



HIRUDINEA: ARHYNCHOBDELLIDA: *Erpobdellidae*

Blue text = only visible if dissected?


- Mouth medium to large
- no proboscis
- jaws absent




- 3 or 4 pairs of eyes, never arranged in regular arch



- body elongate, linear
- pigmented or not
- usually 20-50mm (occasionally over 100mm)





b₁

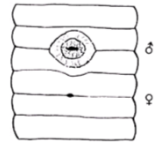
b₂

a₂

b₅


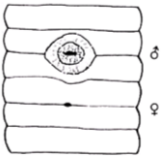
b₆

- **Somites 5-annulate** (b₁, b₂, a₂, b₅, b₆)
- All **annuli equal** in length
- Gonopores separated by 2 annuli
- **3 pairs of eyes**
- Length 100mm



MD note:
I'm never certain I can see/separate the annuli in each somite, so I try to use the other characteristics to ID to genus, or else leave at family

- **Eyes differ in size:** 2nd and 3rd pairs smaller than anterior pair
- Mouth small
- Each **annulus raised on dorsum** with 10-18 small white-tipped **papillae**
- Anus located at base of posterior sucker
- Gonopores in furrows separated by 2 annuli


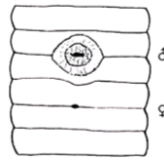





• One or two pairs of crop caeca

Motobdella

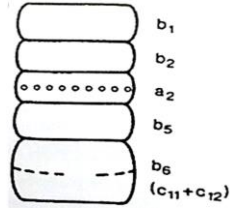
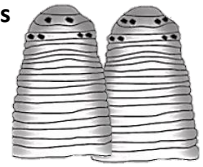



- **Eyes all similar in size**
- Mouth small
- Annuli **not raised** on dorsum and **without papillae**
- Gonopores in furrows separated by 2 annuli
- Anus located 3-4 segments anterior to posterior sucker

• Preatrial loops of male paired ducts simple (not coiled), and extend to XI

Erpobdella punctata

- **Somites 6 or 7-annulate** (b₁, b₂, a₂, b₅, b₆, c₁₁+c₁₂)
- **annuli of unequal length**, units either subdivided or longer than others
- In any group of 6 consecutive annuli, at least one annulus narrower or wider than the others
- **3 or 4 pairs of eyes**
- Gonopores separated by 2 annuli
- Length 100mm

Erpobdella

HIRUDINEA: ARHYNCHOBDELLIDA: **Macrobdellidae**

Blue text = only visible if dissected?

(formerly Hirudinidae)

- Mouth medium to large
- no proboscis
- jaws typically present and toothed (but may also be toothless or absent)



- **5 pairs of eyes**, forming a regular **arch**



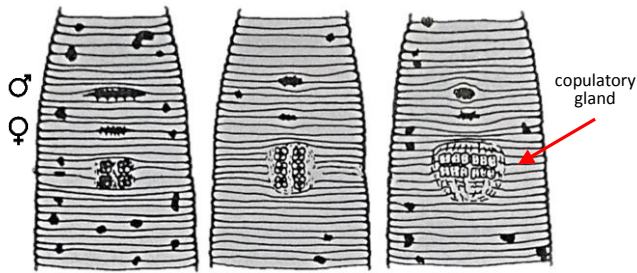
- Ventral surface with either porous, glandular region around gonopores or patch of glandular pores posterior to gonopores



- Body elongate
- medium to very large, up to 200mm
- usually with bright-coloured markings



- External copulatory gland pores on ventral surface arranged in rows, 10-11 annuli posterior to the male gonopore
- Gonopores separated by 2-5^{1/2} annuli



- Monostichodont, 46-65 teeth per jaw



- Crop with 2 pairs of caeca per somite, equal in size
- Vagina fusiform, vaginal duct short

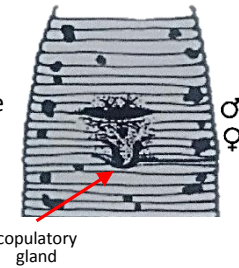


M. decora

Macrobdella

Length: 50mm

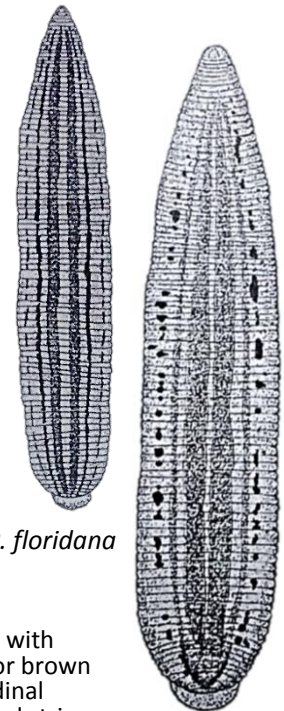
- External copulatory gland depressions surrounding and posterior to female gonopore, male gonopore formed by a deep copulatory pit
- Gonopores separated by 3-4 annuli



- Monostichodont or partially distichodont, 20-48 teeth per jaw



- Crop with 2 pairs of caeca per somite, unequal in size (anterior caeca smaller than posterior)
- Fused male bursa
- Small vaginal caecum, no common oviduct



