



## **A New Species of Green Hydra (Hydrozoa: Hydrida) from China**

Authors: Wang, An-Tai, Deng, Li, Lai, Jing-Qi, and Li, Juan

Source: Zoological Science, 26(9) : 664-668

Published By: Zoological Society of Japan

URL: <https://doi.org/10.2108/zsj.26.664>

---

BioOne Complete ([complete.BioOne.org](https://complete.BioOne.org)) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at [www.bioone.org/terms-of-use](https://www.bioone.org/terms-of-use).

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non - commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

---

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

# A New Species of Green Hydra (Hydrozoa: Hydrida) from China

An-Tai Wang<sup>†</sup>, Li Deng<sup>\*†</sup>, Jing-Qi Lai and Juan Li

School of Life Science, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen,  
Guangdong Province 518060, China

A new species of green freshwater hydra (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa: Hydrida), *Hydra sinensis*, is described from Guangdong Province, China. The chief distinction between *H. sinensis* sp. nov. and three other green hydras (*H. hadleyi*, *H. viridissima*, and *H. plagiodesmica*) is in the holotrichous isorhizae. *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. differs from *H. plagiodesmica* in the shape of the holotrichous isorhizae, and from *H. viridissima* and *H. hadleyi* in the tubule of the capsule of the holotrichous isorhizae. The capsule tubule coils two times in 86% and three times in 14% of holotrichous isorhizae (n=50) in *H. sinensis* sp. nov.; we observed no tubules coiling four times. In contrast, the capsule tubule coils three or four times in *H. viridissima* and *H. hadleyi*, and no tubules coiling two times have been reported. In addition, holotrichous isorhizae, which are mainly located around the hypostome, are sparse in the tentacles of *H. sinensis* sp. nov., whereas the majority of holotrichous isorhizae is located on the tentacles in most other hydras. A molecular phylogenetic analysis using the nuclear small subunit (18S) ribosomal RNA gene indicated a close relationship between *H. sinensis* and *H. viridissima*. *Hydra viridissima* did not group within a clade of four individuals of *H. sinensis*, indicating a possible sister-species relationship between the two species. Morphological characters in combination with the molecular phylogenetic evidence support *Hydra sinensis* as a new species.

**Key words:** Hydridae, taxonomy, new species, China

## INTRODUCTION

Hydras are abundant on all continents except Antarctica (Campbell, 1987). Freshwater polyps of the genus *Hydra* (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa) have long been of general interest because various species of *Hydra* have revealed fundamental principles underlying development, differentiation, regeneration, and symbiosis (Hemrich et al., 2007). Five new species and one new record have been reported from China: *Hydra mohensis* Fan and Shi, 1999; *H. daqingensis* Fan, 2000; *H. beijingensis* Fan, 2003; *H. harbinensis* Fan and Shi, 2003; *H. robusta* (Shi et al., 1987), and *Hydra polymorphus* Chen and Wang, 2008. *Hydra polymorphus* is from the wetlands of Zhaoqing, Guangdong Province, whereas the other species are distributed in the northern Yangtze River region. The diversity of *Hydra* species has not yet been well studied in most areas of China. Here we describe a new species of green freshwater hydra collected from Guangdong Province, southern China.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Morphological examination

Green hydras were collected from Guangdong Province, China. Specimens were deposited in the Morphological Research Laboratory (MRL) of the School of Life Science, Shenzhen University, Guangdong, China. Some polyps were brought alive into the

laboratory and studied under culture. They were fed fresh nauplii of *Artemia salina*. The morphological characteristics of the hydras were examined after 24 h of starvation. Images of live polyps were captured with a Leica DC 300 digital camera (Leica Microsystems, Switzerland). The lengths of the body column and tentacles, and embryotheca size, were measured with the software of the Leica DC 300. Nematocyst images were captured with an Olympus DP70 digital camera (Olympus, NY, USA) and nematocyst sizes were measured with this camera's software.

