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Marine flora and fauna of the Northeastern United States.
Protozoa: Ciliophora

Arthur C. Borror
University of New Hampshire, Durham

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Marine Flora and Fauna of the Northeastern United States. Protozoa: Ciliophora

ARTHUR C. BORROR
NOAA TECHNICAL REPORTS

National Marine Fisheries Service, Circulars

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Continued on inside back cover.
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Marine Flora and Fauna of the Northeastern United States. Protozoa: Ciliophora

ARTHUR C. BORROR

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September 1973

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FOREWORD

This issue of the “Circulars” is part of a subseries entitled “Marine Flora and Fauna of the Northeastern United States.” This subseries will consist of original, illustrated, modern manuals on the identification, classification, and general biology of the estuarine and coastal marine plants and animals of the Northeastern United States. Manuals will be published at irregular intervals on as many taxa of the region as there are specialists willing to collaborate in their preparation.

The manuals are an outgrowth of the widely used “Keys to Marine Invertebrates of the Woods Hole Region,” edited by R. I. Smith, published in 1964, and produced under the auspices of the Systematics-Ecology Program, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass. Instead of revising the “Woods Hole Keys,” the staff of the Systematics-Ecology Program decided to expand the geographic coverage and bathymetric range and produce the keys in an entirely new set of expanded publications.

The “Marine Flora and Fauna of the Northeastern United States” is being prepared in collaboration with systematic specialists in the United States and abroad. Each manual will be based primarily on recent and ongoing revisionary systematic research and a fresh examination of the plants and animals. Each major taxon, treated in a separate manual, will include an introduction, illustrated glossary, uniform originally illustrated keys, annotated check list with information when available on distribution, habitat, life history, and related biology, references to the major literature of the group, and a systematic index.

These manuals are intended for use by biology students, biologists, biological oceanographers, informed laymen, and others wishing to identify coastal organisms for this region. In many instances the manuals will serve as a guide to additional information about the species or the group.

Geographic coverage of the “Marine Flora and Fauna of the Northeastern United States” is planned to include organisms from the headwaters of estuaries seaward to approximately the 200-m depth on the continental shelf from Maine to Virginia, but may vary somewhat with each major taxon and the interests of collaborators. Whenever possible representative specimens dealt with in the manuals will be deposited in reference collections of the Gray Museum, Marine Biological Laboratory, and other universities and research laboratories in the region.

After a sufficient number of manuals of related taxonomic groups have been published, the manuals will be revised, grouped, and issued as special volumes. These volumes will thus consist of compilations of individual manuals within phyla such as the Coelenterata, Arthropoda, and Mollusca, or of groups of phyla.
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MARINE FLORA AND FAUNA OF THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES.
Protozoa: Ciliophora

ARThUR C. BORROR

ABSTRACT

This manual includes an introduction on the general biology, an illustrated key, an annotated systematic list, a selected bibliography, and an index to the marine ciliated Protozoa of coastal and estuarine waters of New England. The key facilitates identification to family of nonencysted, nondividing marine ciliates at any stage in the life cycle.

INTRODUCTION

This manual is a guide to the families of marine ciliated Protozoa of coastal and estuarine waters of New England. It includes ciliates to be encountered not only in areas of high salinity but also in the upper reaches of estuaries where the water is brackish. It is intended for use by a broad audience, hence is artificial (order not necessarily parallel to phylogenetic sequence), and is stripped of unnecessary technical terms. The key facilitates identification to family of nonencysted, nondividing marine ciliates at any stage in the life cycle.

Some families are omitted from this key because they are represented only by ciliates living in fresh water or in soil. These include Actinobolinidae, Amphibothrellidae, Astylozoidae, Bursariidae, Dendrocometidae, Discomorphellidae, Glaucomidae, Marynidae, Microthoracidae, Ophryidiidae, Reichenowellidae, Spirozonidae, Trichosporidae, and Urocentridae. Families that are represented solely by ciliates endozoic in nonmarine hosts are also omitted. These include Buetschilliidae, Clevelandellidae, Cyathodiniidae, Gyrocorythidae, Isotrichidae, Maupasellidae, Paraisotrichidae, Plagiotoomidae, Pycnotrichidae, and Thigmocomidae.

In general, the families recognized in the key and genera included in each are those recognized by Corliss (1961); numerous exceptions based on more recent studies are noted in the Annotated Systematic List. Each family and most couplets are illustrated by line drawings.

Since a few characteristics (i.e., presence or absence of an undulating membrane) may be difficult to observe, some families key out in two different places. In such instances, the other couplet in which the family is named is indicated. When different genera within the same family key out in different places, the family name is followed by the words “in part.”

Members of the subphylum Ciliophora, usually known as ciliates, are usually single celled with membrane-bound nuclei. Branching colonies occur in the Vorticellidae and Epistyliellidae (Peritrichida) and in the Dendrocometidae and Ophryodendridae (Suctorida). Colonies in linear series occur in the Intoshellinidae, Hoplitophryidae, and Opalinopsidae.

Most ciliates have two kinds of nuclei, that is, with one to many micronuclei and one to many macronuclei. However, members of the family Stephanopogonidae have only one type of nucleus.

The micronucleus is usually diploid, less than 5 μm in diameter, and usually visible only in stained preparations. Ciliates in strains of some species are amicronucleate.

The macronucleus is usually hyperpolyploid.

1 Department of Zoology, Spaulding Building University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824.
(contains many sets of chromosomes). It may be single (compact, ribbonlike, beaded, or branched) or separated into membrane-bound structures that typically reconstitute prior to fission. Macronuclei of members of the Trachelocercidae, Loxodidae, and Geleiidae have extensive Feulgen-negative areas, cannot replicate, and, in some cases, have been shown to be diploid.

Within the Ciliophora there is wide variation in the arrangement of the cilia, and this forms the basis for classification. Cilia are absent at some stages of the life cycle of all members of the order Suctorida, many members of the family Sphenophryidae, and members of the genus Conidiophrys. Cilia may occur singly, in rows, bands, or ribbons, or may be grouped as compound structures (cirri, undulating membranes, and membranelles). Ciliates that lack cilia during much of their life cycle, however, possess other characteristics of the group.

Except for members of the Suctorida, Astomatida, and some members of the order Hymenostomatida, all ciliates possess a permanent opening, the cytostome, through which food is ingested.

All ciliates are heterotrophic and do not exhibit ameboid locomotion. In binary fission, the division plane bisects the ciliary rows, dividing the cell into anterior and posterior daughter cells.

**GLOSSARY**

The following terms are used in this key to describe the anatomy of marine ciliates. Commonly used terms are illustrated in Figures 1-5. More complete definitions of structures are given by Corliss (1959).

**Aboral** Surface opposite that on which the cytostome or buccal cavity occurs.

**Buccal cavity** A depression in the surface of the cell containing cilia that are differentiated from those of the general body surface and that are used in feeding. This cavity contains the cell mouth or cytostome (see Fig. 1).

**Buccal cilia** Cilia in the buccal cavity used in feeding. These cilia usually are organized into compound organelles, such as an undulating membrane or membranelles.

**Ciliary row** A linear series, usually longitudinal, of simple cilia (see Fig. 2, 3).

**Cirrus** A compound ciliary organelle polygonal in cross section, composed of several to dozens of individual cilia. These usually occur on the ventral surface of members of the order Hypotrichida and are used in locomotion (see Fig. 1).

**Compound ciliary organelle** Any structure such as a cirrus, undulating membrane or membranelle composed of many functionally united cilia.

**Contractile vacuole** A clear membrane-bound vesicle functioning in expulsion of water and accompanied by rhythmic changes in its diameter.

**Cytopharyngeal rod** Stiff fibrous structures lining the cytopharynx, often in a conical arrangement (see Fig. 3).

**Cytopharynx** That part of the cytoplasm immediately adjacent and internal to the cytostome and not ciliated (see Fig. 3).

**Cytostome** The cell mouth. This may be on the surface, in a vestibulum ciliated by the cilia of the general cell surface, or in a buccal cavity (see Fig. 5).

