

# Family Chaetodermatidae Theel, 1875

## Taxonomy

Genus *Chaetoderma* Lovén, 1844

Genus *Falcidens* Salvini-Plawen, 1968

Genus *Furcillidens* Scheltema 1998

## Quick ID Guide

**How to ID:** Body generally elongated with three distinct regions. Oral shield u-shaped either posterior or surrounding the mouth. Radula reduced to single pair of teeth supported by an unpaired cone.

**Size:** 1mm- 10cm

**Potential Look-alikes:** None

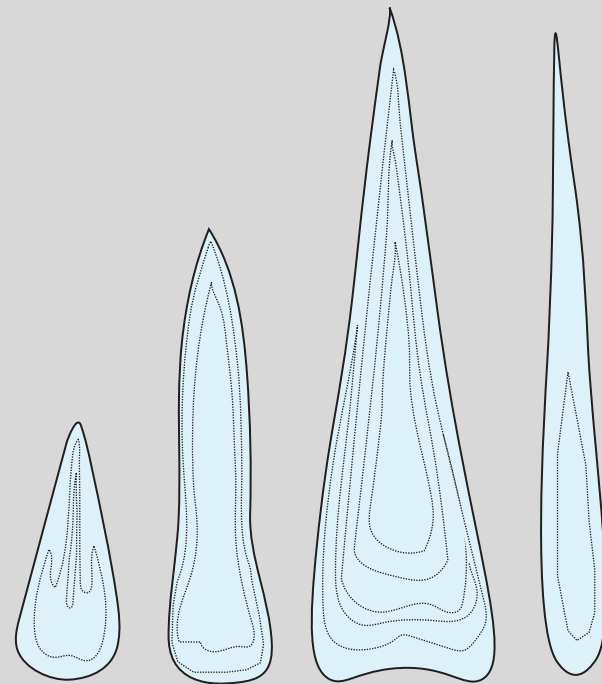
**Genus Level Identification:** Genus level ID requires characterization of the radula and sclerites



A. *Chaetoderma nitidulum* (Photo: Meghan Yap-Chiongco) B. *Falcidens guttuosus* (Photo: Nina Mikkelsen)

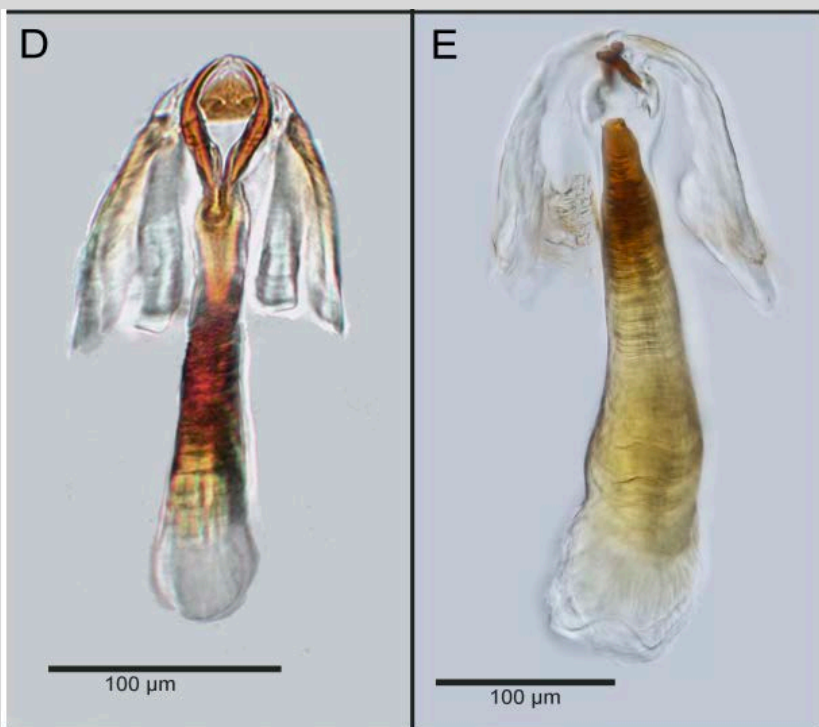


Light micrograph of sclerites from *Chaetoderma nitidulum* (Photo: Meghan Yap-Chiongco)



Schematic of sclerites found in Chaetodermatidae. Adapted from Ivanov (2009)

**Scleritome:** generally lanceolate or triangular in shape. Vary across species and body segment within an individual.



D. Radula of *Falcidens* E. Radula of *Chaetoderma* (Picture Nina Mikkelsen)

**Radula:** *Chaetoderma* radula (E on the left) is characterized by a pair of isolated denticles attached to a dome-shaped membrane supported by lateral projections. *Falcidens* (D) is characterized by two pincer-like teeth, connected by a central plate between denticles.

## Distribution

**Distribution:** varies between species, some have a broad distribution, while others are restricted. Most likely due to sampling bias

**Depth Range:** 30m-200m, with some exceptions, i.e. *Chaetoderma simplex* and *Falcidens caudatus* found at 2000m and *Falcidens pois* which is the found in the intertidal.