

V. — ON A NEW APHRODITE-SPECIES (APHROD. ROULEI)
FROM THE NORTH ATLANTIC.

BY DR. R. HORST. — (WITH 3 TEXTFIGURES).

Among the Annelids of the Leiden Museum I met with two specimens of the genus *Aphrodite* from the North Atlantic ¹⁾, purchased some years ago from the late Mr. G. A. Frank, the well-known dealer in natural objects. They agree with *Aphrod. perarmata* Roule ²⁾, collected by the "Talisman" in the middle Atlantic (Los Pilonos), in the presence of hooked ventral bristles, but cannot be identified with that species. The largest specimen has a length of about 60 mm., whereas its greatest breadth is 30 mm.; the number of its segments amounts to 36.

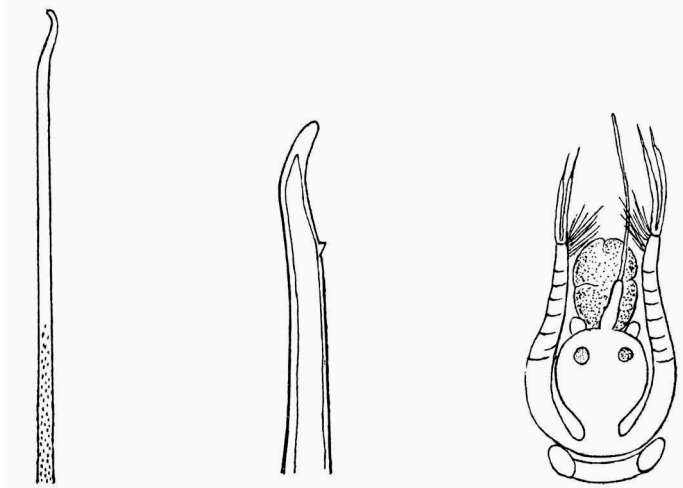


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

The body has an elongated ellipsoidal shape, with a rather acuminate anal end, while anteriorly it is hardly narrowed. Its ventral side has the appearance of shagreen, being densely beset with small, globular papillae, and its dorsum is covered with a thick felt, coated with mud. Through this felt pierce the fascicles of large dorsal bristles, that are arranged in two longitudinal rows; they are bent towards the dorsal median line but

1) This locality is not quite sure; as the *Aphrodite*-specimens however were accompanied by three individuals of *Laetmonice flicornis*, a common North Atlantic form, it might be presumed, that the statement is right.

2) Expéditions scientifiques du „Travailleur” et du „Talisman”, Annélides et Géphyriens, 1906, p. 12, Pl. I, fig. 5, Pl. III, fig. 20, Pl. VII, fig. 47.

are not long enough to reach it. These bristles (fig. 1) have their basal part dark brown coloured and densely covered with small warts, whereas the hookshaped apex is of a pale hue and smooth. The short dorsal bristles, that have a straight, uncoloured, vitreous apex, are in the middle of their length covered with warts.

The ventral bristles (fig. 2) as usually are arranged in three groups; the upper group contains two large bristles, the inferior group consists of about a dozen of smaller ones, whereas in the median part there occur seven bristles of intermediate length. They all terminate distally in a slightly curved hook and at the base of this hook are provided with a blunt tooth. The dorsal cirri are rather short and do not extend to the distal end of the dorsal fascicle; they have a thin, clavate tip. The ventral cirri, much shorter than the dorsal ones, do not reach half the length of the ventral bristles.

The head (fig. 3) much resembles that of *Aphrod. aculeata*; it is heart-shaped, with two circular, ocular areas on its anterior part, that however do not show distinct eyes. From the middle of its frontal margin the tentacle arises consisting of a thick, basal joint, about half as long as the head and of a slender distal part, that measures thrice the length of the preceding one. There occurs an oval, facial tubercle, nearly as large as the head, that has its surface provided with irregular grooves. On each side of the head the long basal part of the first parapodium is situated, which is transversely grooved. The tentacular cirri have a filiform tip. The palps are short, stout, not much tapering distally; they do not reach beyond the oral region, that extends over three segments. In the small specimen however they are longer and bent backward reach the 7th segment. *Aphrod. perarmata* is sufficiently distinguished from *Aphrod. roulei* by its smooth ventral skin, by the straight dorsal bristles, arranged in three rows, and by the longer dorsal cirri.