**Fronto-ventral cirri** Cirri arranged in scattered groups anterior to the transverse cirri.

**Lorica** A secreted chamber open at least at one end in which some ciliates live.

**Marginal cirri** Cirri arranged in longitudinal rows to the right and left of the ventral midline (see Fig. 1).

**Membranelle** A compound ciliary organelle composed of several closely set and parallel rows of cilia. They are associated with a buccal cavity and may function both in feeding and in locomotion (see Fig. 1).

**Motile** Capable of independent locomotion on or off the substratum.

**Peniculus** A compound ciliary organelle of the buccal cavity of some members of the order Hymenostomatida. It may consist of a band typically four cilia wide but many cilia in length, very compactly arranged (see Fig. 4).

**Psammolittoral** Living in interstices among sand grains.

**Scopula** A surface organelle that secretes the stalk in many sessile ciliates. Usually at one apex of the cell.

**Sessile** Generally incapable of locomotion. Usually attached to a substratum by a stalk or flattened sole, or wrapped around the bristle of some invertebrate.
Simple cilium A cilium that emerges singly from the cell surface and is morphologically and functionally a unit.

Somatic cilia All kinds of simple and compound cilia of the general body surface, usually used in locomotion (see Fig. 2).

Stylus A posterior cirruslike extension of the cell surface in members of the Dysteriidae, resembling the posterior projection of some rotifers. It is a secretory organelle for temporary attachment (see Fig. 3).

Thigmotactic Capable of crawling along surfaces, and resisting removal from such surfaces.
Tomite  The stage in the life cycle of some ciliates which results from repeated divisions of a larger cell without any cell growth, such that the eventual cell is considerably smaller than the original cell.

Transverse cirri  A group of five to many relatively large cirri near the posterior end of the body on the ventral midline (see Fig. 1).

Trophont  The normal feeding adult stage of the life cycle of the ciliate.

Undulating membrane  A compound ciliary organelle consisting of one or several closely set rows of cilia usually placed longitudinally along the right edge of the buccal cavity where it functions in feeding (see Fig. 1).

Vestibulum  A depression of the cell surface bearing simple cilia used in feeding (see Fig. 5).

TECHNIQUES

Ciliated Protozoa occur in a wide variety of environments, wherever there are sufficient nutrients, moisture, and appropriate microhabitats. Ciliates can be observed easily by examining collections from tidal pools on rocky shores and marshes. They are particularly abundant both intertidally and subtidally in interstices among sand grains. Ciliates also reach great numbers among fine filaments of some green algae (i.e., Cladophora and Vaucheria). Wide-mouthed glass jars (100-2,000 cm³) make excellent containers for nonquantitative collecting of ciliates from such habitats. Add enough substratum to fill the container about one-third and an equal amount of water.

As soon as you can do so conveniently, distribute some of the material among several fingerbowls with varying proportions of substratum and water, to increase the variety of possible ciliates.

Ciliates may be concentrated from field samples by filtration, moderate centrifugation, and other separation methods such as electromigration (Hairston and Kellermann, 1964) and extraction with seawater ice (Uhlig, 1965).

To remove ciliates from interstices of mats of vegetation, filter them through two-ply cheesecloth, then concentrate them with Whatman #1 filter paper. As this will retain all but the smallest organisms (less than 15 μm width), the contents of the filter can be removed to a petri dish for examination. Series of filters containing nylon gauze of known mesh size (Nytex) allow separation of most metazoa and larger fragments of debris from the water containing ciliates.

Moderate centrifugation (5-20 min at 2,500 rpm) can also help to concentrate many ciliates. The speed or duration of centrifugation can be varied to correspond with the size and fragility of the organism.

Although most ciliates undergo sexual processes, they normally reproduce asexually and hence can be cultured to obtain additional specimens for further study. Cultures can be maintained in suitable covered containers. Addition of simple nutrients (i.e., rice grains, wheat grains, split peas, short dried lengths of grass stems) will increase the growth rate of the microflora on which many ciliates feed.

In addition to these simple methods there are many inorganic solutions and complex culture media available for maintaining mixed cultures of ciliates (see Kudo, 1966).

The couplets in this key are based on living material and assume sufficient microscopic resolution to allow visibility of the structures described. As the organisms are small, they must be examined with great care, and since living ciliates often move too rapidly to allow identification, it is necessary to slow them down. This is accomplished by removing sufficient water from the edge of the preparation to squeeze the animal gently between the slide and coverslip. As this may cause distortion and death of the cell, studies on living specimens should be augmented with stained preparations.

Observations of living individuals of ciliates can often be supplemented by appropriate fixation and staining procedures that allow resolution and differentiation of features difficult to see in life (i.e., nuclei, details of the cilia in the region of the cytostome). The simplest cytological methods easily employed in marine ciliates are variations of the iron hematoxylin method, the Feulgen nucleic reaction (both described by Kudo, 1966), and the nigrosin-mercuric chloride-Formalin technique (NMF method) (see Borror, 1968a, 1969).

The NMF method can be applied to fresh material rapidly, giving permanently stained cells in 10 or 15 min. The stain-affixative is mixed
as needed and can be used repeatedly for at least a month if kept cool:

HgCl₂, saturated aqueous, 10 ml
Glacial acetic acid, 2 ml
Formalin, conc., 2 ml
formol-nigrosin, 1-2 ml (depending upon intensity desired)
t-butanol, 10 ml.

The formol-nigrosin is mixed as follows:

Formalin, conc., 20 ml
nigrosin, soluble, 4 g
distilled water, 100 ml.

The procedure for the NMF method is: Place a drop of a concentrated suspension of organisms on a clean slide and pipette onto it from a height of 2-3 cm a drop of stain-fixative. After a few seconds wash the culture fluid to the ends of the slide by additional drops of the stain-fixative. Practically all the specimens will be fixed, stained, and attached to the slide, and after about 15 sec the preparation may be dehydrated, cleared, and covered. Ciliary organelles generally will appear black against a gray background, cytopharyngeal rods, isolated dorsal cilia, granules between ciliary rows, compound buccal cilia, surface ridges, and general surface morphology are demonstrated (Borror, 1968a). Highly contractile ciliates sometimes can be prepared by this method following their relaxation in 8% MgCl₂; extremely fragile ciliates often can be prepared by this method following preliminary fixation in Champy’s fluid (Borror, 1969).

In addition, most ciliate specialists use one or both of the following methods: the Chatton-Lwoff technique (sometimes called the French silver method or the wet silver method) and the protargol (or silver proteinate) method (Corliss, 1953; Tuffrau, 1967a). The body form is particularly well preserved with the latter methods. Both methods require several hours for preparation and careful attention to the variables of time and temperature, and are part of the repertoire of the specialist. Although not necessary for the use of this key generally, the Chatton-Lwoff technique is particularly desirable for identification of members of the Hymenostomatida, whose buccal structures are difficult to discern in life. This technique also demonstrates basal bodies of cilia and other cortical features such as cytostome, pore of the contractile vacuole, cell anus, and fiberlike “silver lines” that apparently are places of contiguity of cortical membrane systems. The protargol method stains cilia and associated fibrillar systems as well as nuclei and, in association with the Chatton-Lwoff technique, is particularly useful in developmental studies.

Further information on the use of the microscope for examination of ciliates, preparation of slides with both fresh and permanent material, as well as additional cytological techniques, can be found in Kudo (1966). In the hands of a nonspecialist, a small amount of 10% Methocel in seawater greatly facilitates study of living ciliates and does not prevent subsequent staining with acidified methyl green.
KEY PRIMARILY TO FAMILIES OF THE CILIOPHORA

1 Cilia distributed uniformly, except at the anterior or posterior ends of the cell, or at the vestibulum or buccal cavity. Cilia in rows. Cytostome present or absent. ........................ 2

1 Cilia reduced in number, often nonuniform in distribution, leaving noncil- liated surfaces. Cytostome present or absent. ........ 54

1 Cilia completely absent; no cytostome. .......... 112

2 (1) Cilia all simple, not forming compound, membranous, or synchronous units. (Note: membranellelike groups of cilia occur on the general cell surface of the ciliates Placus socialis, Prorodon mimeticus, and member of the Family NASSULIDAE). ................ 3

2 (1) Compound cilia present as cirri, undulating membranes, peniculi, or membranelles, functioning synchronously, in feeding and/or locomotion. ................................................ 29
3 (2) Cytostome apical, lateral, or ventral on cell surface or in depression. Free-living or endocommensal. 4

3 (2) Cytostome absent. Cell oval-elongate, living in various invertebrates. 24

4 (3) Cytostome apical; circular or slitlike. 5

4 (3) Cytostome lateral or ventral. 11

5 (4) Cytostome at base of ciliated apical vestibulum. Family COELOSOMIDIDAE.