### DNA preparation, PCR, sequencing, and phylogenetic analysis

Genomic DNA from four starved individual polyps preserved in 80% ethanol was isolated with the NP-40 method described by John et al. (1991). The target small-subunit (18S) ribosomal RNA gene was amplified by PCR using primers h18sf (5'-tggtgatcctgc-cagt-3') and h18sr (5'-atcctcngcagggtcacc-3'). The resulting PCR fragments were cloned into pGEMT vector (Promega, Madison, Wisconsin) and transformed into DH5 $\alpha$  *Escherichia coli* cells. Plasmid inserts were sequenced by Shanghai Sangon Biological Engineering Technology & Services (Shanghai, China). All sequences have been submitted to GenBank (accession nos. FJ265731–FJ265734). *Nematostella vectensis* (Cnidaria, Actiniaria, Edwardsiidae) was chosen as the outgroup (Genebank AF254382). The 18S sequences we obtained were aligned with those obtained from GenBank for other species, including *H. circumcincta* (AF358080), *H. carnea* (EF059947), *H. robusta* (EF059946), *H. oligactis* (EF059945), *H. magnipapillata* (EF059942), *H. littoralis* (AF358082), *H. vulgaris strain AEP* (EF059943), and *H. viridissima* (EF059949). All sequences were trimmed to the length of the shortest sequence obtained, resulting in aligned sequences 1053 bp long. Sequences alignment was carried out with the program Clustal W (Thompson et al., 1994). To infer phylogenetic relationships among the taxa, we conducted maximum parsimony (MP) and maximum likelihood (ML) analyses implemented in PHYML (Guindon

\* Corresponding author. Phone: +86-755-26534149;  
Fax : +86-755-26534274;  
E-mail: lideng03@szu.edu.cn

<sup>†</sup> These authors contributed equally to the work.  
doi:10.2108/zsj.26.664

and Gascuel, 2003) and Mega 4.0 (Kumar et al., 1994), respectively. Bootstrap support values were determined from full heuristic searches of 1000 replicates. The ML and MP trees were drawn by using TreeView 1.6.6 (Page, 1996) and Mega 4.0, respectively.

## RESULTS

### Taxonomic description

*Hydra sinensis* sp. nov.

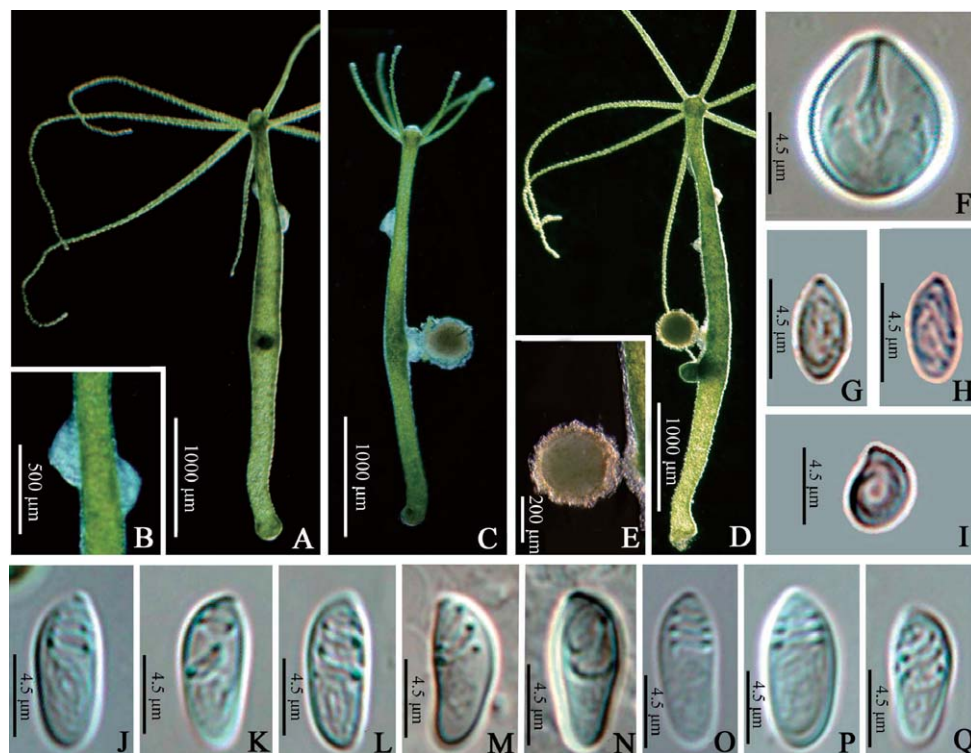
(Figs. 1–3)

