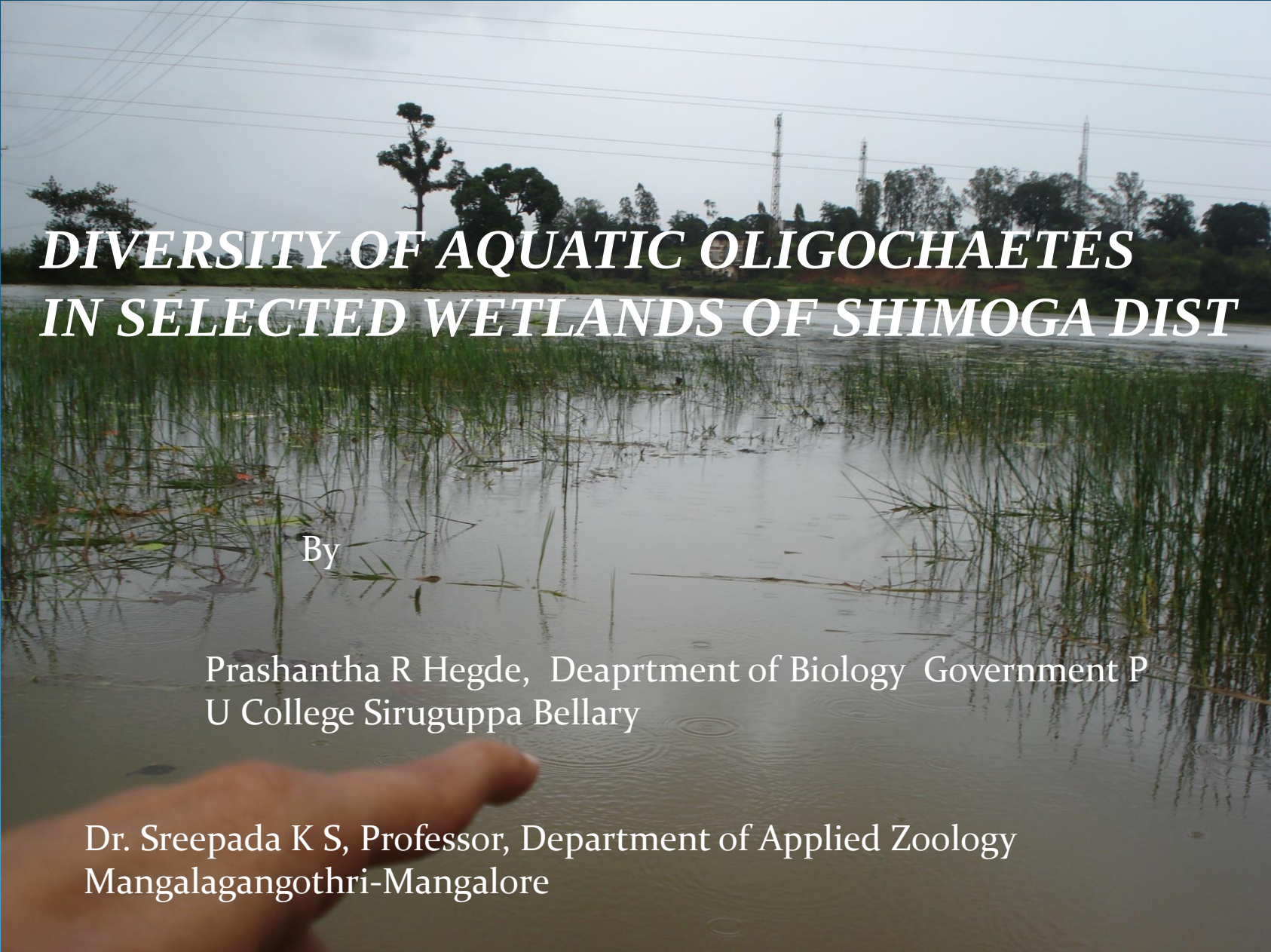




# *DIVERSITY OF AQUATIC OLIGOCHAETES IN SELECTED WETLANDS OF SHIMOGA DIST*

By

Prashantha R Hegde, Department of Biology Government P  
U College Siruguppa Bellary

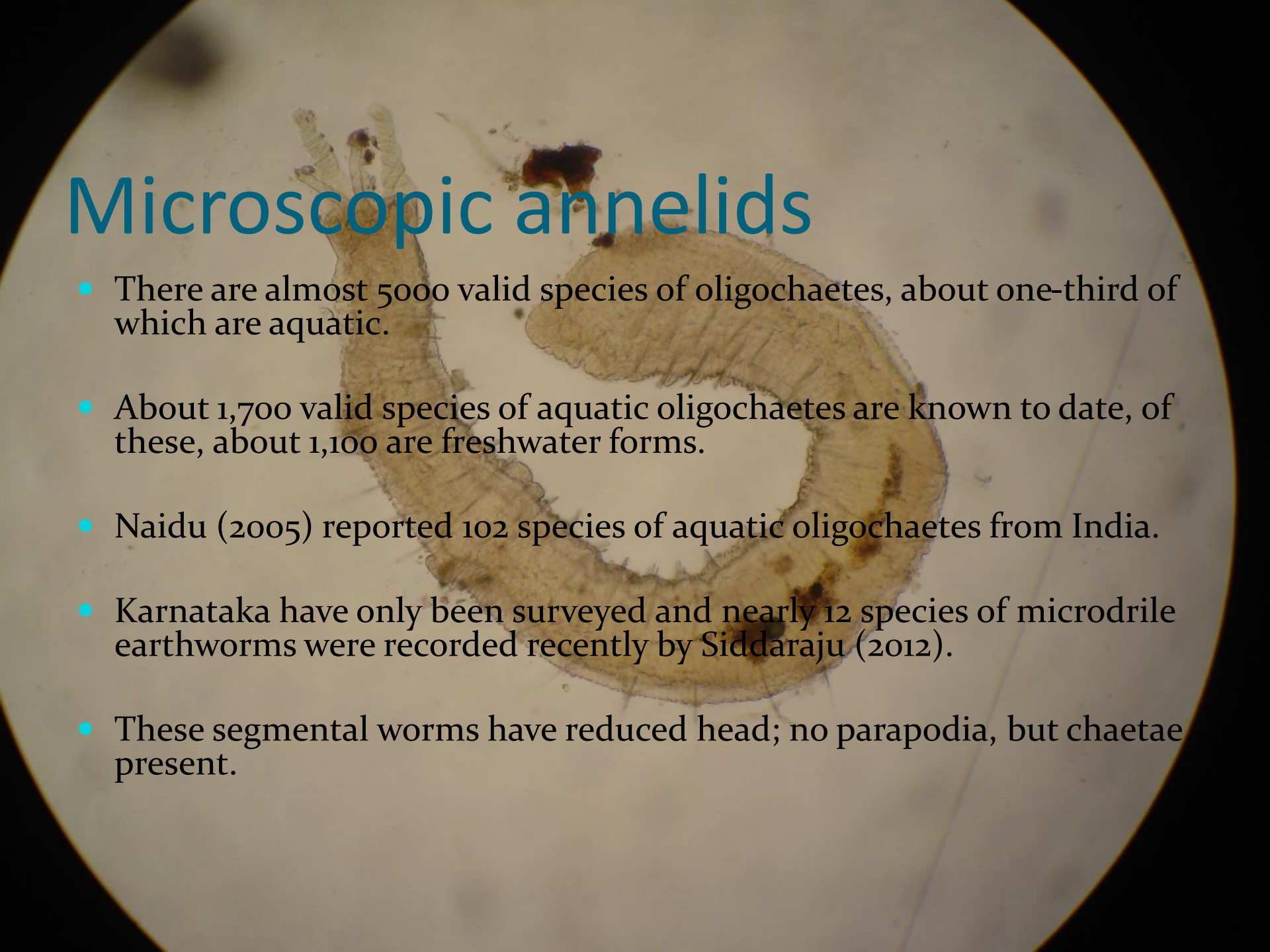
Dr. Sreepada K S, Professor, Department of Applied Zoology  
Mangalagangothri-Mangalore

Aquatic microdrils.

BIOINDICATORS



# Microscopic annelids

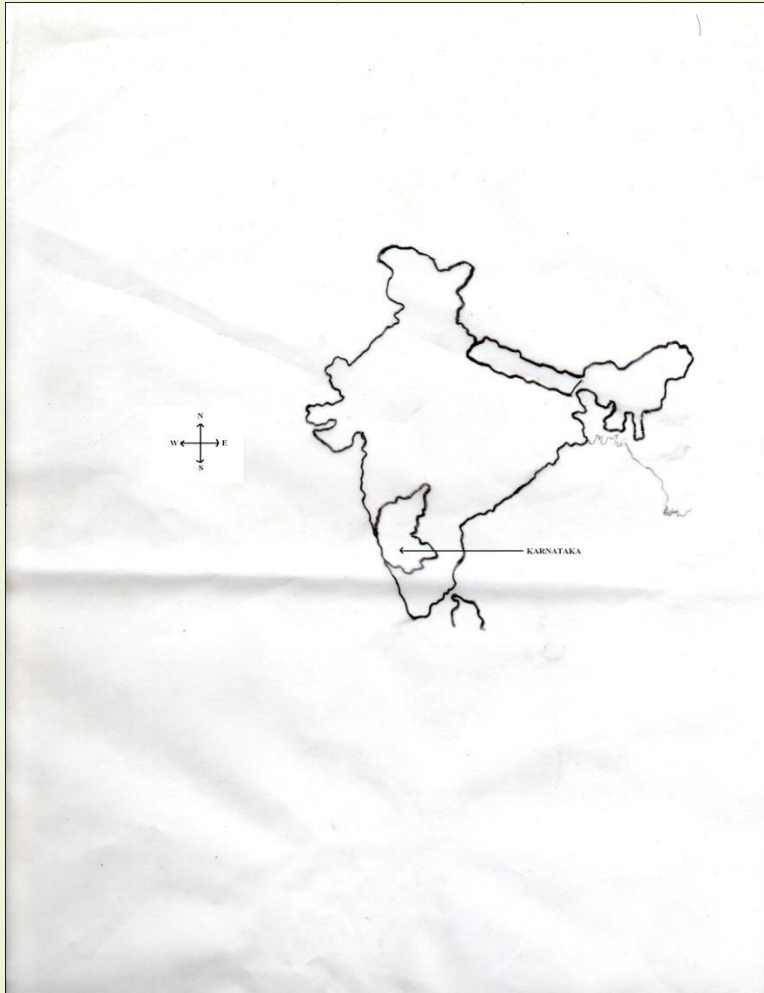
A microscopic image of a segmented annelid worm, likely an oligochaete, showing its body segments and head region. The worm is light brown and segmented, with a darker head region at the top left. It is positioned diagonally across the frame.

- There are almost 5000 valid species of oligochaetes, about one-third of which are aquatic.
- About 1,700 valid species of aquatic oligochaetes are known to date, of these, about 1,100 are freshwater forms.
- Naidu (2005) reported 102 species of aquatic oligochaetes from India.
- Karnataka have only been surveyed and nearly 12 species of microdrile earthworms were recorded recently by Siddaraju (2012).
- These segmental worms have reduced head; no parapodia, but chaetae present.

# SCOPE OF THE STUDY

- The physical and chemical characteristics of water bodies may greatly influence the population density of microdriles.
- The baseline data on the species distribution and their seasonal abundance in oligotrophic and eutrophic water bodies of Western Ghats region will provide information on water quality and oligochaete as bioindicators.
- The microdril culture studies and the selection of alternative species is essential for fish culture practices.