5 (4) Cytostome on general cell surface or at base of nonciliated depression. 6
6 (5) Some ciliary rows terminating anteriorly against a neighboring ciliary row. Posterior to the cytostome along this zone is a ribbon of 2-3 closely set rows of short cilia.

6 (5) No such ribbon of short cilia present.

7 (6) Cytostome oval or circular, surrounded by cilia. Family PRORODONTIDAE.

7 (6) Cytostome slitlike on a nonciliated ridge offset by a groove along which cilia are dense; anterior end obliquely truncate. Family SPATHIDIIDAE.

8 (6) Cell firm, noncontractile, barrel-shaped, with armored stavelike plates in cortex, usually with spines. Several cilia emerging between adjacent staves. Family COLEPIDAE.

8 (6) Surface not as above. If firm, then only 1 cilium on each plate.
9 (8) Clear vacuole filling posterior end of cell. Cilia closely set, apparently in whorls. Vase-shaped lorica present or absent. Surface firm, with rectangular alveoli. Family METACYSTIDAE.

9 (8) Clear vacuole not filling posterior end of cell. Never with lorica. ...................... 10

10 (9) Ciliary rows spiraled when cell contracts. Macronucleus variously shaped with normal Feulgen reaction. Shapes various; behavior generally nonthigmotactic. Family ENCHELYIDAE.

10 (9) No spiral contraction. Nuclei largely Feulgen negative. Animal generally highly thigmotactic, contractile, fragile, and snakelike in shape. Family TRACHELOCERCIDAE in part (also see couplet 95).

11 (4) Cytostome not in vestibulum. ...................................................... 12

11 (4) Cytostome in vestibulum. ...................................................... 14

12 (11) Ciliary rows spiraled. Cytostome radially compartmented, rosette-shaped. Commensal in or on various invertebrates, especially arthropods. Family FOETTINGERIIDAE.

13 (12) Cytostome at base of proboscis. Three bipolar aboral closely set rows of short cilia. Family TRACHELIIDAE.


14 (11) Some ciliary rows terminating along edge of left half of vestibulum.

14 (11) Ciliary rows parallel to left edge of vestibulum and not terminating against its edge.
15 (14) Cell dorsoventrally flattened. Longitudinal nonciliated stripe extending from right corner of vestibulum at least one-half cell length ventrally. Vestibulum transverse. Family PLAGIOPYLIDAE.

15 (14) Cell circular in cross section. Vestibulum oblique, triangular, or circular. No such unciliated stripe. .......................... 16

16 (15) Vestibulum triangular, anteroventral, all ciliary rows terminating against it. Living in various invertebrates. Family BALANTIDIIDAE.

16 (15) Vestibulum otherwise. Free-living. .................................................. 17

17 (16) Vestibulum circular; ciliary rows symmetrical. Cilia in left part of vestibulum in closely set radial rows independent of ciliary rows on general cell surface. Family CLATHROSTOMATIDAE.

17 (16) Vestibulum generally narrow, oblique; ciliary rows asymmetrical. Cilia in left side of vestibulum apparently the modified anterior part of ciliary rows to left of vestibulum. Family COLPODIDAE.

18 (14) Not as above. ................................................................. 19

19 (18) Vestibulum elongate; right edge of vestibulum with a narrow dense border of cilia. Closely set longitudinal rows of cilia along left edge of vestibulum. Macronucleus extensively Feulgen negative. Family GELEIIDAE.

19 (18) Vestibulum and its cilia otherwise. .................................................. 20

20 (19) Vestibulum longitudinal, narrow, about one-third to one-half body length, with one row of cilia. Endocommensal in sea urchins. *Schizocaryum dogielii*, Family PLAGIOPYLIDAE.

20 (19) Vestibulum otherwise. .............................................................. 21

21 (20) Vestibulum a pocket in posterior half of body. .................... 22

21 (20) Vestibulum in anterior half of body. ................................. 23
22 (21) Vestibular ciliary rows contiguous with somatic ciliary rows to right of cytostome. Endozoic in bivalves and snails. Family CONCHOPHTHIRIDAE (also see couplet 53).

22 (21) Vestibular ciliary rows contiguous with somatic ciliary rows to left of cytostome. Ectocommensal on gills of bivalve molluscs. Family THIGMOPHYRIDAE (also see couplet 53).


24 (3) Cell vermiform, attached by apex to renal epithelium of cephalopods. Family OPALINOPSIDAE.

24 (3) Not as above. ................................................................. 25
25 (24) Anterior end with holdfast apparatus of skeletal elements and areas of thigmotactic cilia. ............... 26

25 (24) Holdfast apparatus, if present, without skeletal elements. .......................... 27

26 (25) One or two hooks in holdfast apparatus under thigmotactic area. Cell about 2½ times longer than wide. Endocommensal in turbellarians. Family HAPTOPHYIDAE.

26 (25) No hooks in holdfast apparatus. Cell length more than 2½ times width. Endocommensal in gut of polychaetes. Family HOPLITOPHYIDAE.


28 (27) Anterior suctorial tentacle present, variously shaped. Ectocommensal on gills of bivalve molluscs. Macronucleus variably shaped. Family ANCISTROCOMIDAE in part (also see couplets 98 and 110).
28 (27) No anterior suctorial tentacle present. Macronucleus long, axial. Endocommensal in gut of worms, particularly polychaetes. Family ANOPLOPHRYIDAE.

29 (2) A zone of 6 or more (commonly 25 to more than 100) membranelles anterior to and to the the left of the cytostome. .................. 30

29 (2) Never more than 4 membranelles present. .... 36

30 (29) Locomotory cilia organized in helical rows of cirri. Family SPIROFILIDAE (also see couplet 99).

30 (29) Locomotory cilia not as above. ...................................................... 31

31 (30) Cell loricate, sessile. Family FOLLICULINIDAE.

31 (30) Cell aloricate, generally free-swimming. ........................................ 32
32 (31) Conspicuous unciliated buccal cavity between zone of mem-
branelles and large undulating membrane. ................................. 33

32 (31) Essentially no unciliated surface between right border of zone of
membranelles and adjacent ciliary rows. ................................. 34

33 (32) Buccal cavity triangular. Macronucleus usually beaded. Family CON-
DYLOSTOMATIDAE.

33 (32) Buccal cavity circular. Macronucleus ribbonlike. Family CHATTONI-
DIIDAE.

34 (32) Zone of membranelles apical, spiraled, enclosing ciliated field. Family
STENTORIDAE.

34 (32) Zone of membranelles longitudinal, or spiraled, and not apical. .... 35
35  (34) Zone of membranelles longitudinal. Ciliary rows to right of zone of membranelles uniformly spaced. Family SPIROSTOMATIDAE.

35  (34) Zone of membranelles spiraling 90°-180° to the right, paralleled anteriorly by 4-5 closely set rows of cilia. Family METOPIDAE.

36  (29) Cytostome in anterior two-thirds of cell, usually in central one-third of body. Free-living or endocommensal. ................................................................. 37

36  (29) Cytostome in posterior one-fifth of cell. Endocommensal in various invertebrates. . . 49

37  (36) One to three peniculi along left side of buccal cavity or winding across floor of buccal cavity. Undulating membrane inconspicuous. Cell densely ciliated, often over 150 μm long, with sharply delimited buccal cavity. .... 38

37  (36) No peniculi present. Undulating membrane present along right edge of buccal cavity. Remainder of buccal cilia variously arranged. Cell of various sizes. ............ 40
Three peniculi winding across buccal cavity floor. ........... 39

One to three short longitudinal peniculi on left side of buccal cavity. Family FRONTONIIDAE.

Buccal cavity semispherical. Family OPHRYOGENIDAE.