**Type material.** Holotype: CNI0001, a sexual individual.

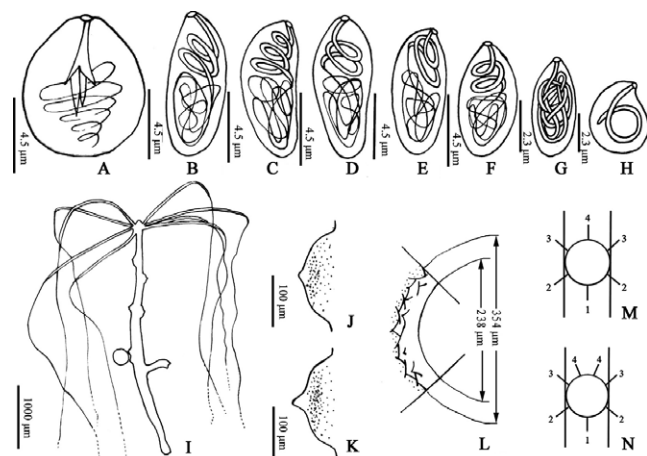
Paratypes: CNI0002–CNI0011, ten sexual individuals; CNI0012–CNI0021, ten asexual individuals. The holotype and paratype specimens were collected at Dongjiang River, Huizhou City, Guangdong Province, China (23°06'N, 114°24'E) on 4 September 2007 by A. T. Wang. The type specimens were deposited in the National Zoological Museum of China.

**Etymology.** The species name refers to China.

**Description.** Polyps have 5–8 tentacles, which are half to two times the column length (Fig. 1A–E). The frequencies of 5, 6, 7, and 8 tentacles were 3%, 31%, 54%, and 12%, respectively (n=106 individuals). Most polyps were 11 to 14 mm in column length when relaxed, but in a few individuals the column length reached 18 mm. The tentacles form sequentially in the order shown in Fig. 2M and N. The tentacle number in budding polyps is usually identical to that in the parent, and additional tentacles form after the budding polyps break free. *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. is a species of green hydra; unicellular *Chlorella* algae were observed in the endodermal epithelial cells (Fig. 3). A positive relationship was found between light intensity and the density of *Chlorella* algae in the endoderm.

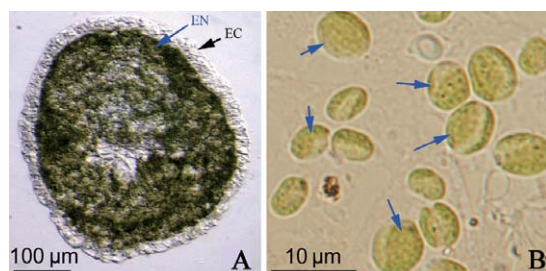


**Fig. 1.** Photographs of *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. (A, C, D) Hermaphroditic polyps. (B) Testis. (E) Embryotheca. (F) Stenotele. (G, H) Atrichous isorhizae. (I) Desmoneme. (J–Q) Holotrichous isorhizae.

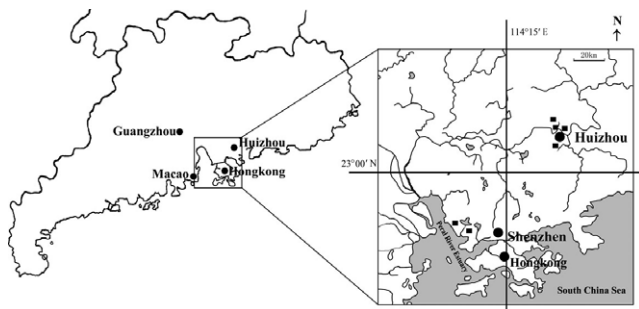


**Fig. 2.** Structure of *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. (A) Stenotele. (B–F) Holotrichous isorhizae. (G) Atrichous isorhiza. (H) Desmoneme. (I) Hermaphroditic polyp. (J, K) Testes. (L) Embryotheca (with scale). (M, N) Order of tentacle formation.