# STUDY AREA



# Sampling sites





Sampling sites

## COLLECTION OF SAMPLE





Seasonal sampling site-Sagar

# Sagar-Alalli



# Ananthpur



# Ananthpur



Linganamakki



Screening the sample



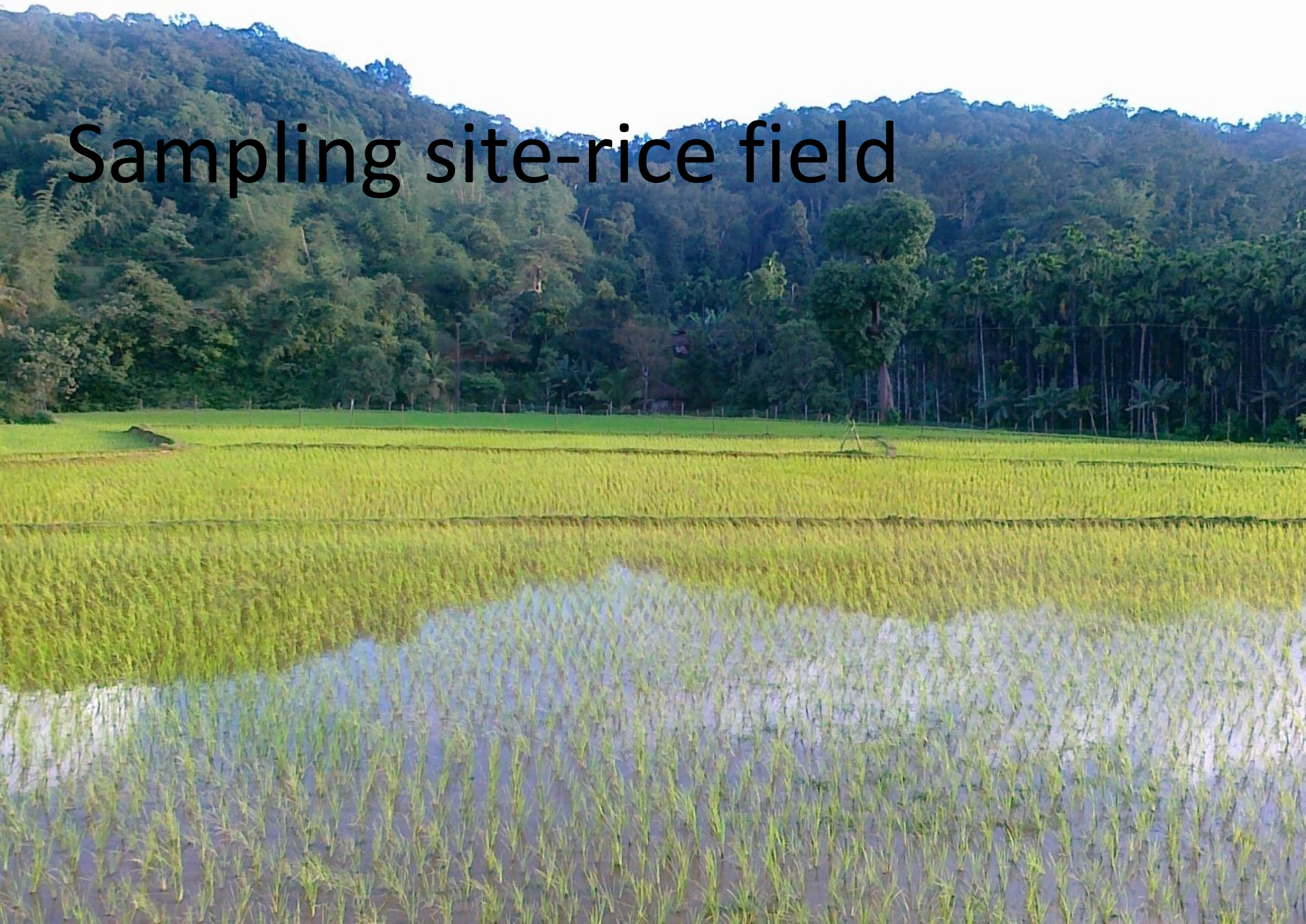
# Sampling site-Sorab



# Talaguppa



# Sampling site-rice field



# No worms found



# No worms found



# Sample observations



# Check list-Naididae

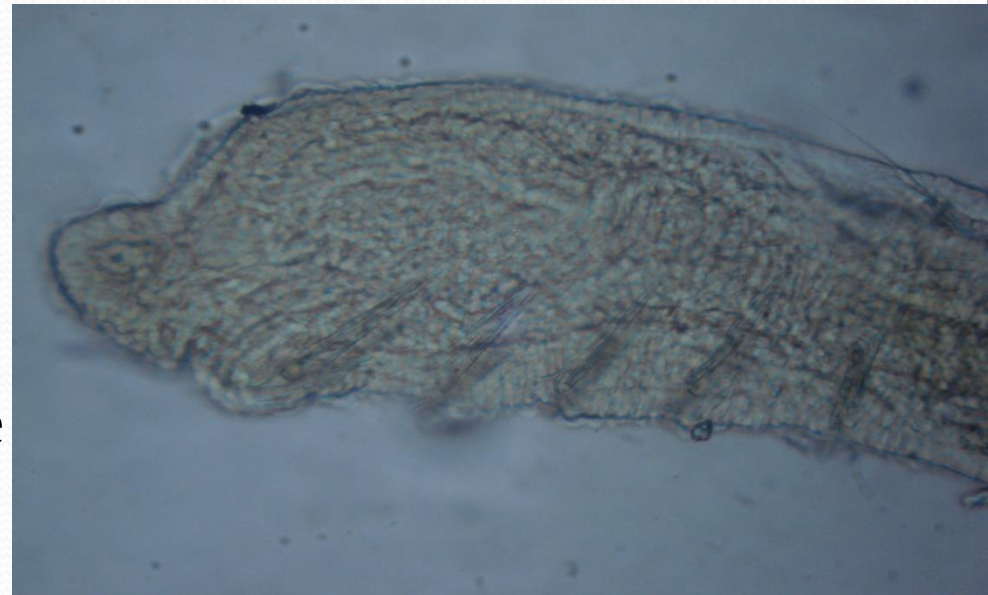
| Sl no | Species                                           | Pre-monsoon | Monsoon | Post - monsoon |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|----------------|
| 1     | <i>Aulophorus furcatus</i> (Müller, 1773)         | +++++       | +       | ++             |
| 2     | <i>Aulophorus moghei</i> Naidu & Srivastava, 1980 | ++          | +       | +++            |
| 3     | <i>Dero dorsalis</i> Ferroniere, 1899             | +++         | -       | ++             |
| 4     | <i>Allonais paraguayensis</i> (Michaelsen, 1905)  | +++++++     | +       | +              |
| 5     | <i>Allonais gwaliorensis</i> (Stephenson, 1920)   | ++          | -       | +              |
| 6     | <i>Chaetogaster</i> sp. Sperber, 1948             | +           | —       | —              |
| 7     | <i>Dero digitata</i> (Muller, 1773)               | +++++       | +       | +              |
| 8     | <i>Dero sawayai</i> Marcus                        | +           | —       | —              |

# Checklist -Pristinidae

| Sl no | Species                                      | Pre-monsoon | Monsoon | Post monsoon |
|-------|----------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------------|
| 1     | <i>Pristina synclites</i> Stephenson, 1925   | +           | —       | —            |
| 2     | <i>Pristina menoni</i> (Aiyer 1929)          | +           | +       | +            |
| 3     | <i>Pristina jenkiniae</i> (Stephenson, 1931) | —           | —       | +            |
| 4     | <i>Pristina longiseta</i> Ehrenberg, 1828    | +++         | —       | +            |
| 5     | <i>Pristina proboscidea</i> Beddard, 1896    | +           | —       | +            |
| 6     | <i>Pristina breviseta</i> Bourne, 1891       | +           | +       | +            |

# Species identification

- The identification of species was done by using standard keys of Brinkhurst (1971), Naidu and Naidu (1981) and Milligan (1998).
- Identification is based on the following features
  - Type of the dorsal setae
  - Type of ventral setae
  - Position of first dorsal setae

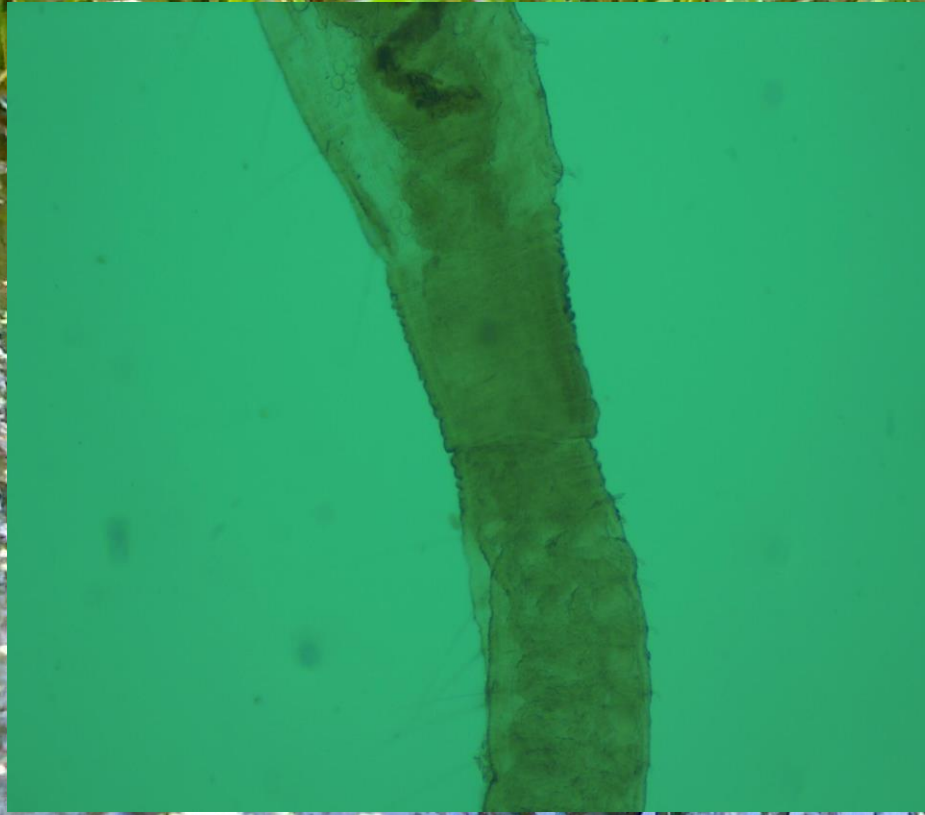




## *Dero furcata*

- Dorsal seta begin in V segment
- Needle setae simply bifid
- Budding zone after 19<sup>th</sup> segment
- Distal tooth of needle setae thinner, shorter than proximal.
- Medium sized worms with pale brown colour

*Dero furcata*-budding zone



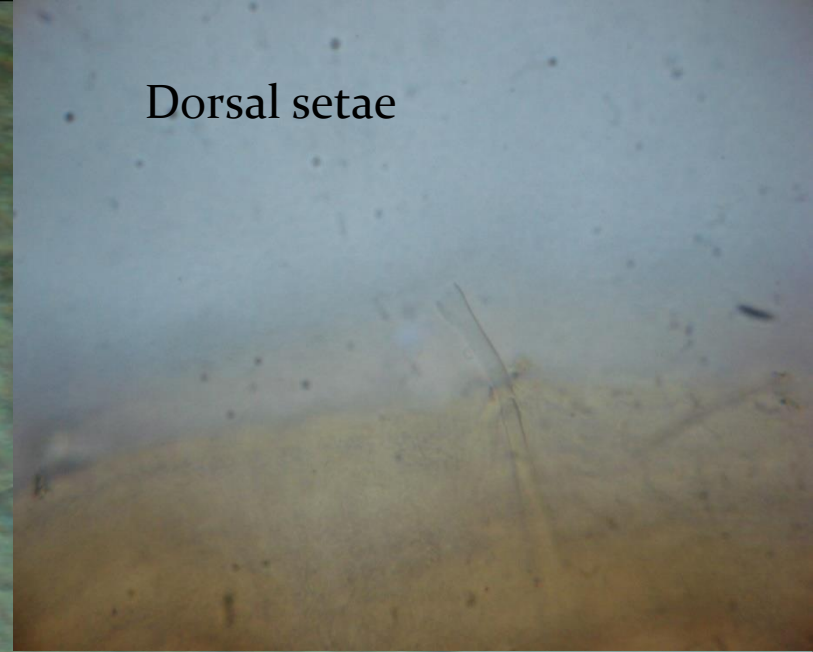


*Dero vagus*

# *Dero vagus*

- Dorsal setae begin in VI
- Dorsal palmate setae (symmetrically expanded)
- The bifid ventral with two times the length of lower
- Strongly diverging palps at posterior end
- Large number of anterior ventral setae

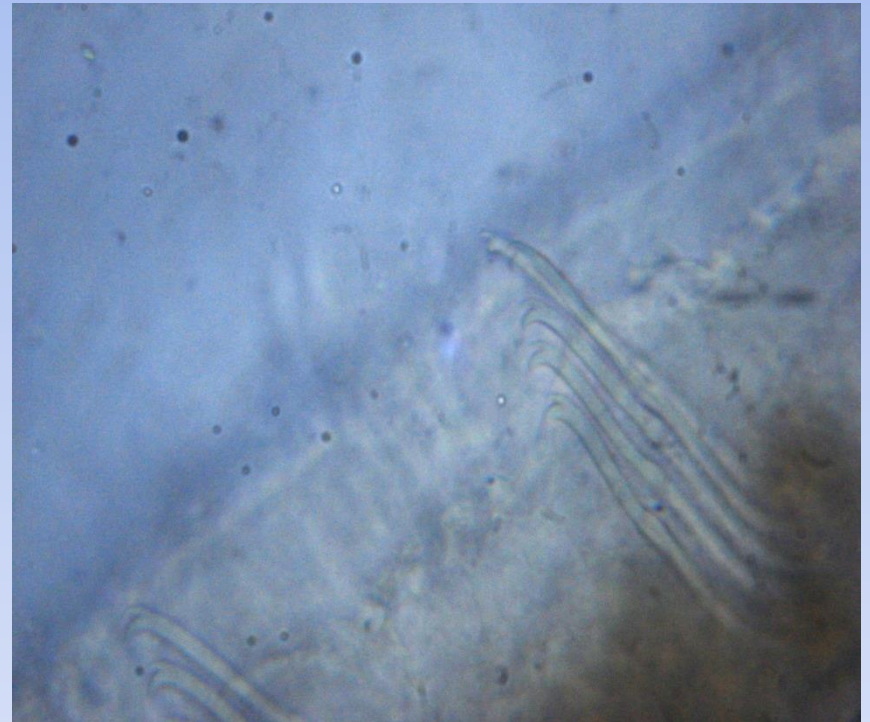
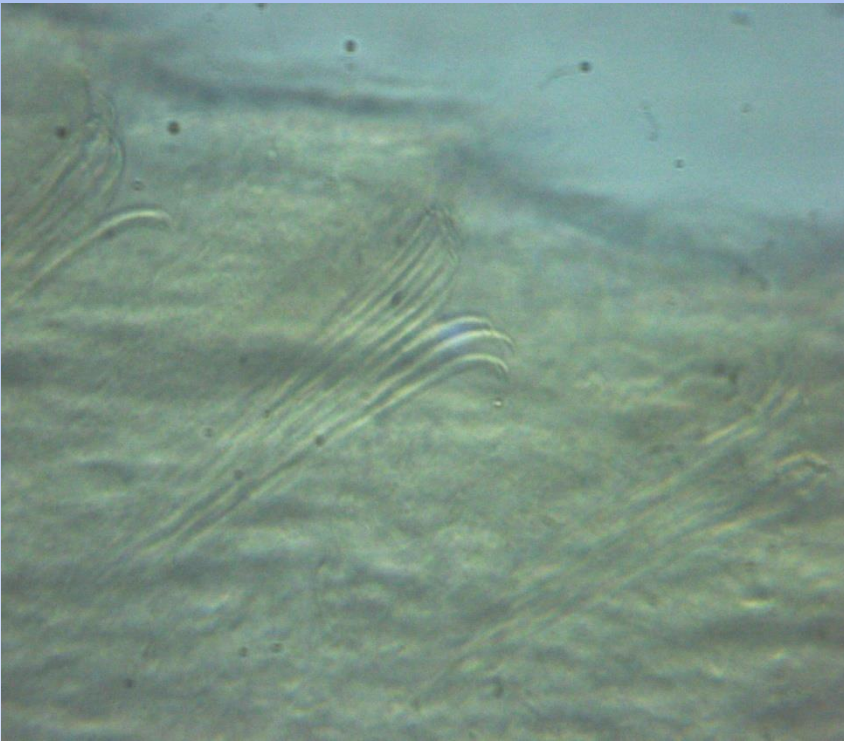
Dorsal setae



# *Dero vagus*

Anterior ventral

Posterior ventral



## *Dero digitata*

- Branchial fossa with four pairs of gills.
- Needle teeth equal, distal tooth longer than proximal.
- Prostomium is bluntly triangular.
- Dorsal bundle from VI segment, with 1 hair and 1 bayonet shaped setae.
- Ventral seta 4-5 per bundle .