Buccal cavity tubular, preceded by ciliated vestibulum. Family PARAMECIIIDAE.

Postbuccal ciliary rows present. Buccal cavity round to triangular, in anterior one-half of body. Undulating membrane L-shaped. Three buccal membranelles perpendicular to long axis of body. ................................................................. 41

No postbuccal ciliary rows. Buccal cavity elongate; cytostome often at or posterior to middle of body. Undulating membrane various. Other buccal cilia in various groups different from above. ................................................................. 42
41 (40) Cilia to right of undulating membrane appear as transverse rows. Contractile vacuole midventral and central. Family LOXOCEPHALIDAE.

41 (40) No transverse rows apparent at level of buccal cavity. Contractile vacuole posterior. Family TETRAHYMENIDAE.

42 (40) Undulating membrane long, saillike. Other buccal cilia variously positioned but not immediately adjacent to undulating membrane. Family PLEURONEMATIDAE in part (also see couplet 52).

42 (40) Undulating membrane short, linear, or C-shaped, not extending beyond cytostome. Other buccal cilia closely adjacent to undulating membrane. ................. 43

43 (42) Buccal cilia appearing as 2 dense parallel longitudinal series, neither more than 2 ciliary rows wide. ................. 44

43 (42) Buccal cilia appearing as a single right-hand undulating membrane and 2 to several membranelles usually 2 cilia or more wide. .... 45
44 (43) Buccal cavity narrow; left-hand longitudinal series part of first ciliary row to left of cytostome. Family COHNILEMBIDAE.

44 (43) Buccal cavity wide. Left portion of buccal cilia a membrane 1-2 cilia wide, variously segmented into 1-3 linear parts, distinct from somatic ciliary rows. Family PSEUDOCOHNILEMBIDAE.

45 (43) Cell flat on one side with caudal projection. Endozoic in sea urchins.

45 (43) Cell circular in cross section, without caudal projection. Including free-living and endocommensal forms.

46 (45) Anterior end truncate. Buccal cavity on small side, near anterior end, overhung by frontal lobe. Entorhipidium, Family ENTORHIPIDIIDAE.

46 (45) Anterior end rounded. Buccal cavity variously located.


48 (45) Cell length variable, commonly over 70 \( \mu m \). Anterior end tapered to blunt point. Right dorsolateral surface typically concave. Membranelles massive; cytostome anterior to equator. Family PHILASTERIDAE.

48 (45) Cell usually under 50 \( \mu m \) in length. Anterior end truncated, conspicuously naked. Right dorsolateral surface typically convex. Membranelles inconspicuous. Cytostome often subequatorial. Family URONEMATIDAE.

49 (36) Anterior end with nonciliated V-shaped sucker. Endozoic in oligochaetes. Family HYSTEROUCINETIDAE.

49 (36) No such anterior nonciliated sucker. ................................................................. 50

50 (49) Cell flattened, with distinct caudal projection. Endozoic in sea urchins. *Biggaria* (see Annotated Systematic List).

50 (49) Cell oval or circular in cross section. Posterior end rounded. ......................... 51
51 (50) Undulating membrane long, extending in a spiral along the periphery of the shallow buccal cavity. ................................................................. 52

51 (50) Undulating membrane short, linear, inconspicuous, in an oblique vestibulum near posterior end. ......................................................... 53

52 (51) Undulating membrane closely paralleled by ribbon of cilia, 2-3 cilia wide. Cytostome at or near posterior pole. On gills of bivalve molluscs or endozoic in echinoderms. Family HEMISPEIRIDAE in part (also see couplet 105).

52 (51) Buccal cilia do not closely parallel undulating membrane; some arranged as transverse membranelles in forms of V or Y near cytostome. Commensal on hydroids and mussels. PLEURONEMATIDAE, in part, (Pleurocoptes, Peniculistoma) (also see couplet 42).

53 (51) Ciliary rows in vestibulum contiguous with somatic rows to right of cytostome. Endozoic in mussels. Family CONCHOPHTHIRIDAE (also see couplet 22).

53 (51) Ciliary rows in vestibulum contiguous with somatic cillum rows to left of cytostome. On gills of bivalve molluscs. Family THIGMOPHYRIDAE (also see couplet 22).
Cilia mostly anterior or apical. Circlets of simple cilia sometimes occurring at the aboral pole or near the middle of the body. Cytostome present.  

Cilia restricted to one surface, or in circlets, parallel oblique rows, isolated groups of rows, or some other arrangement. Cytostome present or absent.

Cell loricate.

Cell without lorica.

Free-swimming, typically planktonic.

Sessile; lorica attached to substratum.

Lorica with particles of foreign or self-constructed material on surface or within its layers.

Lorica without particles, but with a superficial reticulated pattern or polygonal network.

Lorica clear; ringed, striated, or simple, but not granulated or reticulated.
58 (57) Collar present, hyaline, with ring or spiral structure. Lorica top-shaped; aboral end of lorica rounded to pointed; wall of bowl much thicker than that of collar. Family CODONELLOPSIDAE.

58 (57) Collar without ring or spiral structures, or absent. ........................................ 59

59 (58) Lorica with small prisms and gelatinous mantle with scattered inclusions. Three longitudinal folds on posterior half of lorica. Collar present. Family TINTINNIDAE, in part (Brandtiella) (also see couplet 70).

59 (58) Not as above. Lorica without longitudinal folds. ........................................ 60

60 (59) Posterior narrowed horn or tail. No collar. Family COXLIELLIDAE, in part (Poroecus) (also see couplet 66).

60 (59) Not as above. Lorica without tail. ................................................................. 61

61 (60) Lorica tubular and sacular, soft, gelatinous, thickly beset with particles. Lorica straight sided or flaring. Family TINTINNIDIIDAE.
61 (60) Lorica firm, with or without collar. Aboral end may have a horn or be pointed. Family CODONELLIDAE.

62 (57) Collar with 1 or 2 rows of holes. Lorica semispherical or oval. Family DICTYOCYSTIDAE.

62 (57) Collar without holes. Lorica sometimes pointed posteriorly. ...................... 63

63 (62) Reticulum ending anteriorly in free, clearly differentiated lines. Lorica acorn-shaped, with blunt, pointed or horned aboral end. Wall thin and hyaline, deeply reticulated. Family EPIPLOCYLDIDAE.

63 (62) Anteriorly just as reticulated as rest of lorica. ...................... 64

64 (63) Collar flared, set off by constriction. Oral edge slightly toothed or wavy. Lorica acorn-shaped, with posterior point. Family CYTTAROCYLDIDAE.

64 (63) No flared collar. Oral edge with or without teeth. Lorica kettle-shaped or chalice-shaped. ................................................................. 65
65 (64) One or two anterior suboral swellings. Lorica kettle-shaped; bowl elongate with suddenly pointed posterior. Family PTYCHOYLIDIDAE, in part (*Ptychoylis*) (also see couplet 69).

65 (64) No anterior suboral swellings. Lorica elongate, chalice-shaped, with long, narrow aboral pedicle. Family XYSTONELLIIDAE.

66 (57) A spiral band over at least oral one-half of loria. Family COXLIELLIIDAE in part (also see couplet 60).

66 (57) Lorica simple, ribbed or ringed, but without spiral structures. .......................... 67

67 (66) Lorica short, cup- or goblet-shaped. .......................... 68

67 (66) Lorica long, bell- to trumpet-shaped. .......................... 69
68 (67) Oral margin built into outer collar and inner shelf. Lorica clear. Family PETALOTRICHIDAE.

68 (67) Oral margin simple, without collar and shelf, and narrowed. Lorica simple or with rings. Family UNDELLIDAE.

69 (67) Wall trilaminate. Oral margin not flared, and without ribs or striae. Lorica bell- or kettle-shaped; bowl typically cylindrical, elongate, with posterior point or horn. Family PTYCHOCYLIDIDAE, in part (Favella) (also see couplet 65).

69 (67) Wall simple, two layered. Oral margin flared. Ribs or striae often present. Lorica cup- to spindle-shaped. ........................................ 70

70 (69) Oral aperture slightly flared, with broad, grooved rim. Longitudinal ribs or striae always present. Lorica cone- or chalice-shaped. Aboral end closed. Family RHABDONELLIDAE.