Nematocysts have the following forms: 1) stenotele, eudipleural pyriform shape,  $8.93 \pm 0.41 \mu\text{m} \times 7.24 \pm 0.36 \mu\text{m}$  (n=50) (Figs. 1F, 2A); 2) holotrichous isorhiza, short claviform, paramecium-like, banana-like, and elliptoid shapes,  $8.97 \pm 0.51 \mu\text{m} \times 3.64 \pm 0.28 \mu\text{m}$  (n=57) (Figs. 1J–Q, 2B–F); 3) atrichous isorhiza, long melon seed-like shape,  $4.65 \pm 0.32 \mu\text{m} \times 2.45 \pm 0.18 \mu\text{m}$  (n=23) (Figs. 1G, H, 2G); and 4) desmoneme, pyriform shape,  $4.61 \pm 0.22 \mu\text{m} \times 3.30 \pm 0.20 \mu\text{m}$  (n=41) (Figs. 1I, 2H). The



**Fig. 3.** Cross sections of the body column of *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. EC, ectoderm; EN, endoderm. In panel B, arrows indicate the *Chlorella* algae in the endodermal epithelial cells.



**Fig. 4.** Map of southern China showing collecting localities for *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. in the present study. Solid squares (■) indicate sampling sites.

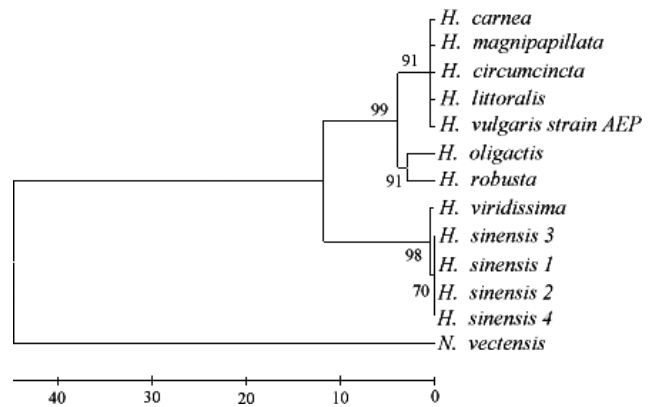
tubule of the capsule in the holotrichous isorhizae coils two (86%) or three times (14%) ( $n=50$ ); no tubules were observed coiling four or more times. Interestingly, holotrichous isorhizae, which are located mainly around the hypostome, are sparse in the tentacles of *H. sinensis* sp. nov., whereas the majority of holotrichous isorhizae is located on the tentacles in most other hydras.

Reproducing individuals of *H. sinensis* sp. nov. are hermaphroditic (Figs. 1A–E, 2I). Sexual reproduction can be induced by unfavorable conditions such as dense culture or food shortage. Three days without food induced sexual reproduction in *H. sinensis*. One to five coniform testes formed beneath the tentacles (Fig. 2J, K). Subsequently, an ovary with a stem formed over the budding zone (Figs. 1C, 2I). Ninety percent of individuals developed only one ovum,  $354 \pm 23 \mu\text{m}$  in diameter ( $n=10$ ). No change in body shape was observed in polyps during the transition from asexual to sexual reproduction. The embryotheca is brown, covering a layer of transparent, membrane-like material.