# *Dero digitata*

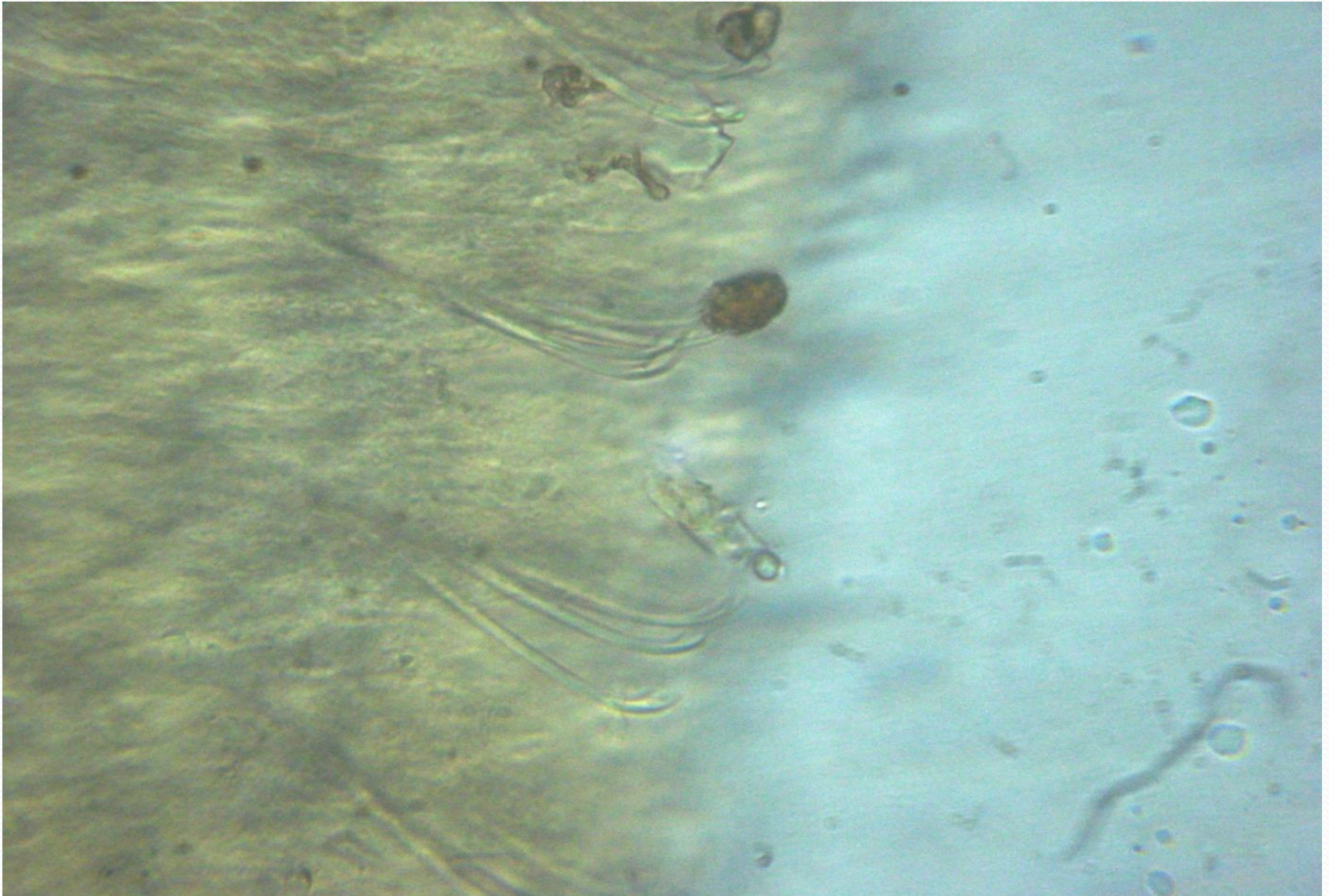
Anterior region



Posterior region

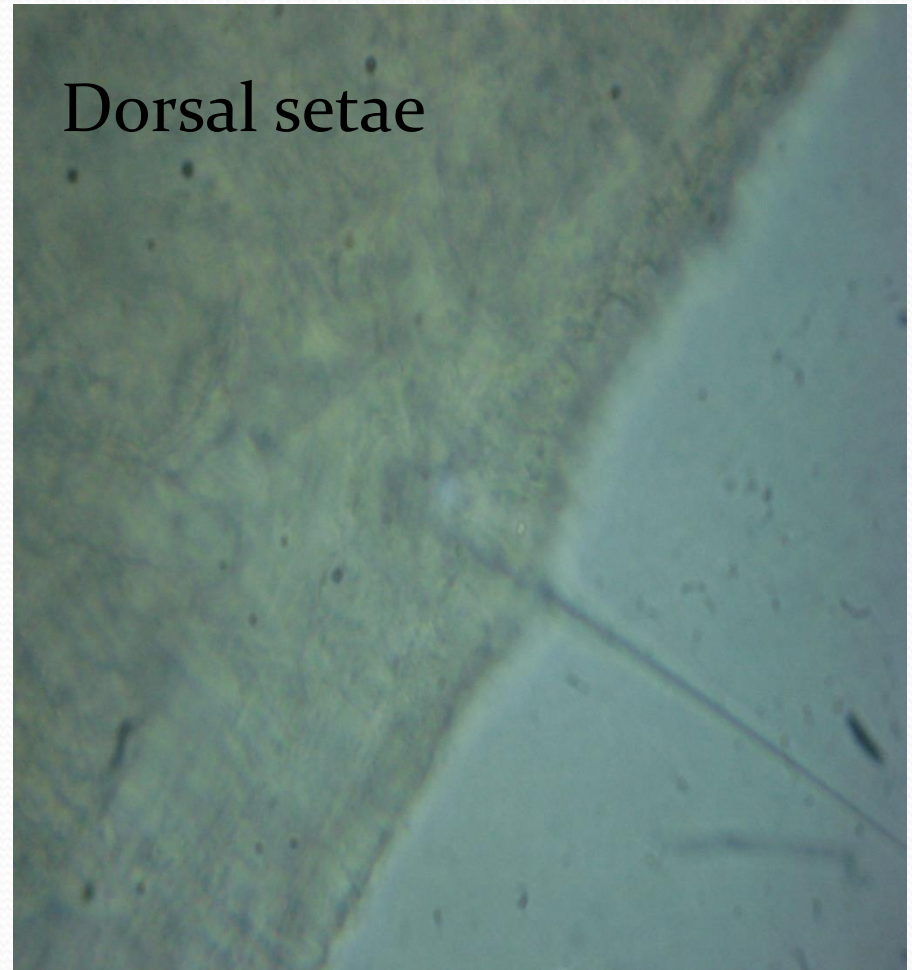


*Dero digitata*-ventral setae



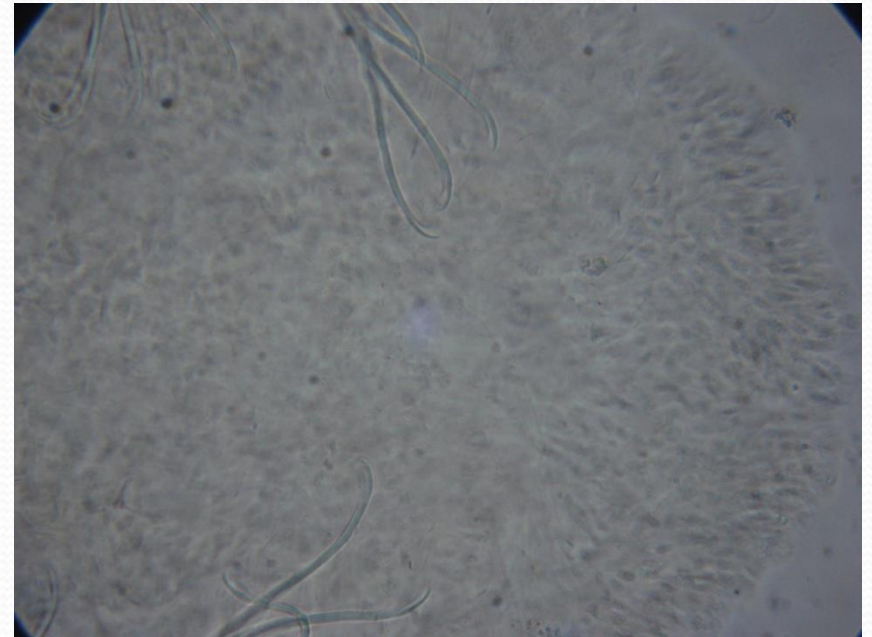
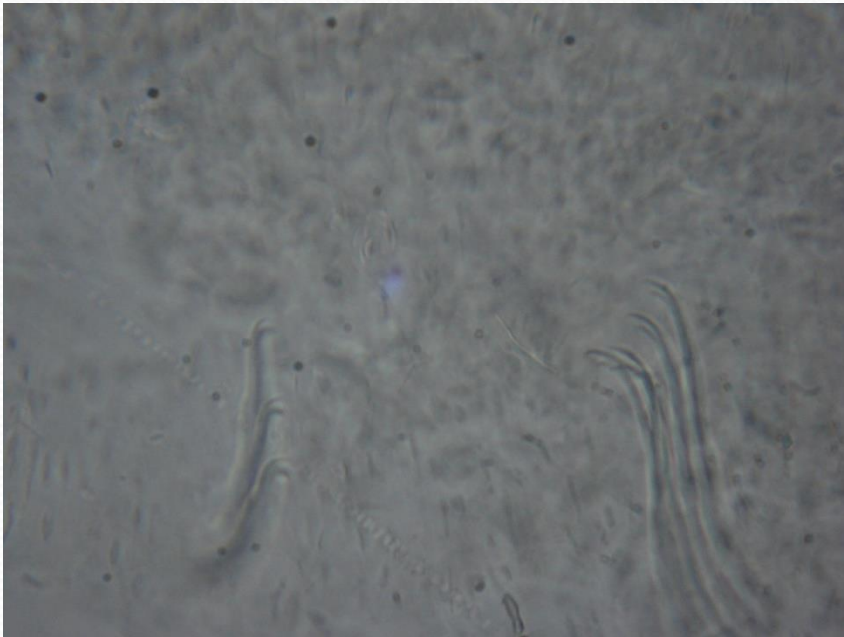
# *Dero sawayai*