70 (69) Oral aperture flared, simple. Longitudinal ribs sometimes present. Lorica elongate, usually vase-shaped. Aboral end open or closed. Family TINTINNIDAE in part (also see couplet 59).
71 (56) Cell attached to lorica only at mouth aperture; only buccal cilia capable of being extended through opening of lorica. Stalk absent. Family LAGENOPHYRIDAe.

71 (56) Cell not attached to oral end of aperture; entire oral end of body extendable beyond opening of lorica. Stalk present, often short. Family VAGINICOLIDAe.

72 (55) Cell motile. ................................................................. 73

72 (55) Cell sessile. ................................................................. 77

73 (72) Aboral circlet(s) of cilia present. ......................... 74

73 (72) No aboral circlet of cilia. Sometimes an equatorial circlet of cilia. ... 76

74 (73) Aboral adhesive disc strengthened by skeletal ring. Family URCEOLARIIDAe. .............................................. 75
74 (73) No aboral adhesive disc. Migratory motile stages of ciliates of order Peritrichida, suborder Sessilina.

75 (74) Skeletal ring with 20-50 smooth links. Subfamily Urceolarinae.

75 (74) Skeletal ring of hooked or spiked links. Subfamily Trichodininae.

76 (73) Cytostome on ventral surface, not surrounded by zone of membranelles. Family HALTERIIDAE.

76 (73) Cytostome apical, enclosed within spiral zone of membranelles. Family STROBILIIDAE.

77 (72) Zone of membranelles winding at least 360° to anteroventral cytostome. Family LICNOPHORIDAE.

77 (72) Buccal cilia not in a clockwise zone of membranelles. .......................... 78
78 (77) Buccal cilia in apical counterclockwise groups that descend helically down a deep, tubular buccal cavity. Animal cup- or bell-shaped, solitary or colonial. ............................... 79

78 (77) Buccal cilia inconspicuous, in groups within apical cone or funnel. Animal cylindrical or spindle-shaped, with flaring apex, noncolonial. .... 81

79 (78) A differentiated stalk present. ......................................................... 80

79 (78) Stalk absent. Family SCYPHIDIIDAE.

80 (79) Stalk contractile. Family VORTICELLIDAE.

80 (79) Stalk not contractile. Family EPISTYLIDIDAE.
81 (78) Stalk at least as long as body. Family CHILODOCHONIDAE.

81 (78) Stalk less than one-fourth length of body or absent. ........................................ 82

82 (81) Apical funnel in 3 spirals. Family SPIROCHONIDAE.

82 (81) Apical funnel single or double, and not spiraled. Family STYLOCHONIDAE.

83 (54) Cilia restricted to ventral surface. Dorsal surface non-ciliated, with cilia only at borders, or with sparse rows or groups of cilia not used in locomotion. (These diagrams show cross sections of animals). ......................... 84

83 (54) Cilia not restricted to one surface, in circlets, parallel oblique rows, isolated groups of rows, or some other arrangement. ........... 104
84 (83) Locomotory cilia simple, in rows. ................................. 85

84 (83) Locomotory cilia organized as cirri in rows/or groups. .............. 99

85 (84) Cytostome ventral. Body seldom twice as long as wide. ............. 86

85 (84) Cytostome anterior, lateral on narrow edge, or absent. Body of various shapes. ............................... 92

86 (85) Cytopharyngeal rods present. ........................................ 87

86 (85) Cytopharyngeal rods absent. ........................................... 88
87 (86) Posteroventral stylus or secretory organelle of attachment present. Usually 2 cytopharyngeal rods. Family Dysteriidae.

87 (86) No such stylus present. Cytopharyngeal rods in conical group. Family Chlamydodontidae.

88 (86) Zone of membranelles present. .......................... 89

88 (86) Zone of membranelles absent .................................. 91

89 (88) Cell firm, grooved, buccal cavity midventral, with 3 membranelles. Family Cinetochilidae.

89 (88) Cell soft, flexible, buccal cavity otherwise. .......................... 90
90 (89) Zone of membranelles bordering anterior end. Length over 70 μm. Family PERITROMIDAE.

90 (89) Zone of membranelles reduced, limited to buccal cavity. Length under 70 μm. Protocruzia, order Heterotrichida (see Annotated Systematic List).

91 (88) Cilia ventral in dense curving band. Motile larval stages in life cycle of members of the order Chonotrichida.

91 (88) Cilia in C-shaped rows along borders of cell. Askoella, Conidiophrys (tomite only), and Phthorophyra. Family ASKOELLIDAE (also see couplet 112).

92 (85) Cytostome apical or lateral often inconspicuous. .............. 93

92 (85) Cytostome absent. ............................................................. 97

93 (92) Cytostome anterior. ............................................................. 94

93 (92) Cytostome a lateral slit. .................................................... 96
94 (93) At least some of cilia in bipolar rows. Macronuclei small, vesicular.

94 (93) Ciliary rows in a ventral band about one-half cell width, extending about four-fifths cell length. Macronucleus single, large, C-shaped. Family CRATERISTOMATIDAE.

95 (94) Body contractile and snakelike in shape. Cytostome circular. Family TRACHELOCERCIDAE, in part (also see couplet 10).

95 (94) Cell length less than 50 μm, humped dorsally. Cytostome anterior and slitlike. Family STEPHANOPOGONIDAE.

96 (93) Cytostome on concave left edge of body, preceded by hooklike lateral extension. Nuclei vesicular. No contractile vacuole. Family LOXODIDAE.

96 (93) Cytostome on convex left edge. Macronuclei one to several, not vesicular. One to several contractile vacuoles. Family AMPHILEPTIDAE.
97 (92) Anterior suctorial tentacle or sucking disc present. . 98

97 (92) No anterior suctorial tentacle *Silenella ovoidea*, order Suctorida (see Annotated Systematic List).

98 (97) Cilia restricted to one flattened surface. A short (about 8 cilia) ciliary row at anterolateral margin. Commensal on hydroids, and in branchial cavity of ascidians. Family HYPOCOMIDAE.

98 (97) Cell ovoid to pyriform in shape. No such short ciliary row, or ciliary rows more extensive. Ectocommensal on gills of bivalve molluses. Family ANCISTROCOMIDAE (also see couplets 28 and 110).

99 (84) Helical torsion reduces aboral surface. Ventral cirri in helical rows. Family SPIROFILIDAE (also see couplet 30).

99 (84) Aboral surface not so reduced, usually bearing sparse, widely spaced rows of simple (often very short) cilia not used in locomotion. .................. 100

100 (99) Cirri of midventral axis arranged in a closely set double row—actually a single zigzag series. Family HOLOSTICHIDAE.
100 (99) Cirri of midventral axis in single rows or isolated groups, but not in a zigzag series. ................................................................. 101

101 (100) Practically all cirri arranged in parallel rows. ................................................................. 102

101 (100) Cirri of midventral surface arranged in groups. Marginal cirrus rows sometimes present. ................................................................. 103

102 (101) Cell oval, with large buccal cavity. Rows of cirri curved, paralleling edges of buccal cavity. Undulating membrane well developed. Family PSILOTRICHTIDAE.

102 (101) Cell more elongate, cirri in parallel rows that extend well beyond the buccal cavity. Family UROSTYLIDAE.

103 (101) At least 2 rows of cirri present, each with more than 5 (usually 20 or more) cirri in addition to groups of cirri. Family OXYTRICHTIDAE.

103 (101) No such marginal rows present, or at least 1 row reduced to fewer than 5 cirri; remaining ventral cirri in groups. Family EUPLOTIDAE.
104 (83) Cytostome apical. Cilia in circlets or spiraling whorls. ............................................ 105

104 (83) Cytostome nonapical or absent. Cilia in parallel oblique rows, isolated groups of rows or some other arrangement. .... 106

105 (104) Cytostome on cell surface, often on a conical prominence. Retractile seizing organelles in some species. Cilia in circlets. Family DIDINIIDAE.

105 (104) Cytostome in apical vestibulum. Cilia in spiraling whorls. Family TRIMYEMIDAE.