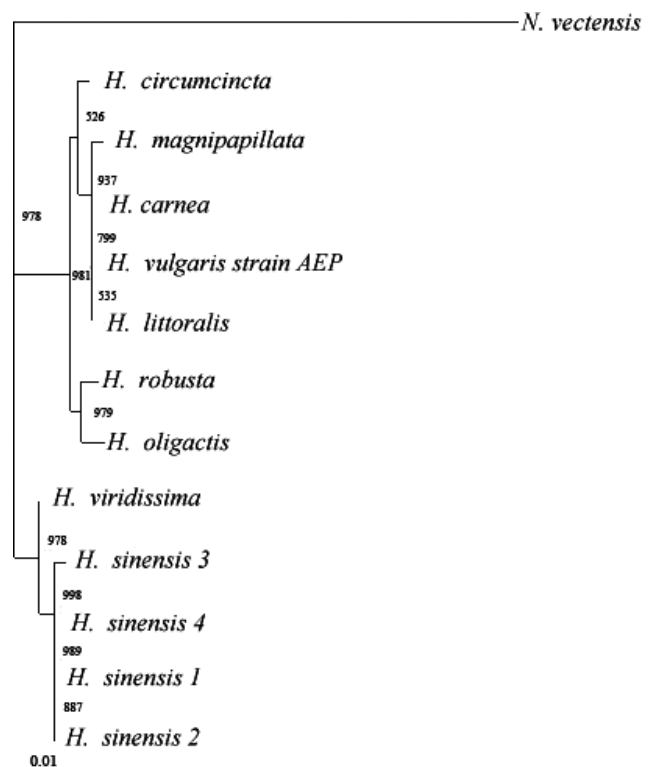
**Habitat and collection sites.** Localities where *H. sinensis* sp. nov. was found are shown in Fig. 4. The first specimens were collected in shallow water at the edge of the Dongjiang River, Huizhou City, Guangdong Province, China ( $23^{\circ}06'N$ ,  $114^{\circ}24'E$ ; altitude 30 m). The Dongjiang River, a branch of the Pear River, lies in the Tropical Monsoon Region and is the most important source of freshwater for Shenzhen City and Hongkong. No input of industrial pollutants into the river was observed. Water where *H. sinensis* sp. nov. was found was clear, slow-moving, with a pH of 7.5 and a temperature of around  $21.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Several kinds of plankton were found at sites where *H. sinensis* sp. nov. was collected, including planarians (e.g., *Dugesia japonica*) and *Rotaria*. More recently, *H. sinensis* sp. nov. was also collected in shallow ponds in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, China (Fig. 4).

### Molecular phylogenetic analysis

The MP and ML trees based on analyses of the 18S rRNA sequences are closely similar (Figs. 5, 6). *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. is closely related to *H. viridissima*, and *H. viridissima* and four individuals of *H. sinensis* sp. nov. comprise a sister group to the other *Hydra* species, with 98% bootstrap support. *Hydra viridissima*, however, does not cluster within the clade of four individuals of *H. sinensis* sp. nov.



**Fig. 5.** Maximum-parsimony tree resulting from analysis of partial 18S rRNA gene sequences from species of *Hydra*. Numbers near nodes are bootstrap values in percent. The scale indicates the number of substitutional steps.



**Fig. 6.** Maximum-likelihood tree resulting from analysis of partial 18S rRNA gene sequences from species of *Hydra*. The scale bar indicates branch length in substitutions per site.

## DISCUSSION

### Taxonomic comparisons

*Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. is hermaphroditic. To date, over 20 species of hermaphroditic hydras have been described, including *H. mariana* Cox and Young, 1973; *H. plagiodesmica* Dioni, 1968; *H. intaba* Ewer, 1948; *H. viridissima* Pallas, 1766 (Semal-van Gansen, 1954); *H. hadleyi* Forrest, 1959; *H. hymanae* Hadley and Forrest, 1949; *H. parva* Ito, 1947; *H. graysoni* Maxwell, 1972; *H.*

*circumcincta* Schulze, 1914 (Tardent et al., 1968); *H. vulgaris* Pallas, 1766 (Boecker, 1915); *H. utahensis* Hyman, 1931a; *H. minima* Forrest, 1963; *H. lirosoma* Campbell, 1987; *H. mohensis* Fan and Shi, 1999; *H. harbinensis* Fan, 2003; *H. madagascarensis* Campbell, 1999; *H. umfula* Ewer, 1948; *H. carnea* L. Agassiz, 1850 (Hyman, 1931b); *H. salmacidis* Silveira et al., 1997; and *H. oxycnidoides* Schulze, 1927 (Stepanjants et al., 2006).