- Dorsal setae begin on VI
- Dorsal smooth hair setae
- Needle teeth unequal



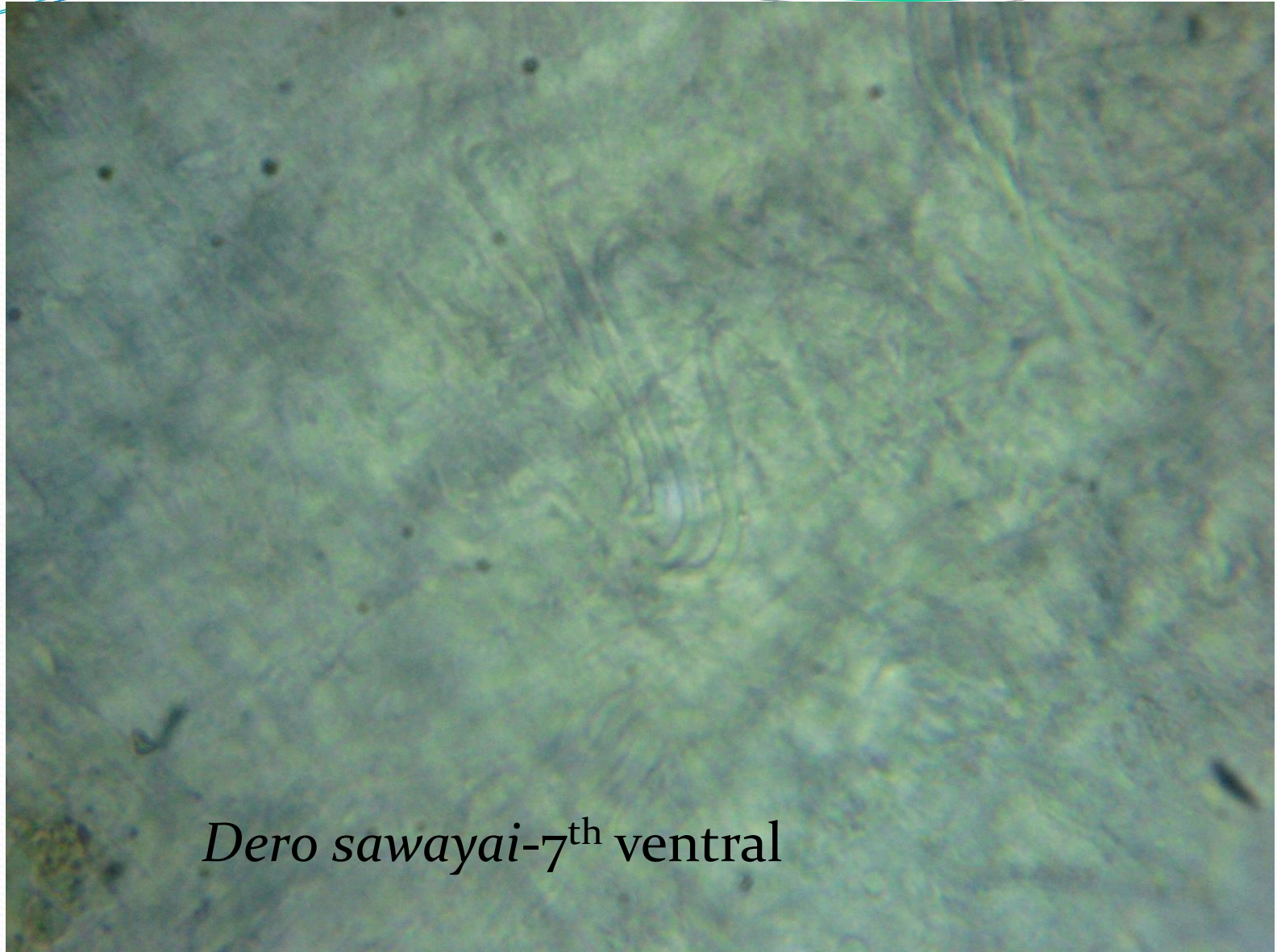
# *Dero sawayai-*

- D. sawayai-V(left) and VI
- II ventral



*Dero sawyai-II to VI*



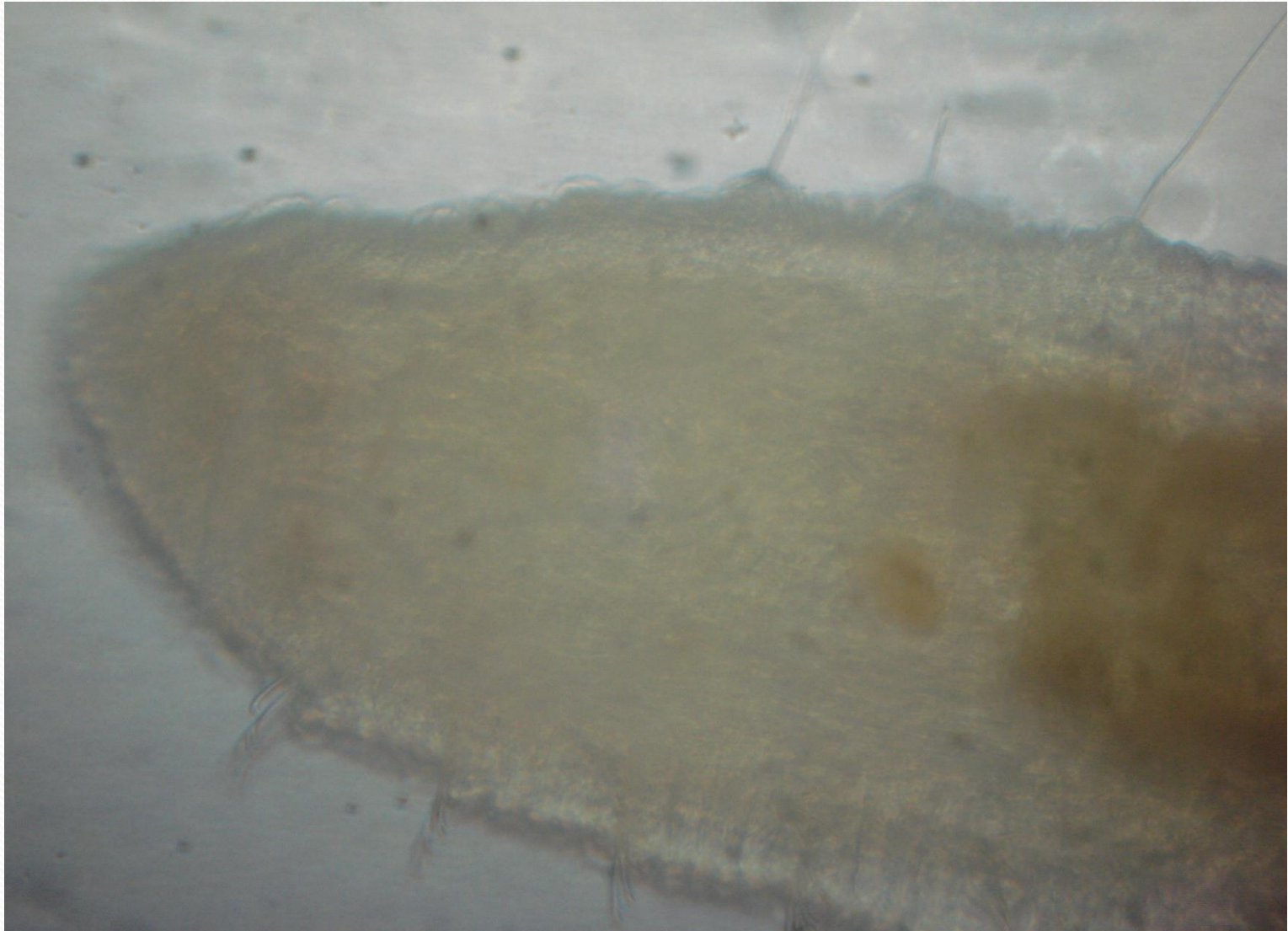


*Dero sawyai*-7<sup>th</sup> ventral

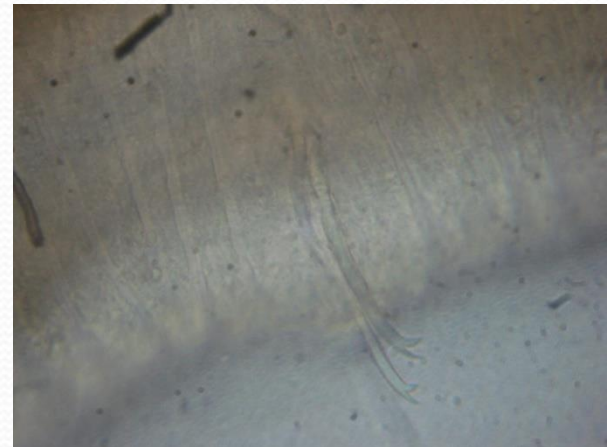
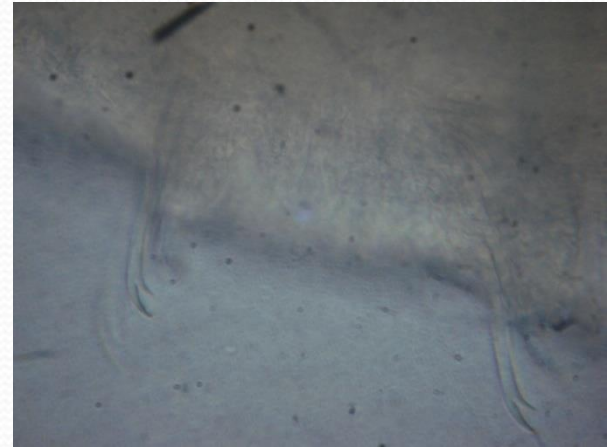
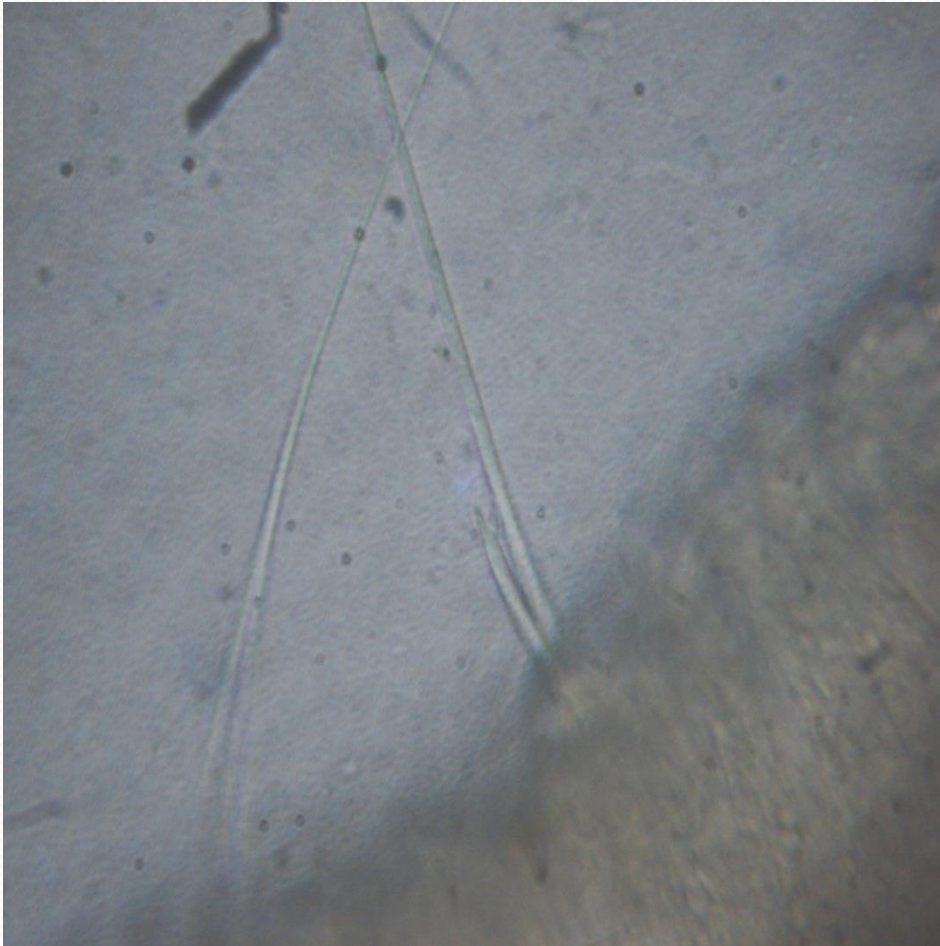
*Dero sawyai-dorsal hair+needle*



# *Dero dorsalis*

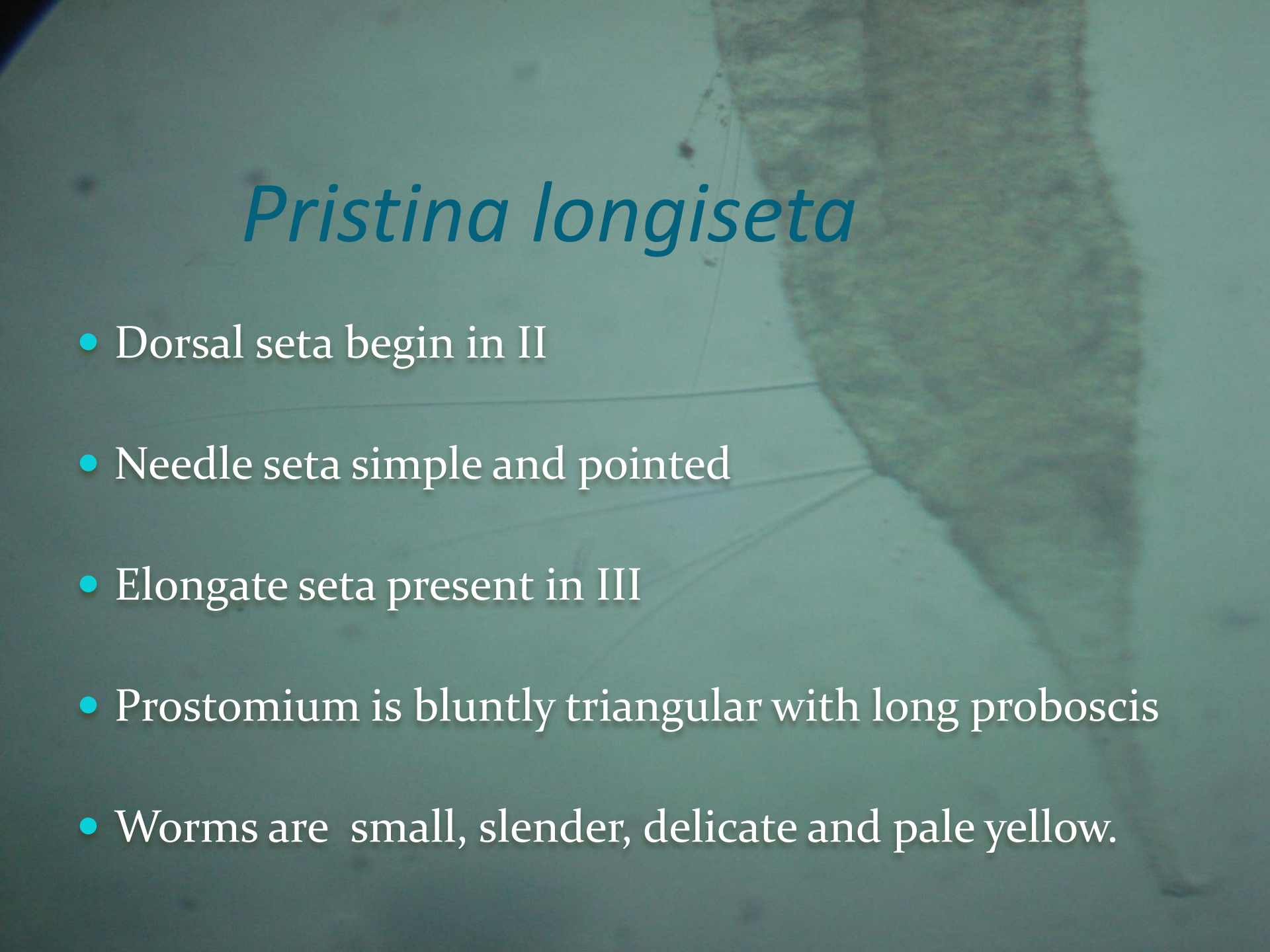


# *Dero dorsalis* (dorsal-2<sup>nd</sup> ventral and post. ventral)



# *Dero dorsalis*

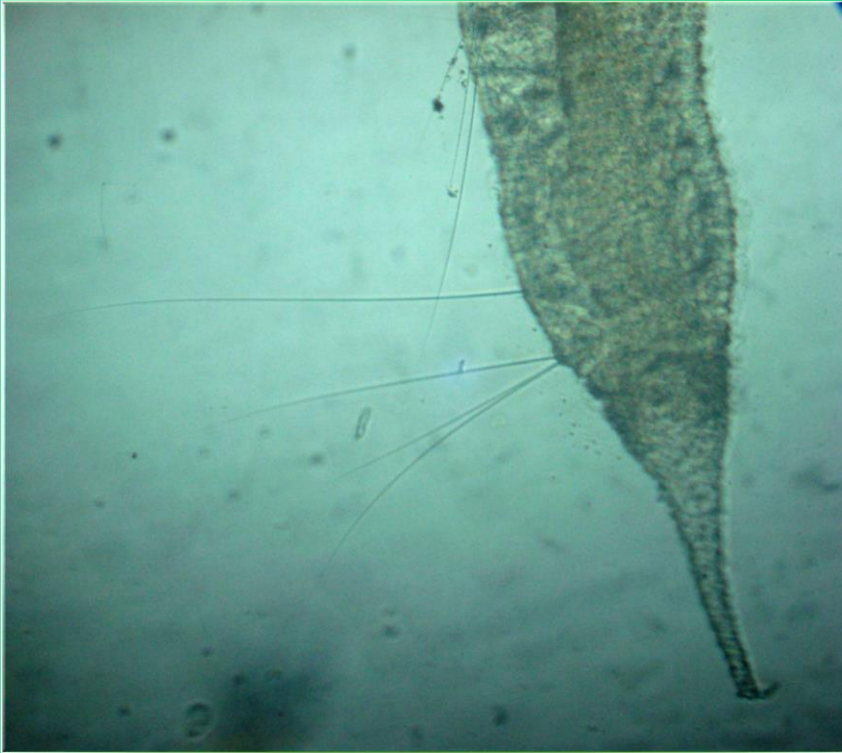




## *Pristina longiseta*

- Dorsal seta begin in II
- Needle seta simple and pointed
- Elongate seta present in III
- Prostomium is bluntly triangular with long proboscis
- Worms are small, slender, delicate and pale yellow.