105 (104) Cytostome at posterior pole. Prominent spiraling undulating membrane present. Anterior group of thigmotactic cilia present. Ectocommensal on gills of bivalve molluscs. Family HEMISPEIRIDAE, in part (also see couplet 52).

106 (104) Cell laterally compressed, with rigid pellicle. Cytostome and compound cilia present. ........................................ 107

106 (104) Cell without rigid pellicle or cytostome. All cilia simple. ........................................ 109
107 (106) Zone of membranelles in spiraling buccal cavity, paralleled anteriorly by 5 closely set rows of cilia. One to three posterior spines present. Family CAENOMORPHIDAE.

107 (106) A rectangular group of 9-12 membranelles in small buccal cavity. Seven rows of prebuccal cilia. No posterior spines present. ............................... 108

108 (107) All somatic cilia simple. Family EPALXELLIDAE.

108 (107) One to two posterior cirri present. Family MYLESTOMATIDAE.

109 (106) Apical suctorial tentacle or sucking disc present. Ciliary rows straight or spiraled, usually only one-third to two-thirds cell length, terminating near suctorial tentacle. Ectocommensal on gills of bivalve molluscs. .............................................. 110

109 (106) No suctorial tentacle or sucking disc. Cilia in 1-3 fields, including a ribbon of 4-15 parallel oblique ciliary rows encircling cell like a neck scarf. Ciliated larvae, order Suctorida. (Families separated by adult morphology, couplets 112-121.)
110 *(109)* Ciliary rows equidistant, usually about two-thirds cell length. Family ANCISTROCOMIDAE (also see couplets 28 and 98).

110 *(109)* Ciliary rows in 2 longitudinal groups of 4-6 short ciliary rows each. . 111

111 *(110)* Cell pyriform. Tomite of member of family SPHENOPHRYIDAE (also see couplet 113).

111 *(110)* Cell laterally compressed. Ridge separating the 2 ciliated surfaces. Family SPHENOPHRYIDAE (*Luoffia cilifera*).

112 *(1)* One to many sucking tentacles present. .......................... 113

112 *(1)* No sucking tentacles present. Attached to exoskeletal hairs of crustaceans. Family ASKOELLIDAE (*Conidiophrys*) (also see couplet 91).
113 (112) One short sucker present. Attached to gills of bivalve molluses in part by large, flat sole. Family SPHENOPHYRIDAE (also see couplet 111).

113 (112) Several tentacles present. In various habitats. ........................................ 114

114 (113) Cell with lorica. ................................................................. 115

114 (113) Cell without lorica. ............................................................... 117

115 (114) Tentacles of two definite types. Family EPHELOTIDAE, in part (Actinocyathus, Podocyathus) (also see couplet 118).

115 (114) Tentacles all similar. ............................................................. 116

116 (115) Tentacles with enlarged tips, in clusters. Family ACINETIDAE.

116 (115) Tentacles not clustered. Family PODOPHYRIDAE, in part (Paracineta, Metacineta) (also see couplet 120).
117 (114) Stalk present by which cell is attached to substratum. ............ 118

117 (114) Stalk absent. Cell attached to substratum by broad flat-
tenened surface. ......................................................... 121

118 (117) Tentacles of two definite types. Family EPHELOTIDAE (also see couplet 115).

118 (117) Tentacles all similar. ......................................................... 119

119 (118) Cell beyond stalk elongate, at least twice as long as broad. Stalk usually short. Family OPHRYODENDRIDAЕ.

119 (118) Cell beyond stalk less than twice as long as broad, often globular. Stalk often as long as rest of cell. ..................... 120
120 (119) Bud developing within cavity of parental suctorian. Family DISCOPHYRIDAE.

120 (119) Bud developing externally on parental suctorian. Family PODOPHYRIDAE (also see couplet 116).

121 (117) Tentacles minute, on surface next to substratum, acting only as organelles of attachment. On appendages of polychaetes. Family PHALACROCLEPTIDAE.

121 (117) Tentacles used in feeding, and in clusters on superior surface. Family DENDROSOMATIDAE.
ANOTATED SYSTEMATIC LIST

The following list is arranged according to the classification used in *The Ciliated Protozoa* (Corliss, 1961), with modifications based on more recent revisions. No ranges are given since most species are cosmopolitan, their distributions depending more on microhabitat than on macrodistributional factors. Notes on systematics and ecology are given when they are important in identification of the taxa. Important papers on a given family are also mentioned (see Selected Bibliography).

CLASS CILIATA

Order Gymnostomatida

Family AMPHILEPTIDAE Bütschli, 1889. Four genera with marine representatives: *Amphileptus, Hemioptrys, Litonotus*, and *Loxophyllum*; all free-living and benthic. See Kahl (1931) and Canella (1960).


Family COLEPIDAE Ehrenberg, 1838. Free-living, widespread. Two genera: *Coleps* and *Tiarina*; both marine. See Kahl (1930).

Family DIDINIIDAE Poche, 1913. Ten genera described, mostly marine: *Acropisthium, Askenasia, Choanostoma, Ctenoophrys, Cyclo- trichium, Didinium, Lilimorpha, Mesodinium, Monodinium*, and *Zonotrichium*. Mesodinium widespread and ubiquitous; planktonic, but also occurs near substrata. See Kahl (1930).


Family LOXODIDAE Bütschli, 1889. Four genera with marine representatives: *Ciliotrema, Kentrophorus, Loxodes*, and *Remanella*; all free-living, benthic, usually among sand grains. *Kentrophorus* is a ribbonlike psammolittoral ciliate usually included in this family, but it is of uncertain affinities since its cytostome has yet to be described. *Crypopharynx*, usually placed in the family CHLAMYDODONTIDAE also keys out here. See Dragesco (1960).


Family PRORODONTIDAE Fauré-Fremiet, 1961. This family, split from the family ENCHELYIDAE by Fauré-Fremiet in 1961 (1961e), contains at least the following genera, all with marine species: *Lagynophrya, Pro- rodon, Trachelophyllum*, and *Urotricha*. Free-living, widespread.


Family TRACHELIIDAE Ehrenberg, 1838. At least three marine genera: *Dileptus, Paradileptus*, and *Trachelius*; all free-living. See Dragesco (1963a).

Order Trichostomatida

Family BALANTIDIIDAE Reichenow, 1929. One genus, Balantidium; free-living and in the gut of polychaetes and amphipods and the gastrovascular cavity of medusae. See Kahl (1934a) and Fauré-Fremiet (1955).

Family CLATHROSTOMATIDAE Kahl, 1926. This family (also known as PARANASSULIDAE Fauré-Fremiet, 1961) is placed here rather than in the Gymnostomatida as the vestibular ciliation used in feeding is distinct from the somatic cilia. As some of these ciliates may possess structures interpretable as peniculi, their inclusion in the Trichostomatida is artificial. One genus with marine species, Paranasula. Free-living. See Fauré-Fremiet (1962a). Gullmarella faurei Fenchel, 1964, endocommensal in bivalves, is of uncertain position in this order since little is understood of its morphogenesis, but may also belong in this family. See Fenchel (1964).


Family COLPODIDAE Ehrenberg, 1838. Contains Woodruffia (in estuaries) and Colpodella (typically a soil ciliate, but sometimes found in tidal marshes). Free-living. See Kahl (1931) and Prelle (1963).

Family GELEIIDAE Kahl, 1933. Two genera: Corilissia and Geleia; free-living in marine sands and algal mats. The genus Corilissia is of questionable systematic position, since little is understood of the cilia in the region of the cytostome. See Dragesco (1960).


Pericaryon cesticola Chatton, 1911 was described as endocommensal in the ctenophore, Venus' girdle, Cestus veneris. This species has been regarded as being in the family FOETTINGERIIDAE (order Apostomatida), but possesses a vestibulum and lacks a cytostomal rosette. See Chatton and Lwoff (1935).

Order Chonotrichida


Family SPIROCHONIDAE Stein, 1854. One genus, Spirochona; ectocommensal on pleopodal bristles of gammaridean amphipods. See Matsudo and Mohr (1968).


Order Suctorida


Family DENDROSOMATIDAE Fraipont, 1878. A large family of at least 13 genera, of which only Lernaeophrya and Trichophrya have marine representatives. Budding endogenous.
Family DISCOPHYRIDAE Collin, 1912. At least 14 genera, of which but Corynophrya and Thaumatophrya occur in marine environments.