Among these hermaphroditic hydras, there are three green hydra species, *H. hadleyi*, *H. viridissima*, and *H. plagiodesmica*, known to form permanent and stable symbiotic associations with photosynthetic unicellular *Chlorella* algae. *Hydra hadleyi* and *H. plagiodesmica* occur in North America (Forrest, 1959) and South America (Dioni, 1968), respectively. *Hydra viridissima* is found in Europe and Madagascar Africa (Semal-van Gansen, 1954; Wolle, 1978; Holstein, 1995; Campbell, 1999). *Hydra hadleyi* and *H. viridissima* are the most similar morphologically; the major distinction between the two is in the structure of the embryotheca. Although both *H. viridissima* and *H. hadleyi* were described as having two chambers in the embryotheca, a larger secondary chamber is a diagnostic character for *H. hadleyi* (Forrest, 1959). *Hydra plagiodesmica* differs from *H. viridissima* and *H. hadleyi* chiefly in the stubbiness of the holotrichous isorhiza (Dioni, 1968).

The chief distinction between *H. sinensis* sp. nov. and the three other green hydras is in the holotrichous isorhizae. *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. differs from *H. plagiodesmica* in the shape of the holotrichous isorhizae. *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. has several shapes of holotrichous isorhizae, including short claviform, paramecium-like, banana-like, and elliptoid, while the holotrichous isorhizae of *H. plagiodesmica* are stubby. *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. differs from *H. viridissima* and *H. hadleyi* in the tubule of the capsule of the holotrichous isorhizae. The tubule coils two (14%) or three (86%) times in *H. sinensis* sp. nov. ( $n=50$ ), and no tubules were observed to coil four times. In contrast, the tubule coils three (Wolle, 1978; Holstein, 1995; Silveira, 1997) or four times (Campbell, 1999) in *H. viridissima*, and no tubules coiling two times have been reported. In addition, holotrichous isorhizae are located mainly around the hypostome and are sparse on the tentacles of *H. sinensis* sp. nov., whereas most other hydras have the majority of holotrichous isorhizae on the tentacles.

Hemrich et al. (2007) analyzed the phylogenetic relationships among eight scientifically important members of the genus *Hydra* with sequence data from two nuclear rRNA genes (18S and 28S). *Hydra viridissima*, the only species of green hydra that Hemrich et al. (2007) analyzed, was basal in phylogenetic trees and emerged as the sister group to all the other species of *Hydra*. *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. was closely related to *H. viridissima* in our trees (Fig. 3). As *H. viridissima* is widely distributed, it is essential to know the sampling locality of the *H. viridissima* from which the DNA sequence came. The 18S sequence we used for *H. viridissima* (EF059949) was taken from Hemrich et al. (2007), who provided no indication of geographical origin of their *H. viridissima* sample. Since the research of Hemrich et al. (2007) was conducted in the Zoological Institute, Christian Albrechts University, Germany, by German scientists, we suppose that the *H. viridissima* sample they used

was collected somewhere in Europe.

Not surprisingly, the four samples of *H. sinensis* sp. nov. formed a clade, and this clade comprised the sister group to *H. viridissima*. Although the fact that *H. sinensis* sp. nov. and *H. viridissima* are sister groups does not necessarily indicate whether or not they are the same species, that *H. viridissima* did not cluster within the clade of four individuals of *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. suggested the possibility that *Hydra sinensis* sp. nov. is a new species. Morphological characters in combination with the molecular phylogenetic evidence support *Hydra sinensis* as a new species. To our knowledge, this is the first species of green hydra reported in Asia.