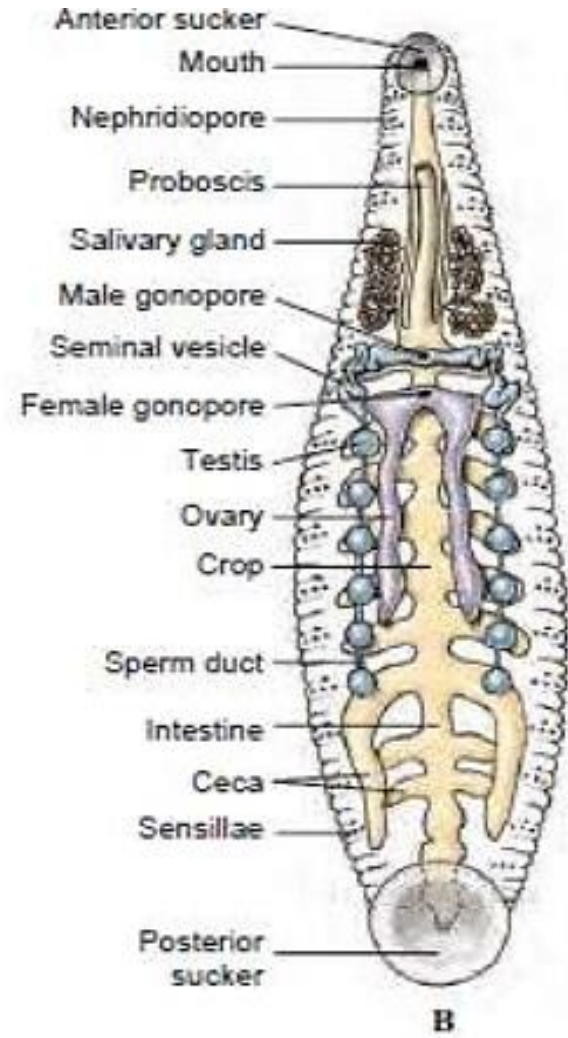
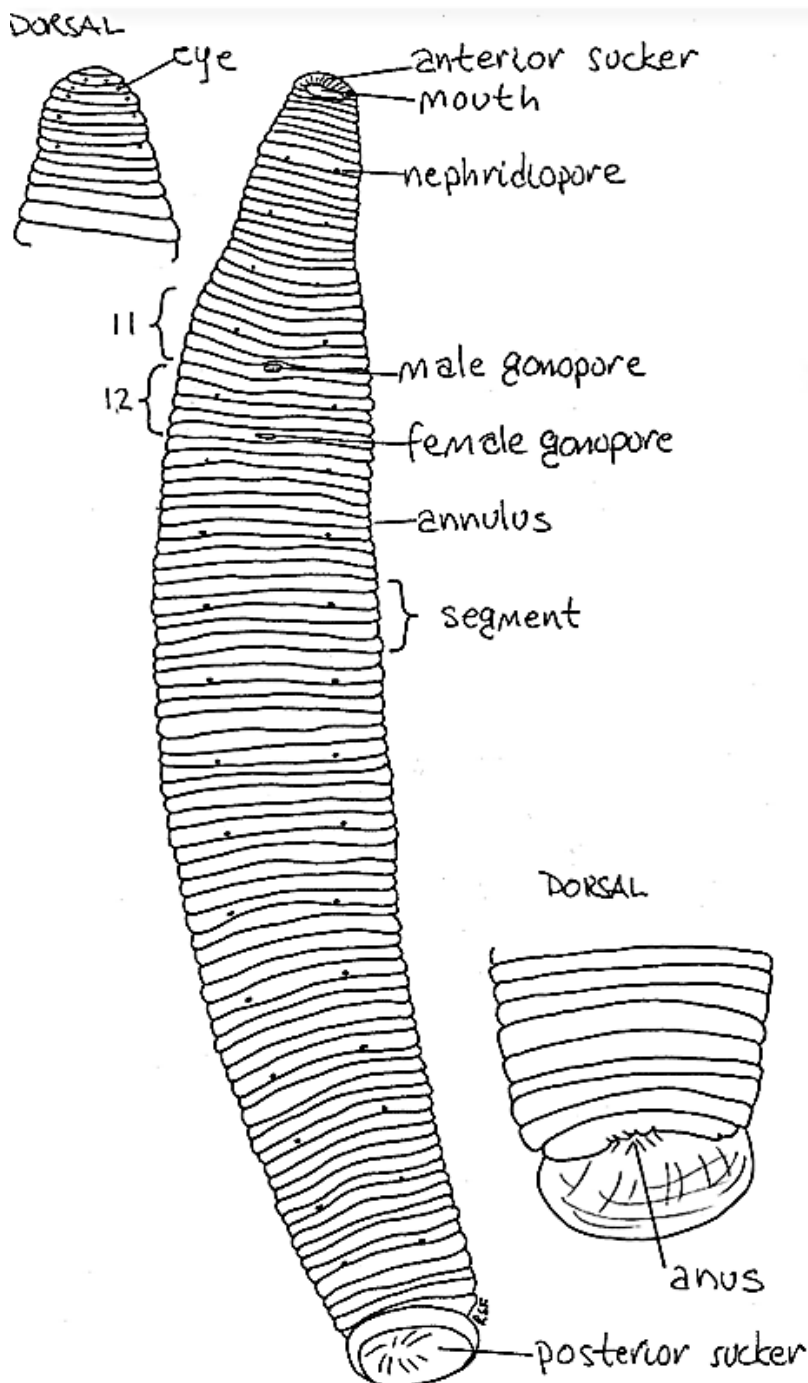
P. floridana

P. gracilis

Dorsum with yellow or brown longitudinal middorsal stripe

Philobdella

Length: 40-85mm



General anatomy/structures of Hirudinea