Family PHALACROCLEPTIDAE Kozloff, 1966. One species, Phalacrocleptes verruciformis, originally considered a member of the order Thigmotrichida. Ectocommensal on the polychaete Schizobranchia. See Kozloff (1966).


Silenella ovoidea Fenchel, 1965 (couplet 97) may be a ciliated motile stage of an unidentified suctorian. Described as ectocommensal on an amphipod. See Fenchel (1965b).

Order Apostomatida

Family ASKOELLIDAE Jankowski, 1967. Three genera: Askoella, Conidiophrys, and Phthorophrya. Members of the genus Askoella are commensal on barnacles and amphipods (Fenchel, 1965b; Jankowski, 1967a) and according to Jankowski represent neotenic tomites of the order Apostomatida with a secondary cyto-stome. Conidiophrys has been considered to be a trichostome (Chatton and Lwoff, 1936). The trophont bears no cilia and is attached to hairs and papillae of appendages of amphipods and isopods. According to Jankowski (1967b) the ciliated stages resemble members of the order Apostomatida but with a significantly different life cycle. Consequently, Jankowski (1967b) placed this animal in a suborder by itself. Non-ciliated adult stages of Conidiophrys are known to occur on Coronium, Gammarus, and Idotea.


Family OPALINOPSIDAE Hartog, 1906. Three genera: Chromidina, Cyrtocaryum, and Opalinopsis; endocommensal in cephalopods, coelenterates, stenophores, and polychaetes. Chromidina occurs in cephalopods, Sepia, Loligo, and Illex. See Chatton and Lwoff (1935). Cyrtocaryum occurs in the lateral caeca of the digestive tube of the polychaete Halosydra. The life cycle includes a tomite with a group of five to six fine, short ciliary rows once division allows size to fall below 40 μm. Tomites are liberated into free seawater; they are asymmetrical, with a long caudal cilium. See Fauré-Fremiet and Mugard (1949).

Order Astomatida

Family ANOPLOPHYRIDAE Cépède, 1910. At least 12 genera, of which five have marine representatives. Members of the genera Anoplophryopsis, Herpetophrya, Herpinella, and Rhizocaryum occur in polychaetes including Cirratulus and Polydora. Members of the genus Persia occur in Phascolosoma. See Cépède (1910), Kahl (1933), and Puytorac (1954).

Family HAPTOPHYRIDAE Cépède, 1923. About eight genera, of which Lachmannella and Steinella have marine representatives in turbellarians. See Sikora (1963) and Corliss, Puytorac, and Lom (1965).

Family HOPLITOPHYRIDAE Cheissin, 1830. Includes over 30 genera (including those sometimes placed in the family INTOSHELLINIDAE Cépède, 1910), of which at least five have marine species: Buetschliella, Durchioniella, Hovassiella, Heiella, and Spirobuetschliella. Marine members of the family are endocommensal in the gut of polychaetes, Ophelia, Cirratulus, Polydora, and Potamoceros.
Order Hymenostomatida


Family ENTORHIPIDIIDAE Madsen, 1931. Contains at least the genus *Entorhipidium*, occurring in the gut of sea urchins. See Berger (1961b).


Family LOXOCEPHALIDAE Jankowski, 1964. At least two genera with marine species, *Dexiotricha* and *Loxocephalus*. Free-living. *Cardiostomatella* may belong here also. See Jankowski (1964a) and Fauré-Fremiet (1968).


Family PHILASTERIDAE Kahl, 1931. The boundaries between this family and the URONEMATIDAE are unclear. The members of the genera *Philaster*, *Philasterides*, and *Porpostoma* form a natural group within the PHILASTERIDAE. *Anophrys salmacida* may belong here also (Small, 1967). Additionally, members of the genera *Glaucanema*, *Helicostoma*, *Paranophrys*, *Parauronema*, and *Potomacus*, most of which have been placed in the URONEMATIDAE, may be members of the PHILASTERIDAE. Free-living and endocommensal in sea urchins, sometimes found in association with hydroids and anemones, some histophagic.

Family PLEURONEMATIDAE Kent, 1880. Genera with marine members are *Cristigera*, *Cyclidium*, *Histiobalantium*, *Pleurocotes*, *Pleuronema*, and *Schizocatyptra*. The genus *Cyclidium* is sometimes placed in the family CYCLIDIDAE Ehrenberg, 1838. The genus *Peniculistoma*, sometimes considered in the order Thigmotrichida, may also belong in this family. Free-living and commensal on mussels and sea urchins. See Fauré-Fremiet (1961a), Dragesco (1968), and Borr (1963).


Family TETRAHYMENIDAE Corliss, 1952. Includes at least six genera; two with marine species: *Paratetrahymena* and *Platyhematium*.

Recently Corliss (1961) split several genera from this family and placed them in the family GLAUCOMIDAE. See Borr (1962), Corliss (1961), Czapi (1968), and Thompson (1963).

Family URONEMATIDAE Thompson, 1964. The boundaries between this family and the PHILASTERIDAE are unclear, but members of the genera *Uronema* and *Uropedaliun* form a well-defined group within this family. In addition, members of the genera *Glaucanema*, *Miamiensis*, *Parauronema*, and *Potomacus* have been placed here. Free-living, sometimes found in association with hydroids and anemones. See Thompson (1964a, b, 1966) and Thompson and Berger (1965).

In addition to the hymenostomes assigned to the families above, members of several genera (*Biggaria*, *Cyclochilium*, *Entodiscus*, and *Mad-senia*, all endocommensals of sea urchins) are considered here as hymenostomes with no assigned familial status (Berger, 1961c).

Recently, Small erected a new order Scuticociliatida for certain hymenostome and thigmotrich families apparently related by particular features of stomatogenesis (Small, 1967).
Order Thigmotrichida


Family CONCHOPHTHIRIDAE Kahl, 1934. At least four genera; one, Cochliophius, with a marine representative endocommensal in Phytia, a tidal marsh pulmonate snail of the west coast. See Kahl (1934a) and Raabe (1963b).

Family CRATERISTOMATIDAE Jankowski, 1967. Contains Crateristoma kindi, a carnivore on prostome ciliates found in association with barnacles. See Jankowski (1968).

Family HEMISPEIRIDAE König, 1894. Contains at least 17 genera, of which nine have marine members: Ancistrospira, Ancistrium, Boveria, Hemispeira, Isselina, Orchiophrya, Plagiospira, Proboveria, and Protoophrya. Most are ectocommensal on gills of bivalves; one is endoecic in echinoderms, Nucleocorbulida adherens Santhakumari and Balakrishnan Nair, 1970, for which the authors erected the family NUCLEOCORBULIDAE, keys out here. See Lom, Corliss, and Noirot-Timothée (1968), Fenchel (1965a), and Raabe (1970a).

Family HYPOCOMIDAE Büttschli, 1889. Three genera; two, Heterocoma and Parahypo- coma, with marine representatives; ectocommensal on solitary and colonial peritrichs, and in branchial cavity of ascidians. See Chatton and Lwoff (1949).

Family HYSTEROCLINETIDAE Diesing, 1866. Members of this family (at least 10 genera) are typically endocommensal in terrestrial and freshwater oligochaetes. See Raabe (1949) and Kozloff (1960).

Family SPHENOPHYRIDAE Chatton and Lwoff, 1921. Four genera with marine representatives: Gargarius, Lwoffia, Pelecoaphrya, and Sphenophrya; ectocommensal on gills of bivalves. Mature form with no cilia (except in genus Lwoffia), but budded larval forms with several rows of cilia. See Kozloff (1955), Dobrzanska (1961), and Raabe (1970b).

Family THIGMOPHRYIDAE Chatton and Lwoff, 1923. Two genera, Conchophyllum and Thigmophrya, with marine representatives; endocommensal on gills of bivalves. Undulating membrane difficult to observe in life. See Fenchel (1965a).

The genus Peniculistoma, sometimes considered to be a member of this order, is included here in the family PLEURONEMATIDAE (order Hymenostomatida). Recently, Small erected a new order Scuticociliatida for certain hymenostome and thigmotrich families apparently related by particular features of stomatogenesis.