The taxonomy within the Hydridae (hydras) is controversial and not well resolved (Holstein, 1995; Stepanjants et al., 2000; Anokhin, 2004; Hemrich et al., 2007). Carl Linné described the first *Hydra* species taxonomically in 1758, as *Hydra polypus* (Linné, 1767). Several additional species were subsequently identified and described in a single genus, *Hydra* (Pallas, 1766; Linné, 1767). Schulze (1914) proposed three genera, *Hydra*, *Pelmatohydra*, and *Chlorohydra*, according to general differences in body plan (body shape, stalk, symbiotic algae), different modes of tentacle formation during budding, and differences in specific types of nematocytes. Thereafter, some researchers agreed with the three-genus taxonomy (Hyman, 1940; Stepanjants et al., 2000; Anokhin, 2004), whereas others still supported Linné's one-genus taxonomy (Campbell, 1987; Holstein, 1995). We are exploring evidence to confirm whether or not the green hydras should be excluded from *Hydra*. Preliminary data (not shown) may indicate that *Chlorohydra* is an independent genus, in which case *H. sinensis* sp. nov. would belong in *Chlorohydra*.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Prof. R. D. Campbell for providing us copies of several papers relevant to *Hydra* taxonomy. We acknowledge Mr. Zhong-zhao Chen for culturing hydras and Ms. Tian-shi Wang for drawing the illustrations. This study was partially supported by the Scientific & Technological Plan of Shenzhen Municipal Government (2004-44). We acknowledge three anonymous reviewers who greatly improved the manuscript.

#### REFERENCES

- Anokhin BA (2004) Revision of Hydrida (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa): comparative morphological, karyological and taxonomical aspects. PhD Thesis, St.Petersburg (in Russian)
- Boecker E (1915) Ueber eine Dreikoeplige hydra, nebst einer Bemerkung ueber den Sitz der Hoden bei *H. vulgaris* Pall (=grisea L.). Zool Anz 45: 607-610
- Campbell RD (1987) A new species of *Hydra* (Cnidaria: Hydrozoa) from North America with comments on species clusters within the genus. Zool J Linn Soc 91: 253-263
- Campbell RD (1999) The *Hydra* of Madagascar (Cnidaria: Hydrozoa). Ann Limnol 35: 95-104
- Chen ZZ, Wang AT (2008) A new species of the genus *Hydra* from China (Hydrozoa, Hydridae). Acta Zootax Sin 33: 737-741
- Cox N, Young JO (1973) A new species of *Hydra* (Coelenterata) from Kenya, East Africa. J Zool 170: 44-449
- Dioni W (1968) *Hydra (Chlorohydra) plagiodesmica* sp. nov. Una hidra verde del Rio Salado, Republica Argentina (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa). Physis Buenos Aires 28: 203-210
- Ewer RF (1948) A review of the Hydridae and two new species of

