Two Solenogaster Molluscs, Ocheyoherpia trachia n.sp. from Macquarie Island and Tegulaherpia tasmanica Salvini-Plawen from Bass Strait (Aplacophora: Neomeniomorpha)

AMÉLIE H. SCHELTEMA

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA 02543, USA ascheltema@whoi.edu

ABSTRACT. *Tegulaherpia tasmanica* Salvini-Plawen is herein redescribed and illustrated from 22 individuals collected in Bass Strait and expands the original text diagnosis to include illustrations. Similarities between *Tegulaherpia*, which belongs to the Lepidomeniidae, and the written description and figures of *Lepidomenia hystrix* Marion & Kowalevsky, the nominate species for which there is no known type, suggests synonymy.

Nineteen individuals of *Ocheyoherpia trachia* n.sp. were collected at diving depths from Macquarie Island. It is the second species to be described in the previously monotypic subantarctic genus *Ocheyoherpia* Salvini-Plawen and differs from *O. lituifera* in its shorter epidermal spicules, dorsal carina, size of radula, number of copulatory spicules and their relationship to the large copulatory spicule glands, a large dorsal sinus, and thin cuticle. Familial status is shown to be uncertain.

In both *T. tasmanica* and *O. trachia* the morphology of hard parts (epidermal spicules, radula, and copulatory spicules) is emphasized. The reproductive system is described for *T. tasmanica* and remarks made on differences in the reproductive systems of the two *Ocheyoherpia* species.

SCHELTEMA, AMÉLIE H., 1999. Two solenogaster molluscs, *Ocheyoherpia trachia* n.sp. from Macquarie Island and *Tegulaherpia tasmanica* Salvini-Plawen from Bass Strait (Aplacophora: Neomeniomorpha). *Records of the Australian Museum* 51(1): 23–31.

The continental shelf and offshore benthos of Australia affords numerous species of Aplacophora (Scheltema, 1998). This short contribution to the benthos of Bass Strait and Macquarie Island is part of a continuing series of descriptions of Australian aplacophoran species.

Seldom have neomenioid aplacophorans—those that creep about on a narrow, ventral ridgelike foot—been

described by placing emphasis on hard-part and external morphologies, although these are characters most readily available for identification. They are a focus of this paper in the certitude that the taxonomy of Aplacophora can be made available to more than the specialist.