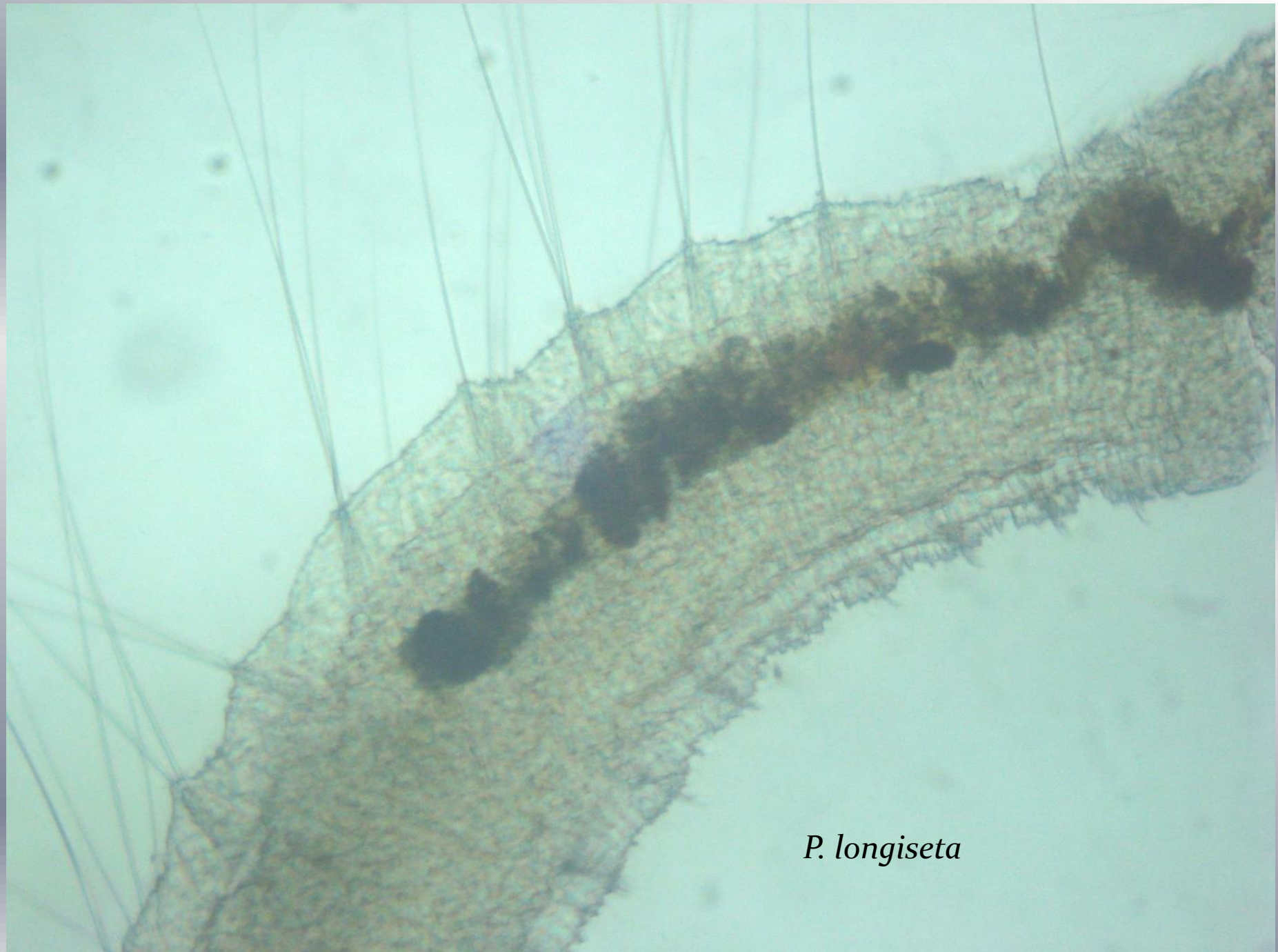
# *Pristina longiseta*



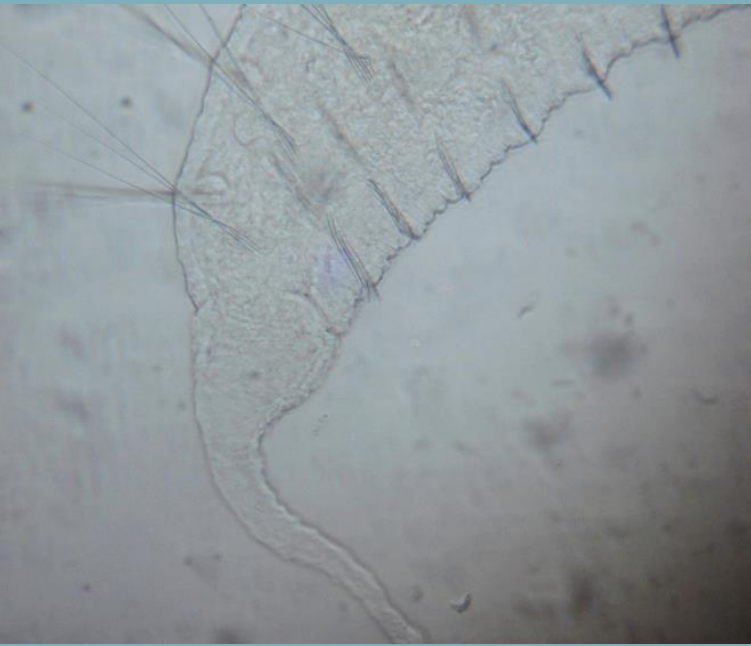
Anterior



Posterior

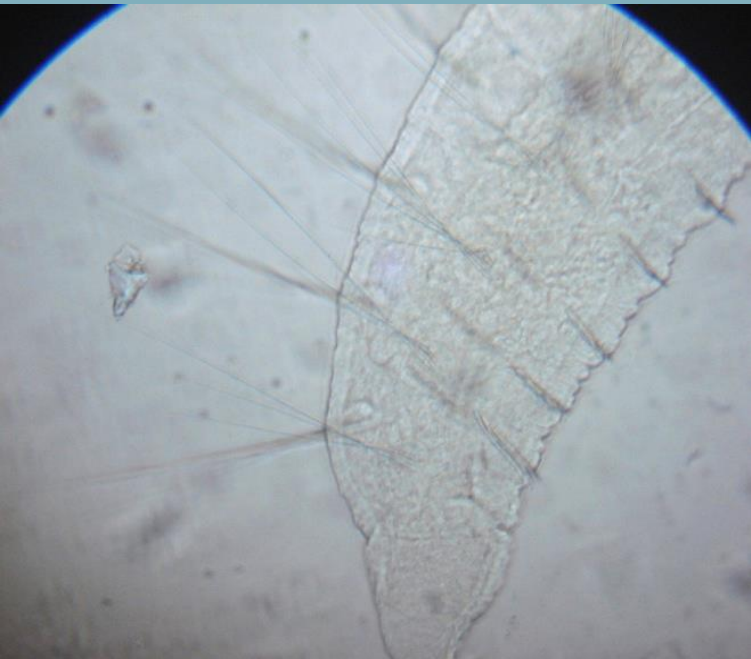


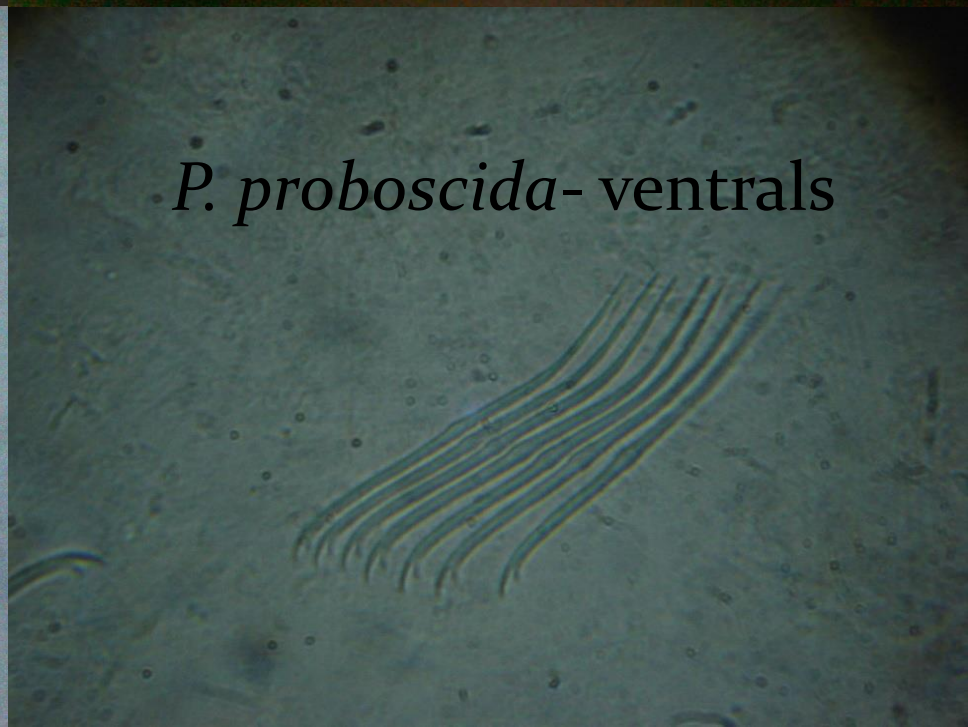
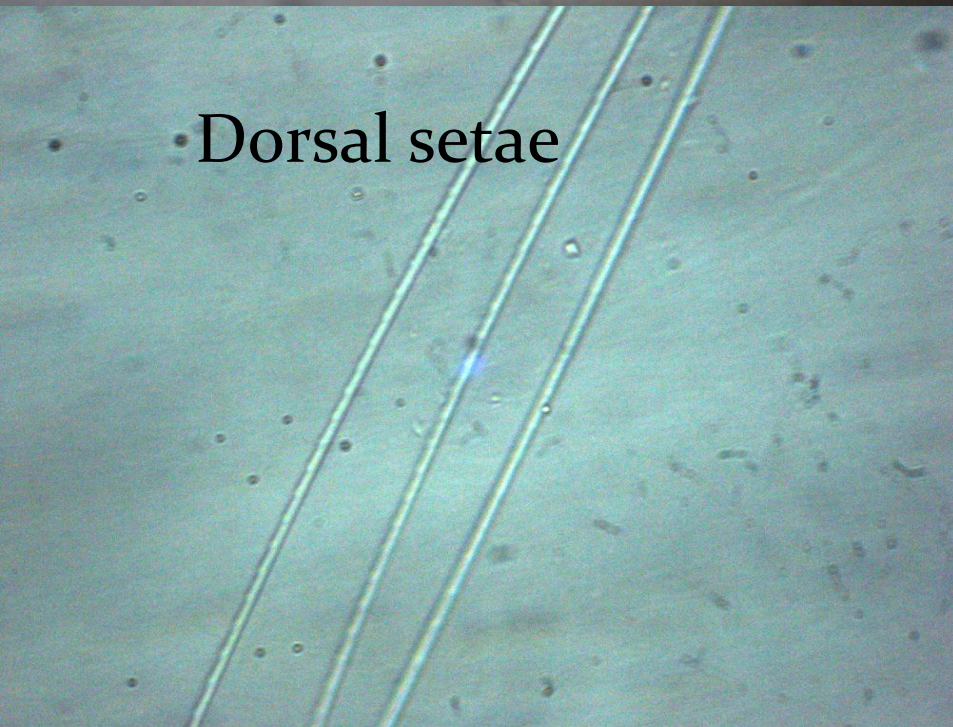
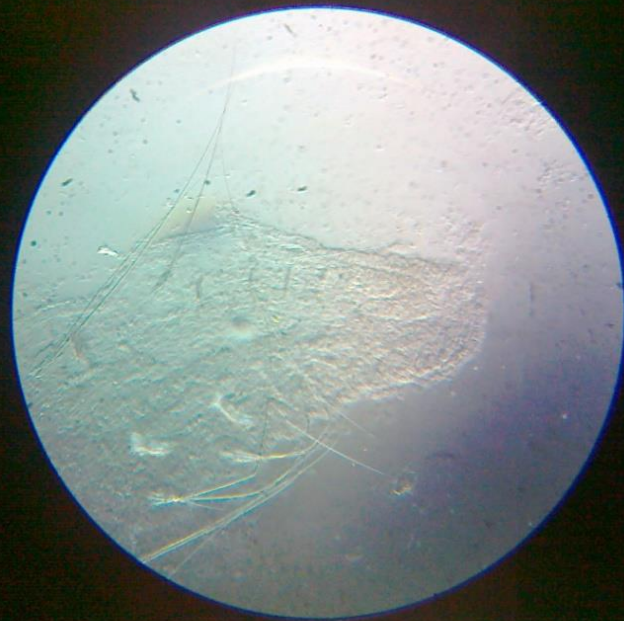
*P. longiseta*