- hydra from Natal. Proc Zool Soc Lond 118: 226–244
- Fan XM (2000) A new species of the genus *Hydra* from China (Hydrozoa, Hydrida). Acta Zootax Sin 25: 134–138
- Fan XM (2003) A new species of the genus *Hydra* from China (Hydrida, Hydridae). Acta Zootax Sin 28: 438–441
- Fan XM, Shi XB (1999) A new species of the genus *Hydra* from China (Hydrozoa, Hydrida). Acta Zootax Sin 24: 372–375
- Fan XM, Shi XB (2003) A new species of the genus *Hydra* from China (Hydrida, Hydridae). Acta Zootax Sin 28: 610–613
- Forrest H (1959) Taxonomic studies on the hydras of North America. VII. Description of *Chlorohydra hadleyi*, new species, with a key to the North American species of hydras. Am Midl Nat 62: 440–448
- Forrest H (1963) Taxonomic studies on the hydras of North America. VIII. Description of two new species, with new records and a key to the North American hydras. T Am Microsc Soc 82: 6–17
- Guindon S, Gascuel O (2003) A simple, fast, and accurate algorithm to estimate phylogenies by maximum likelihood. Syst Biol 52: 696–704
- Hadley CE, Forrest H (1949) Taxonomic studies on the hydras of North America. 6. Description of *Hydra hymanae*, new species. Am Mus Novit 1423: 1–14
- Hemmrich G, Anokhin B, Zacharias H, Bosch TCG (2007) Molecular phylogenetics in *Hydra*, a classical model in evolutionary developmental biology. Mol Phylogenet Evol 44: 281–290
- Holstein T (1995) Cnidaria: Hydrozoa. Süßwasserfauna von Mitteleuropa. 1/2 + 3. Gustav Fisher Verlag. Stuttgart, Jena, NY. pp. 110
- Hyman LH (1931a) Taxonomic studies on the hydras of North America. IV. Description of three new species with a key to the known species. T Am Am Microsc Soc 50: 302–315
- Hyman LH (1931b) Taxonomic studies on the hydras of North America. III. Rediscovery of *Hydra carnea* L. Agassiz (1850) with a description of its characters. T Am Microsc Soc 50: 20–29
- Hyman LH (1940) The Invertebrates: Protozoa Through Ctenophora. McGraw-Hill, New York
- Ito T (1947) On a new species of freshwater polyp from Japan. Sci Rep Tohoku Univ, Ser 4, Biol 18: 1–5
- John SW, Weitzner G, Rozen R, Scriver CR (1991) A rapid procedure for extracting genomic DNA from leukocytes. Nucleic Acids Res 19: 408
- Kumar S, Tamura K, Nei M (1994) MEGA: Molecular evolutionary genetics analysis software for microcomputers. Comput Appl Biosci 10: 189–191
- Linné C (1767) Systema Naturae, 1(2), 12th ed., Holmiae, Laurentii Salvii
- Maxwell TRA (1972) The freshwater hydras of Europe 2. Description of *Hydra graysoni* sp. nov. Arch Hydrobiol 69: 547–556
- Page RDM (1996) Treeview: an application to display phylogenetic trees on personal computers. Comput Appl Biosci 12: 357–358
- Pallas PS (1766) Elenchus zoophytorum sistens generum adumbrationes generaliores et specierum cognitarium succinctas descriptiones cum selectis auctorum synonymis. Apud Petrum van Cleef, Hagae-Comitum
- Schulze P (1914) Bestimmungstabelle der deutschen Hydraarten. Sitzungsber Ges Naturf Freunde Berlin 9: 395–398
- Semal-van Gansen P (1954) La structure des nématocystes de l'Hydre d'eau douce. Bull Acad Roy Belgique, Cl Sci 40: 269–287
- Shi XB, Ding SW, Fan XM, Zhong HL, Liu JY (1987) The characteristics of *Hydra robusta* and its difference from *H. oligactis*. Acta Zool Sin 33: 174–179
- Silveira FL, Gomes CS, Silva ZDS (1997) New species of *Hydra* Linnaeus, 1758 (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa) from southeastern Brazil. Bol Mus Nacl Zool 373: 1–15
- Stepanjants SD, Anokhin BA, Kuznetsova VG (2000) Hydrida composition and place in the system of Hydroidea (Cnidaria: Hydrozoa). Trudi Zool Inst Ross Akad Nauk 286: 155–162
- Stepanjants SD, Anokhin BA, Kuznetsova VG (2006) Cnidarian fauna of relict Lakes Baikal, Biwa and Khubsugul. Hydrobiologia 568 Suppl: 225–232
- Tardent P, Leutert R, Frei E (1968) Studies on the taxonomy of *Hydra circumcincta* Schulze 1914, *Hydra stellata* Schulze 1914 and *Hydra ovata* Boecker 1920. Rev Suisse Zool 75: 983–998
- Thompson JD, Higgins DG, Gibson TJ (1994) CLUSTAL W: improving the sensitivity of progressive multiple sequence alignment through sequence weighting, position-specific gap penalties and weight matrix choice. Nucleic Acids Res 22: 4673–4680
- Wolle LC (1978) *Hydra intermedia* sp. nov. and notes on *Chlorohydra viridissima* (Pallas) (Cnidaria). Bol Zool Univ Sao Paulo 3: 143–152

(Received November 3, 2008 / Accepted June 21, 2009)