

**Phyllobothrium discopygi n. sp. (Cestoda: Tetraphyllidea) from Chile
with a critical comparison of the affinities of *P. auricula* van Beneden
1858 and *P. foliatum* Linton 1890**

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Abstract

Phyllobothrium discopygi n. sp. is described from the spiral valve of *Discopyge tschudi* Heckel, 1846 (Torpedinidae) taken in the Pacific Ocean off Coquimbo, San Antonio and Antofagasta, Chile. Specimens are described from whole-mounts, sections and SEM. *Phyllobothrium discopygi* is distinguished from other tetraphyllidean cestodes of the genus *Phyllobothrium* van Beneden, 1849 by a bifurcate scolex with bothridia joined in pairs, short neck, testes number and distribution, and morphology of the vitelline follicles and ovary. *Phyllobothrium foliatum* Linton, 1890 is considered a junior synonym of *P. auricula* van Beneden, 1858 following comparisons of *P. auricula* from *D. pastinaca*, Linton's holotype of *P. foliatum* from *D. centroura* and fresh specimens from *D. centroura* taken in waters near Woods Hole, Massachusetts. A meristic comparison of the adult worms is presented.

Keywords Pacific Ocean, Adult Worm, Critical Comparison, Junior Synonym, Short Neck