–11              | Indonesia                       | Day 1951                        |
| *P. parvibranchis* Grube, 1878| 12–13                            | 10–11                     | absent                          | 3–4                             | n.r.                              | pointed                         | 4                 | Panglao, Philippines             | Nilsson 1928, Hartman 1941, Hutchings and Peart 2002 |
| *P. profunda* Caullery, 1944  | 20                               | 12                        | n.r.                            | 2                               | present                           | n.r.                            | n.r.              | Indonesia                       | Hutchings and Peart 2002          |
| *P. regalis* (Verrill, 1901)  | 21–35                            | 8–14                      | absent                          | 2–3                             | present                           | pointed, straight              | 0–4               | Cony Island, Bermuda             | Hartman 1941, Long 1973           |

n.r. character not recorded.
incomplete specimens of similar sizes, intraspecific variation amongst these morphological characters may have been underestimated.

**Type locality and distribution.** Currently only known from Daya Bay (Guangdong Province) and Beibu Gulf (Guangxi Province) in the northern South China Sea.

**Remarks.** *Pectinaria torquata* sp. n. can be distinguished from the other 25 described species of *Pectinaria* by several features (Table 1). First, it has a dorsal posterior lobe on segment 2, which is unique among the described species of *Pectinaria* species. This structure is prominent in the type specimens, and does not change by preservation. Second, *P. torquata* sp. n. has a dorsal posterior lobe on both segment 20 and 21, a feature that has not been reported from any other recognized species in this genus (Hartman 1941, Long 1973, Hutchings and Peart 2002, Nishi et al. 2014, Wong and Hutchings 2015). Third, *P. torquata* sp. n. has only 4–5 pairs of small blunt scaphal hooks, which is fewer than those in most described species. Fourth, the anal flap lacks a middorsal anal cirrus with a crenulated margin. There are eight species in which the dorsal posterior lobe on segment 2 is not recorded (Table 1). Except for *Pectinaria dimai* Zachs, 1933 and *Pectinaria panava* Willey, 1905 for which the middosal anal cirrus is not described, the other five species have a middorsal anal cirrus; *P. torquata* sp. n. lacks a middorsal anal cirrus (Table 1). Furthermore, it differs from *P. dimai* which has 3–4 rows of major teeth on each uncinus, and 6–7 teeth per row; *P. torquata* sp. n. has 2 rows of major teeth, and 7–8 teeth per row. *Pectinaria panava* has more scaphal hooks than *P. torquata* sp. n.

A key to eleven species of Pectinariidae, including *P. torquata* sp. n., that have been recorded from the South China Sea in the literature is provided below (Wu and Chen 1985, Yang and Sun 1988, Paxton and Chou 2000, Sun and Qiu 2012, Salazar-Vallejo et al. 2014, Zhang et al. 2015, Glasby et al. 2016). The genera *Petta* and *Cistenides* have not been recorded in the South China Sea.

### Key to eleven species of Pectinariidae from the South China Sea

1. Opercular rim smooth ........................................................................................................5
   – Opercular rim cirrate .....................................................................................................*Amphictene* (2)

2. Less than 15 pairs of scaphal hooks ..............................................................................3
   – More than 15 pairs of scaphal hooks ...........................................................................4

3. 5–8 pairs of scaphal hooks; opercular rim with cirri ......................................................
   ............................................................*Amphictene capensis* (Pallas, 1776)
   – 12 pairs of scaphal hooks; opercular rim with denticles ...........................................
   ............................................................*Amphictene leioscapha* (Caullery, 1944)

4. 19–24 pairs of scaphal hooks; without pair of dorsolateral lobes on segment 3 ..........
   ............................................................*Amphictene japonica* Nilsson, 1928
   – 26–37 pairs of scaphal hooks; with pair of dorsolateral lobes on segment 3 ............
   ............................................................*Amphictene alata* Zhang, Zhang & Qiu, 2015

5. Cephalic veil laterally attached ......................................................................................*Lagis* (6)
   – Cephalic veil free ...........................................................................................................*Pectinaria* (8)
6 Branchiae absent............................... Lagis crenulatus Sun & Qiu, 2012
– Branchiae present.................................................................7
7 Margins of anal lobe with long fringes .......... Lagis bocki (Hessle, 1917)
– Margins of anal lobe without fringes.......... Lagis koreni Malmgren, 1866
8 Segment 2 with a posterodorsal lobe.............. Pectinaria torquata sp. n.
– Segment 2 without a posterodorsal lobe.................................9
9 6–8 pairs of scaphal hooks; anal flap with a small cirrus.......................... Pectinaria antipoda Schmarda, 1861
– 3–4 pairs of scaphal hooks; anal flap without anal cirrus.................. 10
10 Cephalic veil with 24–46 cirri; major teeth of uncini in 2 rows........... Pectinaria papillosa Caullery, 1944
– Cephalic veil with 12 cirri; major teeth of uncini in 3–4 rows............. Pectinaria conchilega Grube, 1867

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