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Scientific note

Scientific note on the presence of *Cephalopyge trematoides* (Chun, 1889) from Canary Islands waters

(Mollusca, Gastropoda, Phylliroidea)

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The nudibranch species *Cephalopyge trematoides* (Chun, 1889) is herein mentioned for Canary Islands among plankton samples captured during the cruise 1013 (St. 23, 1st November 2013; Lat 27.6850, Long -18.1368; 200 meters-surface haul) from the VULCANO project. Holoplanktonic nudibranch molluscs are very rare in pelagic samples, they are highly specialized and their pelagic larval stages complete their cycle in the open sea. The family Phylliroidea is taxonomically poorly known and includes two genera, *Phylliroe* Péron & Lesueur, 1810 with presumably two species (Bouchet 2011), and the monospecific *Cephalopyge* Hanel, 1905. With respect to the distribution of these species in Western Atlantic waters, Bergh (1871) & Abbot (1974) cite *Phylliroe bucephala* for the coast of Florida and the Bermudas. In North-Eastern Atlantic waters, excluding the old records of Phylliroidea far from the Canary Islands (Odhner 1931) and the “Galathea” and “Atlantide” cruises near the African coast (Van der Spoel 1970), a first record of *P. bucephala* for the Canary Islands plankton has already been made (Hernández & Jiménez 1996). The last records of planktonic nudibranchs in North Eastern Atlantic waters referring to *Cephalopyge trematoides* (Chun, 1889), captured during the TFMCBM-CV/98 cruise (Natural Sciences Museum of Tenerife) in the Cape Verde archipelago (Hernández et al 2001). Previous records were made by Chun (1889) and Odhner (1931) from the Central Atlantic Ocean, thus far away from the Canary Islands; and from Selvagens archipelago by Hernández & de Vera (2010).

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Fig. 1. *Cephalopyge trematoides* (Chun, 1889) from El Hierro Island (4.2 mm of total length). Photo: Natural Sciences Museum of Tenerife.

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