## *Pristina proboscida*

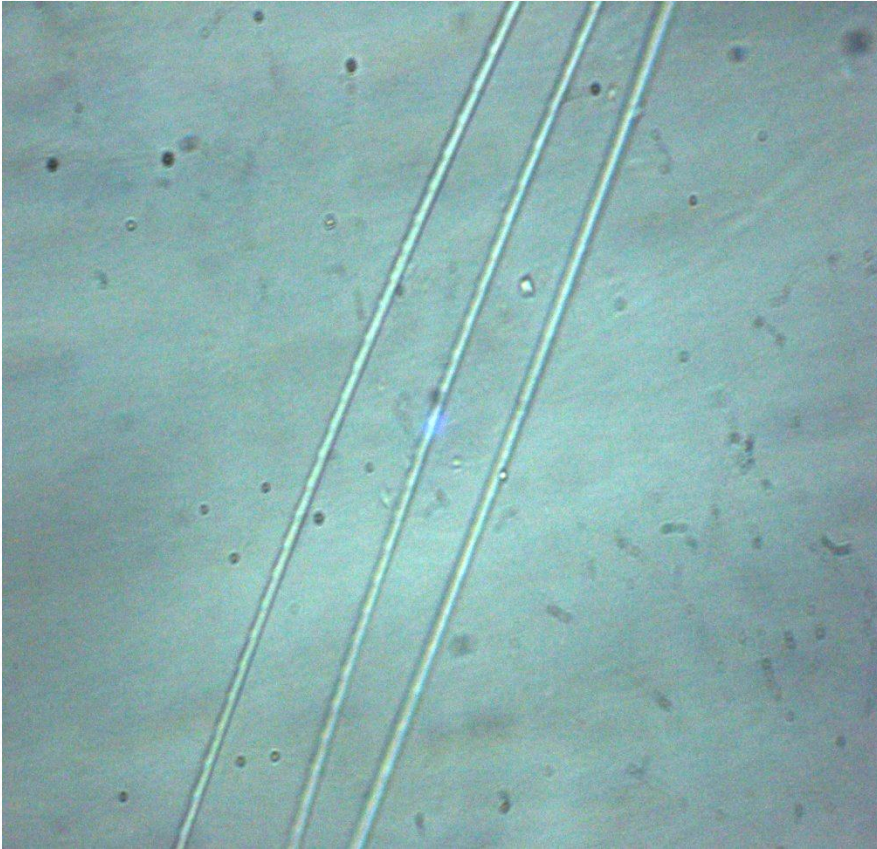
- Very long proboscis but III dorsal setae is not elongated
- Two-three long serrated dorsal hair of equal length
- Dorsal from the II segment. Eyes are absent
- About 7-8 ventral seta per bundle increasing posteriorly with upper tooth longer



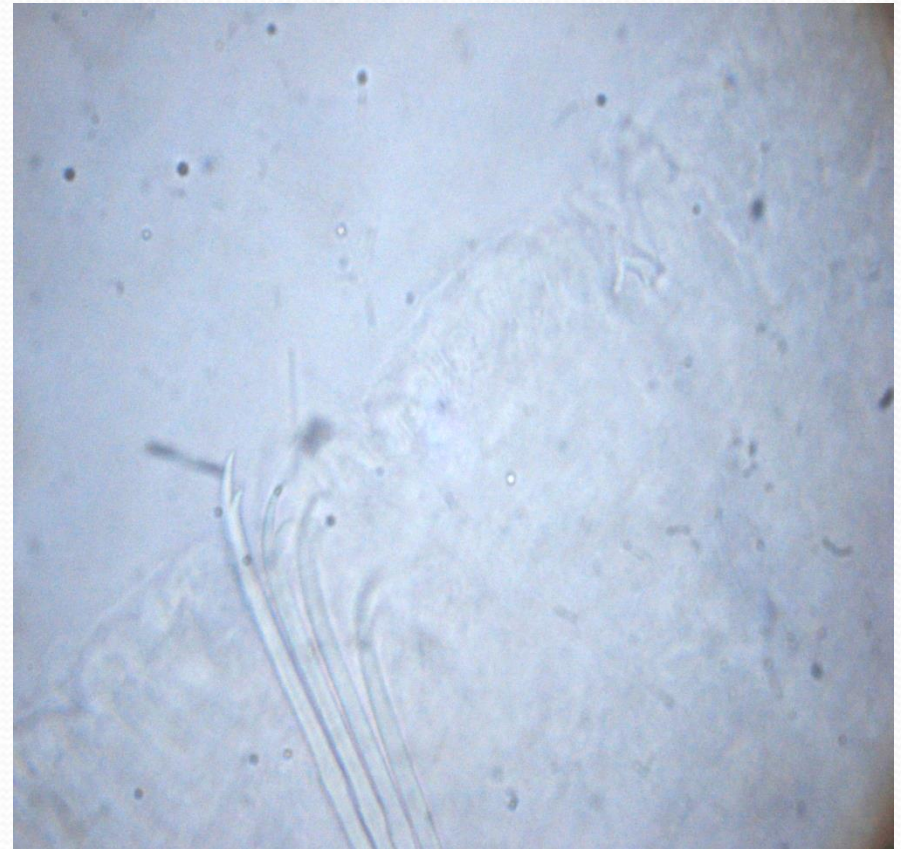


# *Pristina proboscida*

*Dorsal setae-serrated*



*Ventral setae*

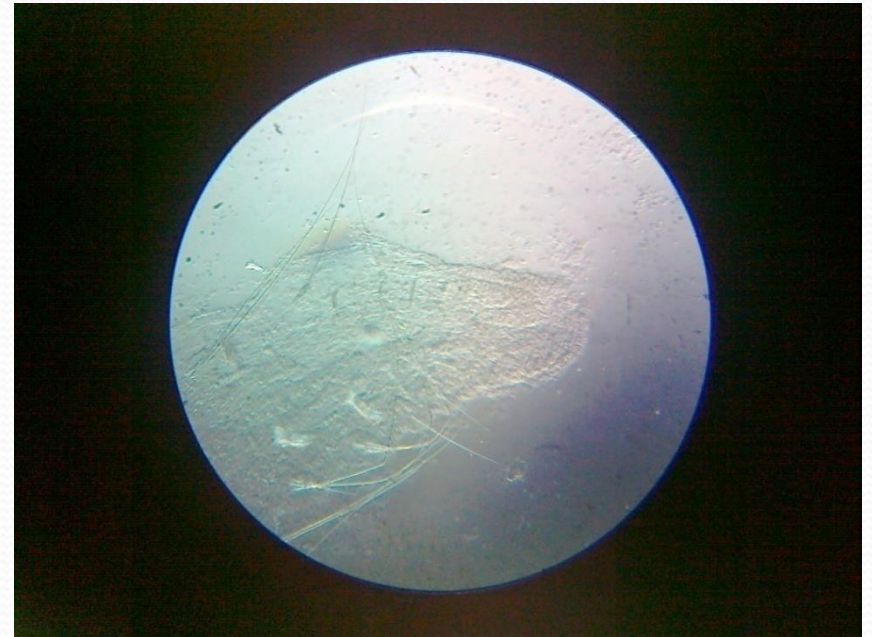


# *P. proboscida*

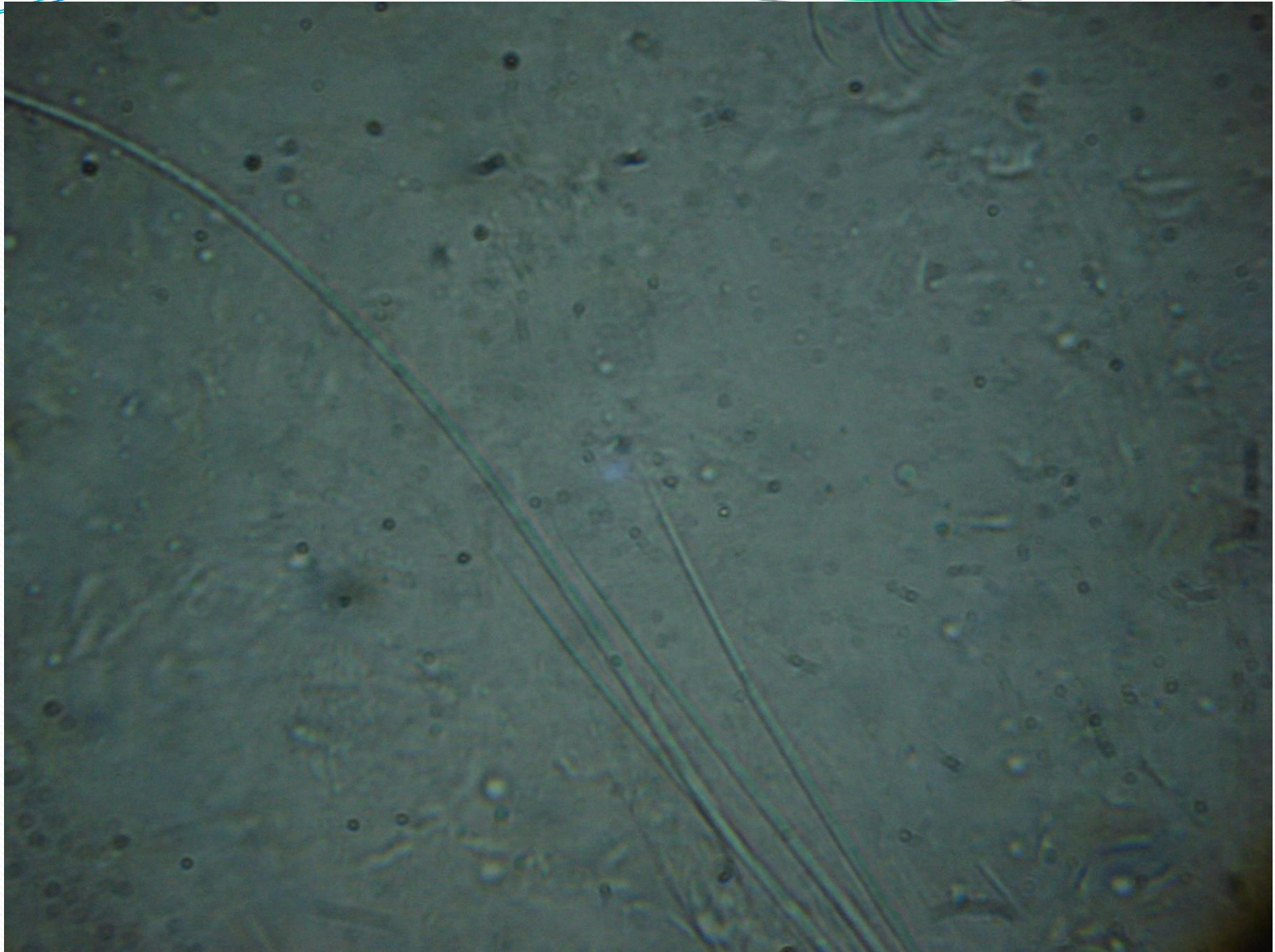
- Ventral setae



- Posterior end

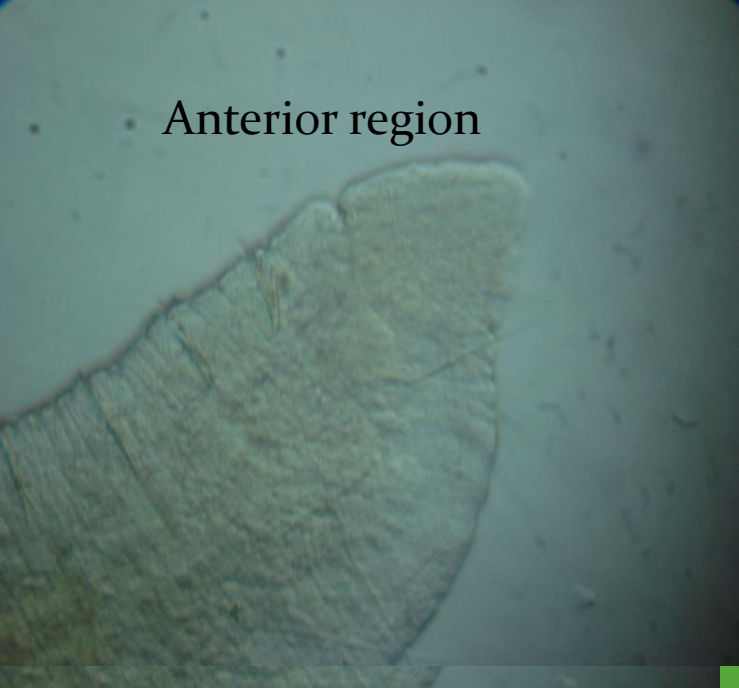


- *P. proboscida*-dorsal



- *P. proboscida*-dorsal serrations-10x





Anterior region

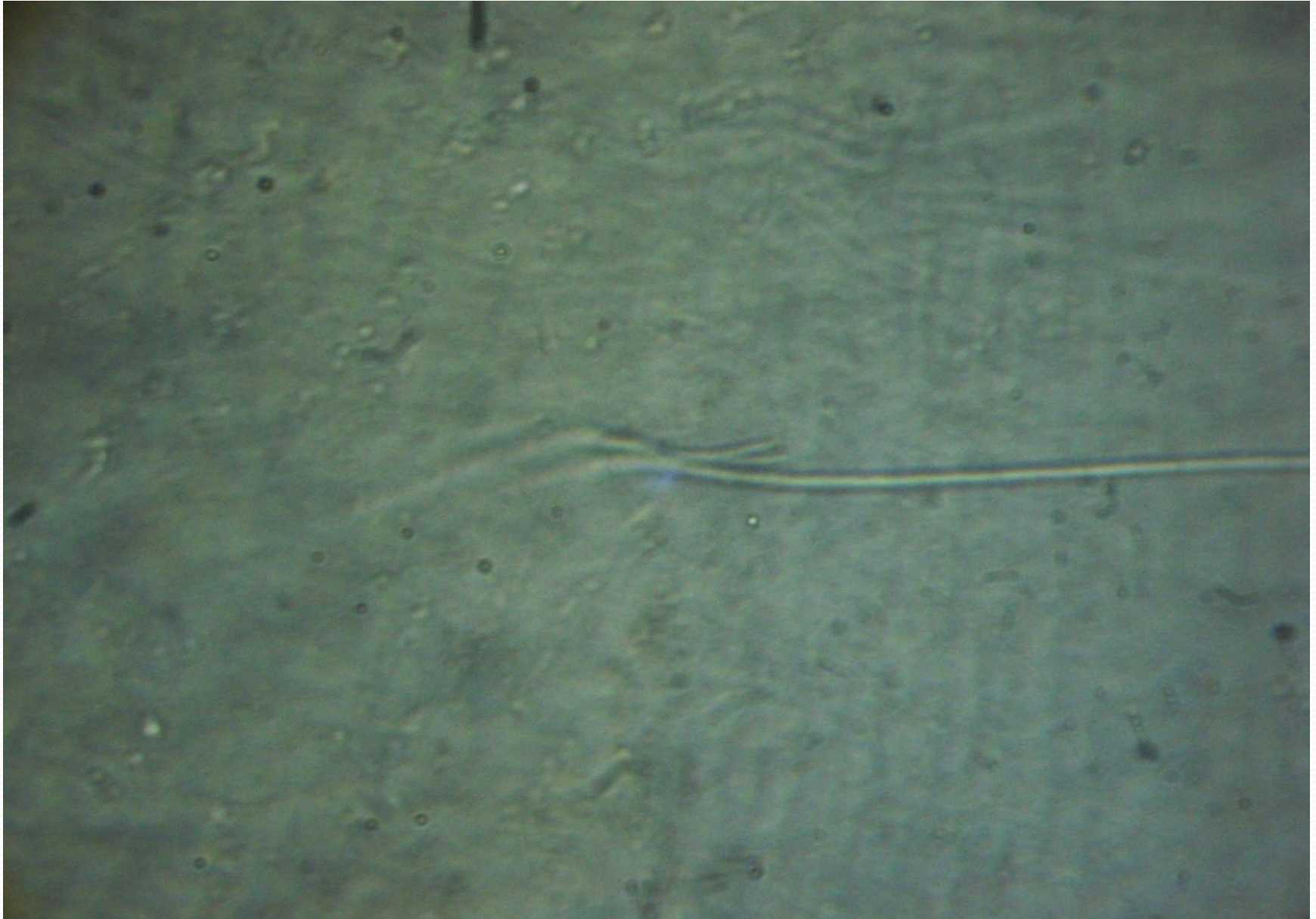


Posterior region

## *Pristina synclytes*

- Teeth of needle setae unequal in length
- Worms live in fresh-water freely in soft mud
- Worms coil into spirals when disturbed
- Pale red worm with slender posterior half
- Dorsal setae from II
- Needle setae bifid, bayonet shaped
- Ventral setae decreasing from anterior to posterior