Order Peritrichida

Family EPISTYLIDIDAE Kahl, 1933. Fourteen genera, of which at least three have marine representatives: Epistylis, Opisthostyla, and Rhabdostyla. They occur attached to algae or the outer surfaces of copepods and barnacles, (Epistylis), on stalks of ascidians (Opisthostyla), and on polychaetes, midge larvae, and sea cucumbers (Rhabdostyla). Individuals solitary and colonial. See Kahl (1933); Lom (1964).

Family LAGENOPHYRIDAE Büttschli, 1889. At least two genera; one, Lagenophrys, with marine representatives, ectocommensal on crustaceans. See Couch (1967).

Family SCYPHIDIIDAE Kahl, 1933. Ten genera, of which three have marine representatives. Members of the genus Ellobiophrya occur on Donax; Paravorticella occurs on polychaetes; Scyphidia occurs on snails and polychaetes. See Kahl (1935).

Family URCEOLARIIDAE Dujardin, 1941. Subfamily Urceolarininae contains the genera Urceolaria, Leiotricha, Trichodinopsis, and Polycyclo that occur as ectocommensals on marine invertebrates, on gills and respiratory surfaces of marine invertebrates, in the gut of snails, and in the gut of sea cucumbers, respectively. The subfamily Trichodininae contains eight genera, of which seven have marine representatives. Members of the genera Dipartiella, Trichodinella, and Tripartiella occur attached to fish gills;
members of the genera Paravauchomia, Poljanskina, Tripartiella, and Vauuchomia occur in the urinary bladder of fish; and members of the genus Trichodina are found in association with a wide variety of hosts. See review by Raabe (1963a).

Family VAGINICOLIDAE de Fromentel, 1874. Ten genera, of which six have marine representatives. Members of the genera Caulicola and Thuricola are free-living. Cothurnia, Platycola, Pyxicola, and Vaginicola occur attached to red or green algae, as well as the outer surfaces of various invertebrates, including crustaceans, polychaetes, hydroids, and snails. See Kahl (1935).


Order Heterotrichida


Family FOLLICULINIDAE Dons, 1914. Members of this family are grouped into at least 30 genera (listed by Corliss, 1961), all marine. They are ectocommensal on various invertebrates.

Family LICNOPHORIDAE Bütschli, 1887. One genus, Licnophora, ectocommensal on snails, mussels, sea cucumbers, marine worms, and other invertebrates. See Villeneuve-Brachon (1940).


Family PERITROMIDAE Stein, 1867. Two genera; one, Peritromus, with marine species. Free-living. See Borror (1963) and Tuffrau (1967b).

Family SPIROSTOMATIDAE Stein, 1867. At least eight genera, of which four have marine representatives: Blepharisma, Gruberia, Parablepharisma, and Anigstesina. Large, elongate, free-living animals. See Isquith (1968). The genus Protocruzia, usually placed in this family, is sufficiently aberrant to warrant transfer to a different family. They are free-living, benthic, small, and fragile. See Ammermann (1968).

Family STENTORIDAE Carus, 1863. Four genera; three with marine species: Climacostomum, Fabrea, and Stentor. They occur primarily in areas of low salinity. See Kahl (1932).

Order Odontostomatida


Family MYLESTOMATIDAE Kahl, 1932. Two genera; one, Mylestoma, with marine species. Free-living, in areas of low oxygen concentration. See Jankowski (1964b).

Order Oligotrichida

Family HALTERRIIDAE Claparède and Lachmann, 1858. Seven genera; four with marine representatives: Cephalotrichidium, Metastrombidium, Strombidium, and Tontonia. These are typically pelagic. Members of the genus Strombidium are widespread, ubiquitous, and in some cases benthic. See Kahl (1932). Recently members of this family with a girdle of trichites and polygonal cortical platelets, including Strombidium and Tontonia, were placed in the family STROMBIDIIDAE. See Fauré-Fremiet (1969).
Family STROBILIDIIDAE Kahl in Doflein and Reichencw, 1929. Six genera, of which three have marine species: *Ciliospira*, *Lohmanniella*, and *Strobilidium*. Typically pelagic, planktonic. See Kahl (1982).

**Order Tintinnida**

Families in this order are differentiated on the basis of the morphology of the lorica. See Kofoid and Campbell (1929), Schwarz (1964), Loeblich and Tappan (1968), and Tappan and Loeblich (1968). Members of this order generally are pelagic, planktonic. Many genera are known only as fossils.

Family CODONELLIDAE Kent, 1882. At least five marine genera: *Codonaria*, *Codonella*, *Codonopsis*, *Rhizodorus*, and *Tintinnopsis*.

Family CODONELLOPSIDAE Kofoid and Campbell, 1929. Eight genera; at least three with marine species: *Codonellopsis*, *Laackmanniella*, and *Stenosemella*.

Family COXIELLIDAE Kofoid and Campbell, 1929. Eight genera; seven with recent marine representatives: *Climacocylis*, *Coxiella*, *Helicostomella*, *Metacylis*, *Strylicauda*, *Favelloides*, and *Porocetus*.

Family CYTTAROCYLIDIDAE Kofoid and Campbell, 1929. Only *Cyttarocylis*.

Family DICTYOCYSTIDAE Kent, 1881. Three genera with marine species: *Dictyocysta*, *Luminella*, and *Wangiella*.

Family EPIPOCYLIDIDAE Kofoid and Campbell, 1929. Three genera with marine representatives: *Epicancella*, *Eipipocylyis*, and *Epiplocylyoides*.


Family PTYCHOCYLIDIDAE Kofoid and Campbell, 1929. Four genera with marine representatives: *Cymatocylyis*, *Favella*, *Protocymatocylis*, and *Ptychocylyis*.

Family RHABDONELLIDAE Kofoid and Campbell, 1929. Four marine genera: *Epirhabdonella*, *Protorhabdonella*, *Rhabdonella*, and *Rhabdonellopsis*.

Family TINTINNIDAE Claparède and Lachmann, 1858. About 23 genera with marine representatives (listed by Tappan and Loeblich, 1968).

Family UNDELLIDAE Kofoid and Campbell, 1929. Seven genera with marine species: *Amplexella*, *Amplexellopsis*, *Cricundella*, *Microandra*, *Proplectella*, *Undella*, and *Undellopsis*.

Family XYSTONELLIDAE Kofoid and Campbell, 1929. Four genera with marine species: *Parafavella*, *Parundella*, *Xystonella*, and *Xystonellopsis*.

**Order Hypotrichida**


Family PSILOTRICHIDAE Bütschli, 1889. Three genera: *Caryotricha*, *Kitricha*, and *Psilotricha*, all marine. See Kahl (1932).


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The Board established the format for the “Marine Flora and Fauna of the Northeastern United States,” invites systematists to collaborate in the preparation of manuals, reviews manuscripts, and advises the Scientific Editor of the National Marine Fisheries Service. John O. Corliss, Helen T. Loeblich, Jesse C. Thompson, Jr., and Eugene B. Small submitted criticisms, suggestions, and helpful additions for construction of the key. Illustrations were pencil by Arthur C. Borr and were inked by Susan P. Heller. Eva S. Montiero typed the manuscript. Preparation of the manual was supported in part by Project No. 18050 FBW, Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, to Borr, and by Grant GB-24,832 from the National Science Foundation to the Systematics-Ecology Program. A contribution of the Jackson Estuarine Laboratory.

COORDINATOR’S COMMENTS

Publication of the “Marine Flora and Fauna of the Northeastern United States” is most timely in view of the growing universal emphasis on environmental work and the urgent need for more precise and complete identification of coastal organisms than has been available. It is mandatory, wherever possible, that organisms be identified accurately to species. Accurate scientific names unlock the great quantities of biological information stored in libraries, obviate duplication of research already done, and make possible prediction of attributes of organisms that have been inadequately studied.

Dr. Arthur C. Borr began his systematic investigation of the ciliates of the east coast of the United States in 1959 while pursuing graduate studies at Florida State University, Tallahassee. He moved to the University of New Hampshire in 1961, where he has continued his research on the morphology and ecology of marine ciliates.


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