*Pristina synclytes*-dorsal setae



# *P. synclites*-ventral nodules



# *Pristinella jenkinsae*





*P. jenkiniae*-dorsal

This image shows the dorsal view of a *P. jenkiniae* larva. The body is elongated and segmented, with a series of dark, longitudinal lines running down the center. The background is a light, textured surface with small, dark specks.

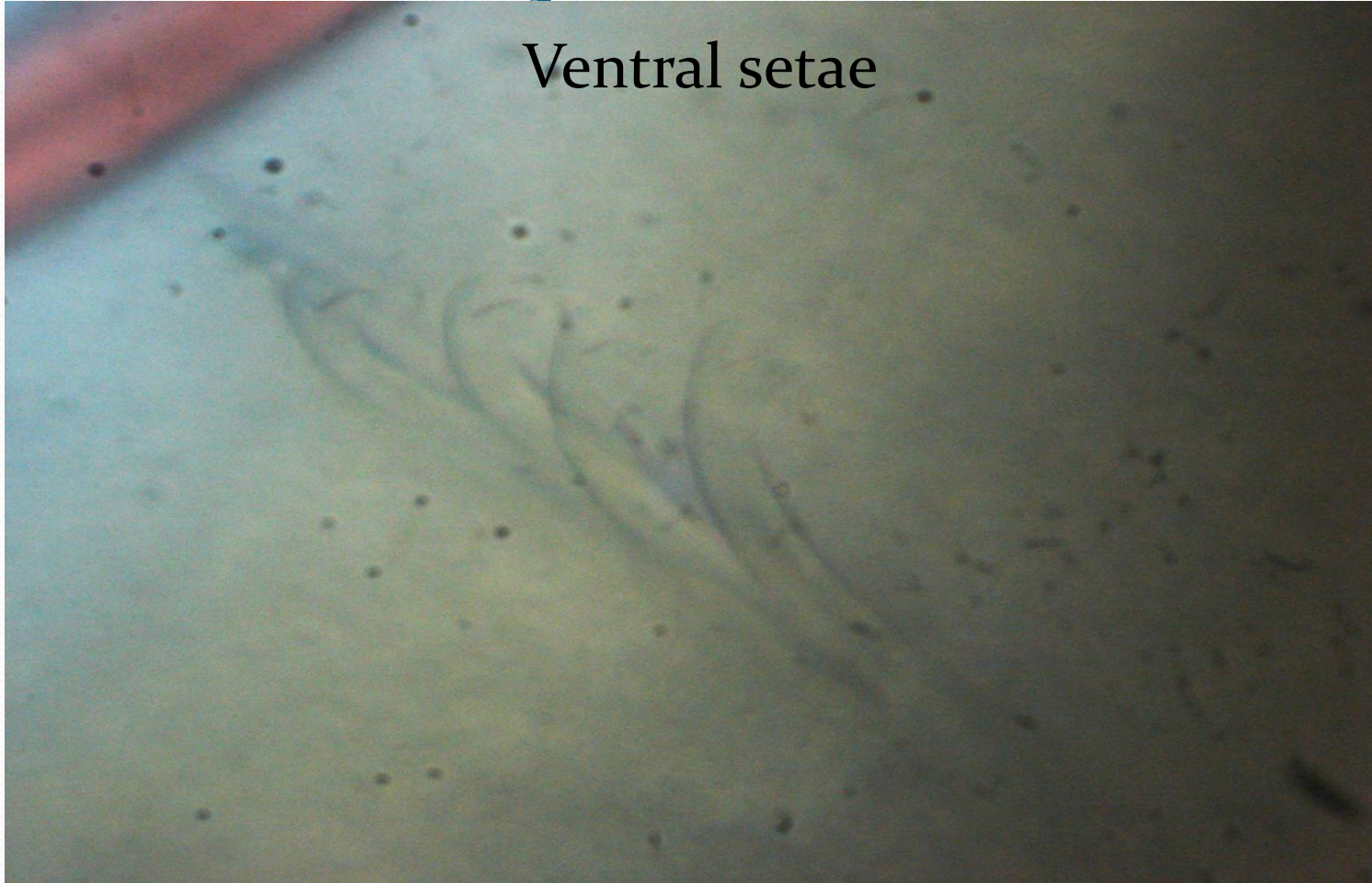


*P. jenkiniae*-ventral

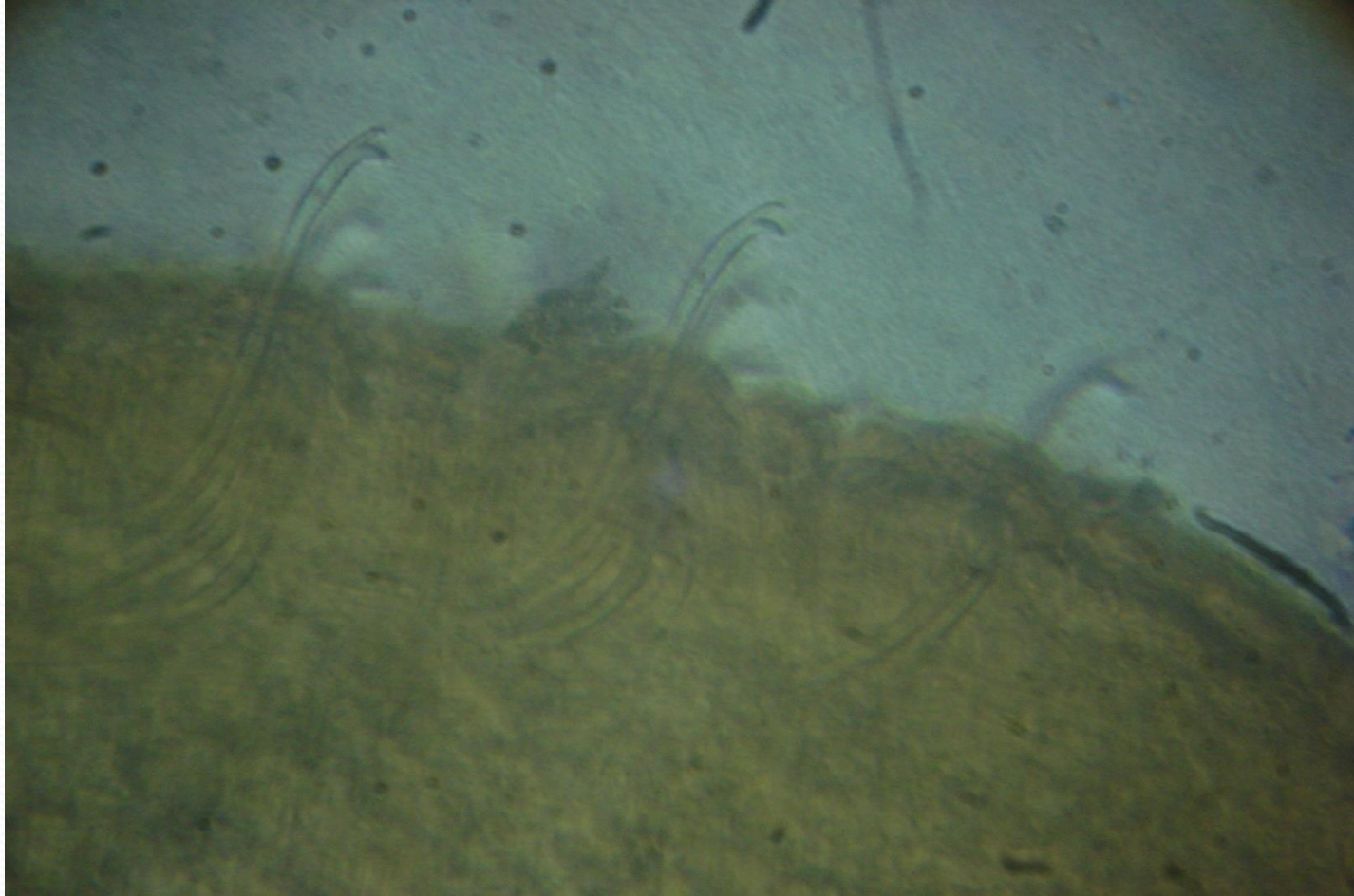
This image shows the ventral view of a *P. jenkiniae* larva. The body is elongated and segmented, with a series of dark, longitudinal lines running down the center. The background is a light, textured surface with small, dark specks.

# *Pristinella jenkiniae*

Ventral setae



*P. jenkiniae*(ventral)



# *Pristinella menoni*

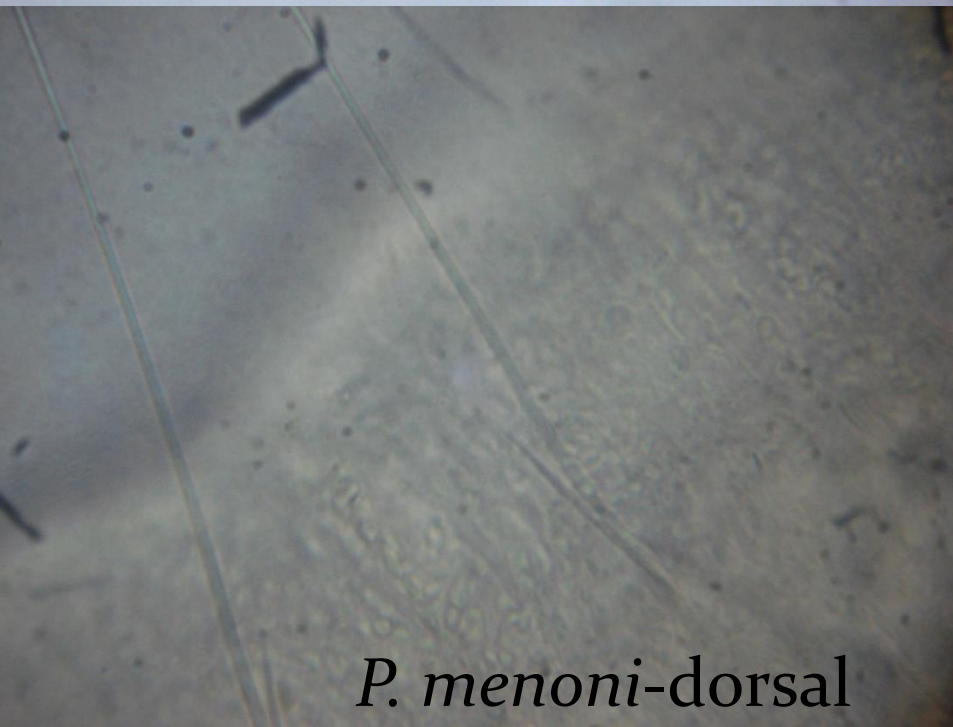




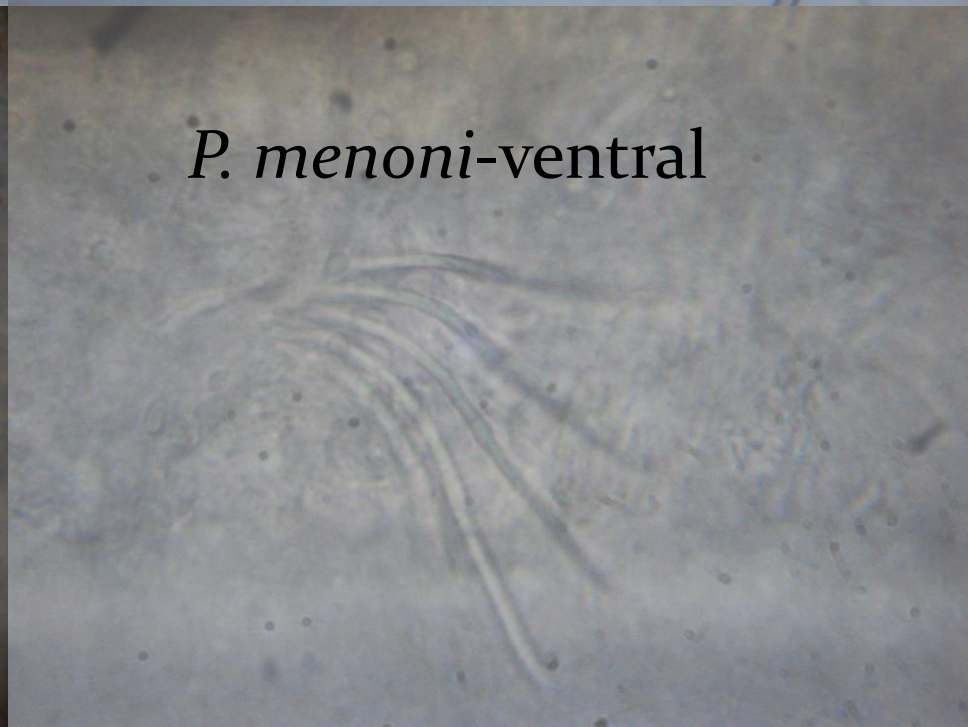
*P. menoni*



*P. menoni*-posterior



*P. menoni*-dorsal

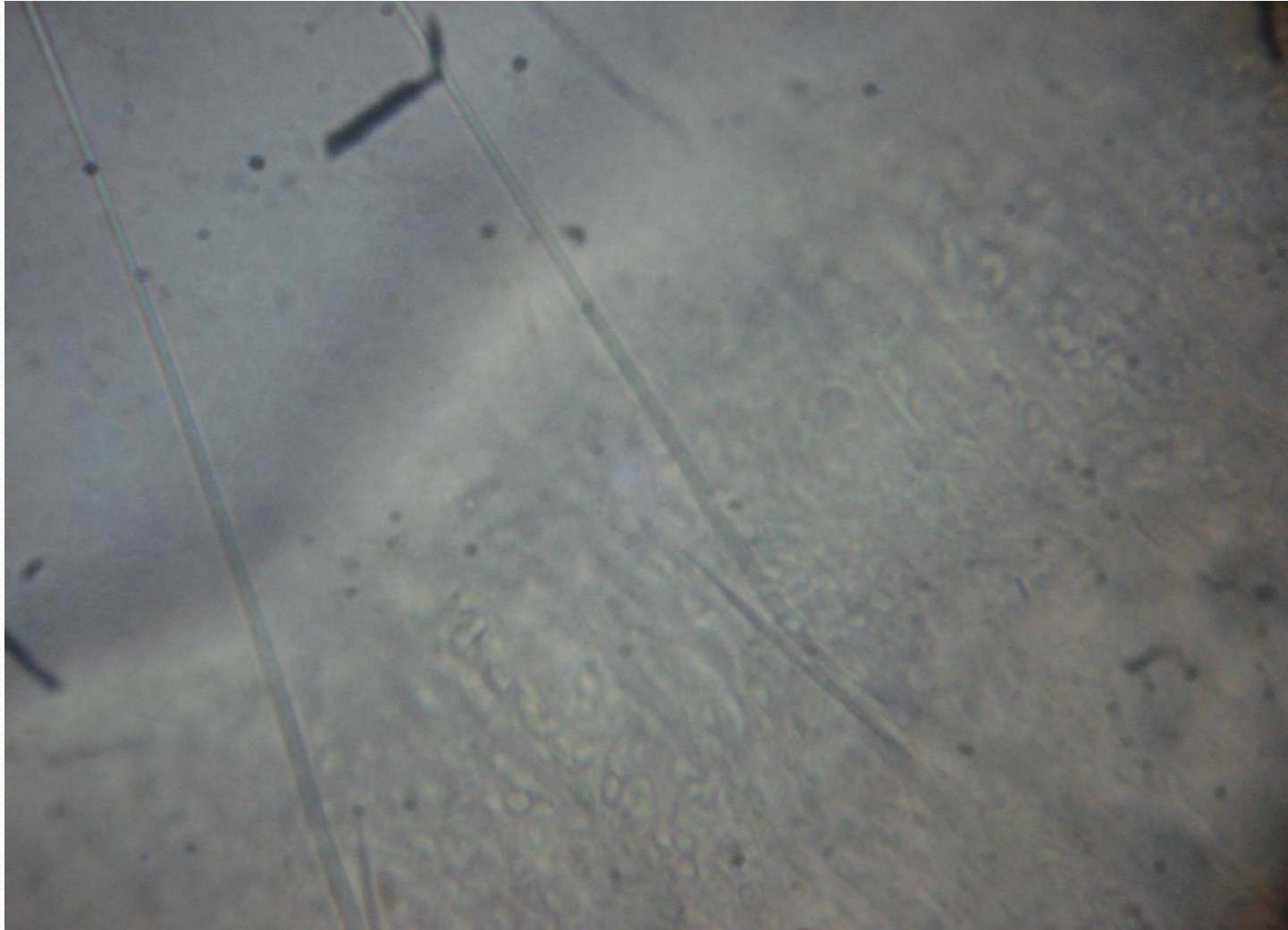


*P. menoni*-ventral

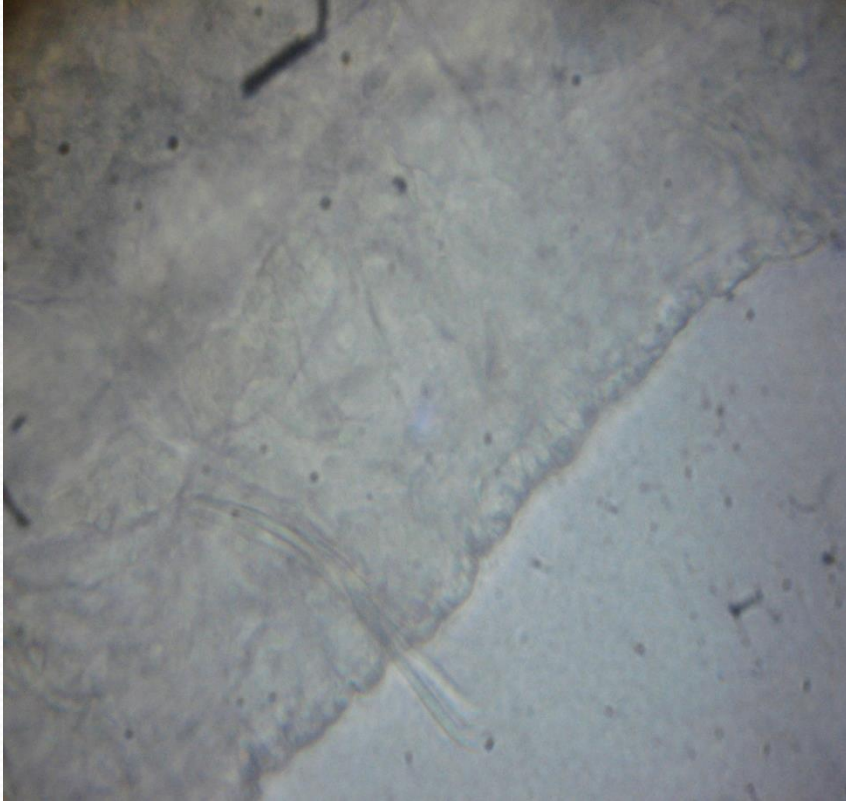
# *Pristinella menoni*



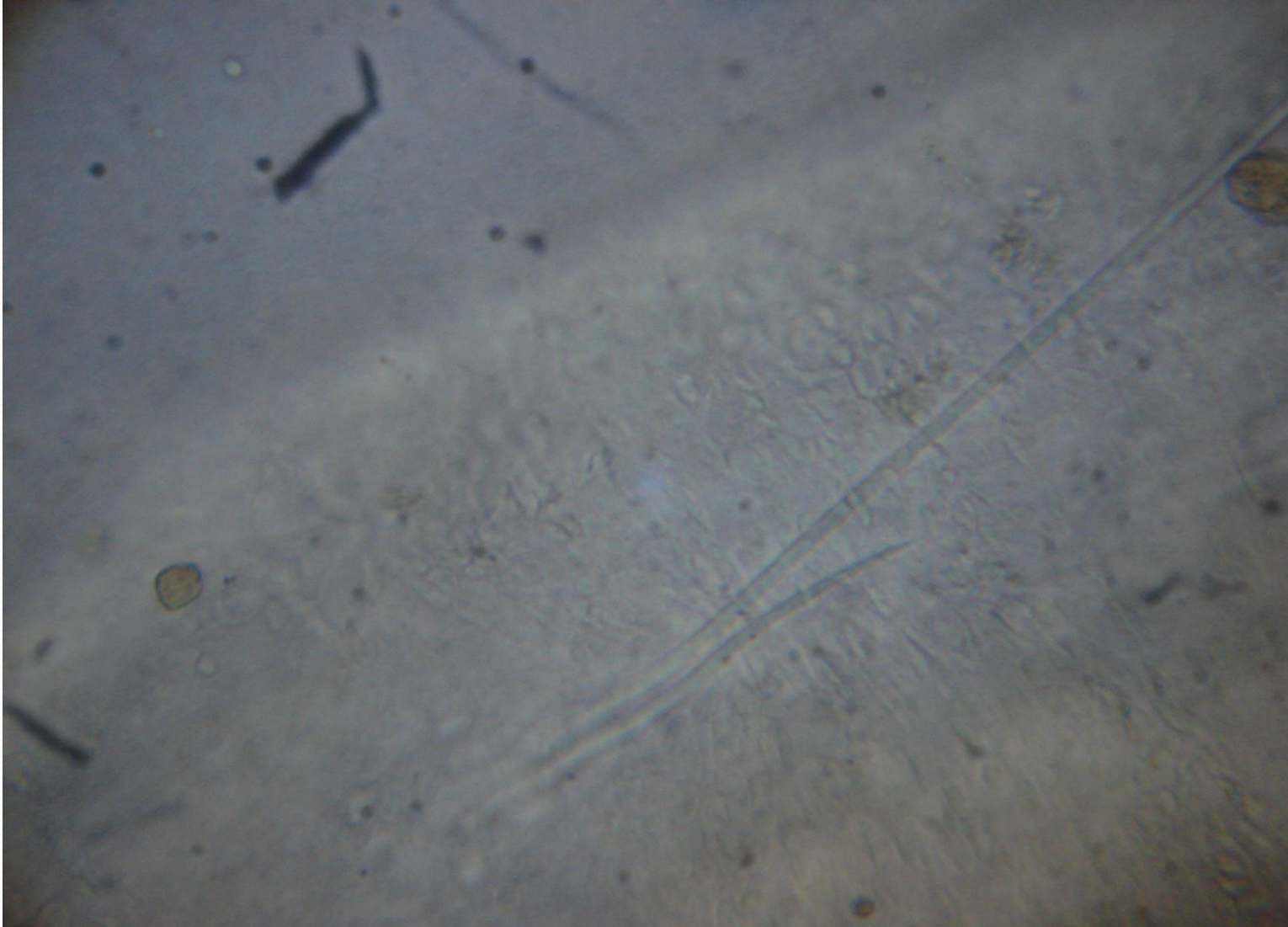
# *Pristinella menoni*



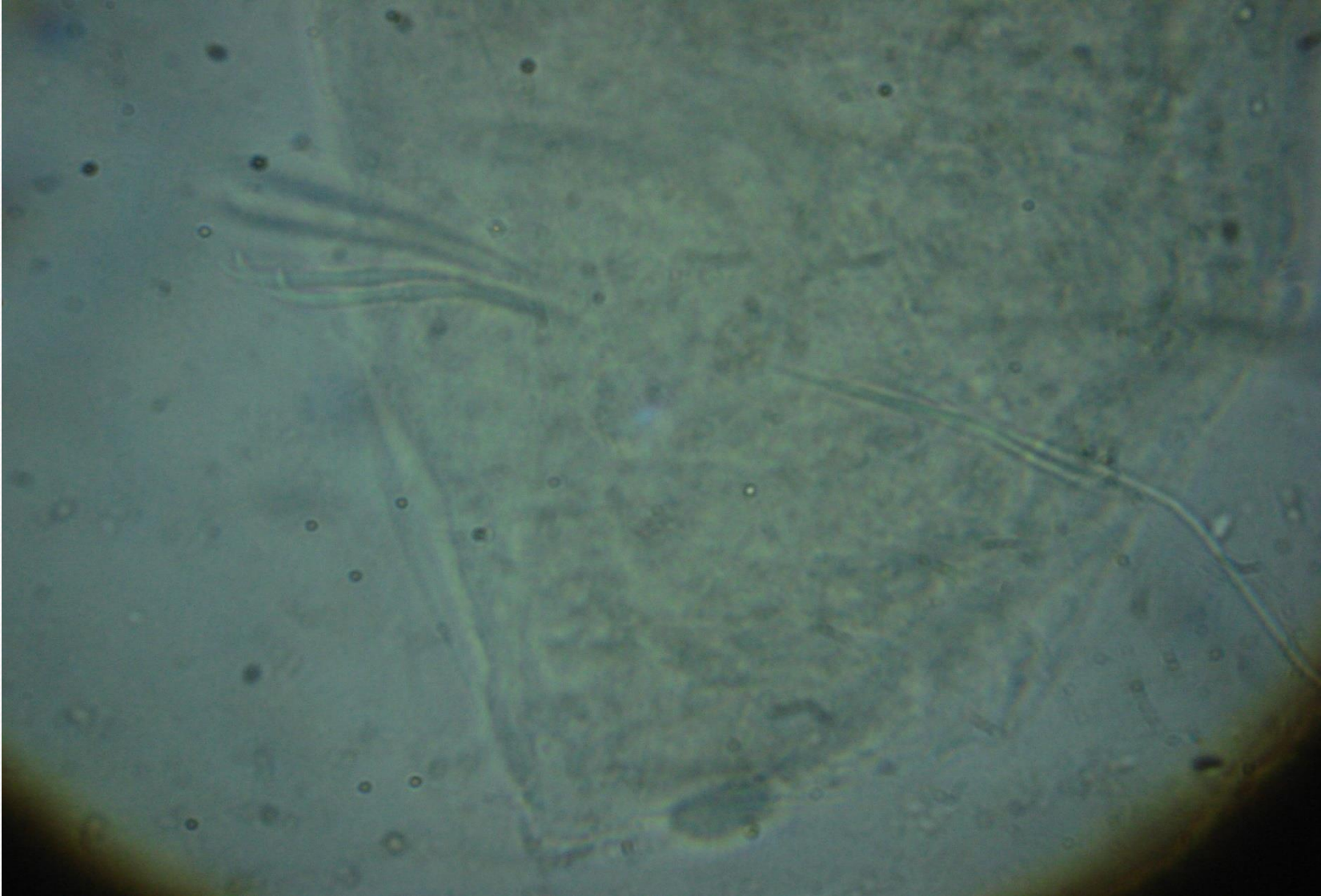
# *Pristinella menoni*



# *Pristinella menoni*

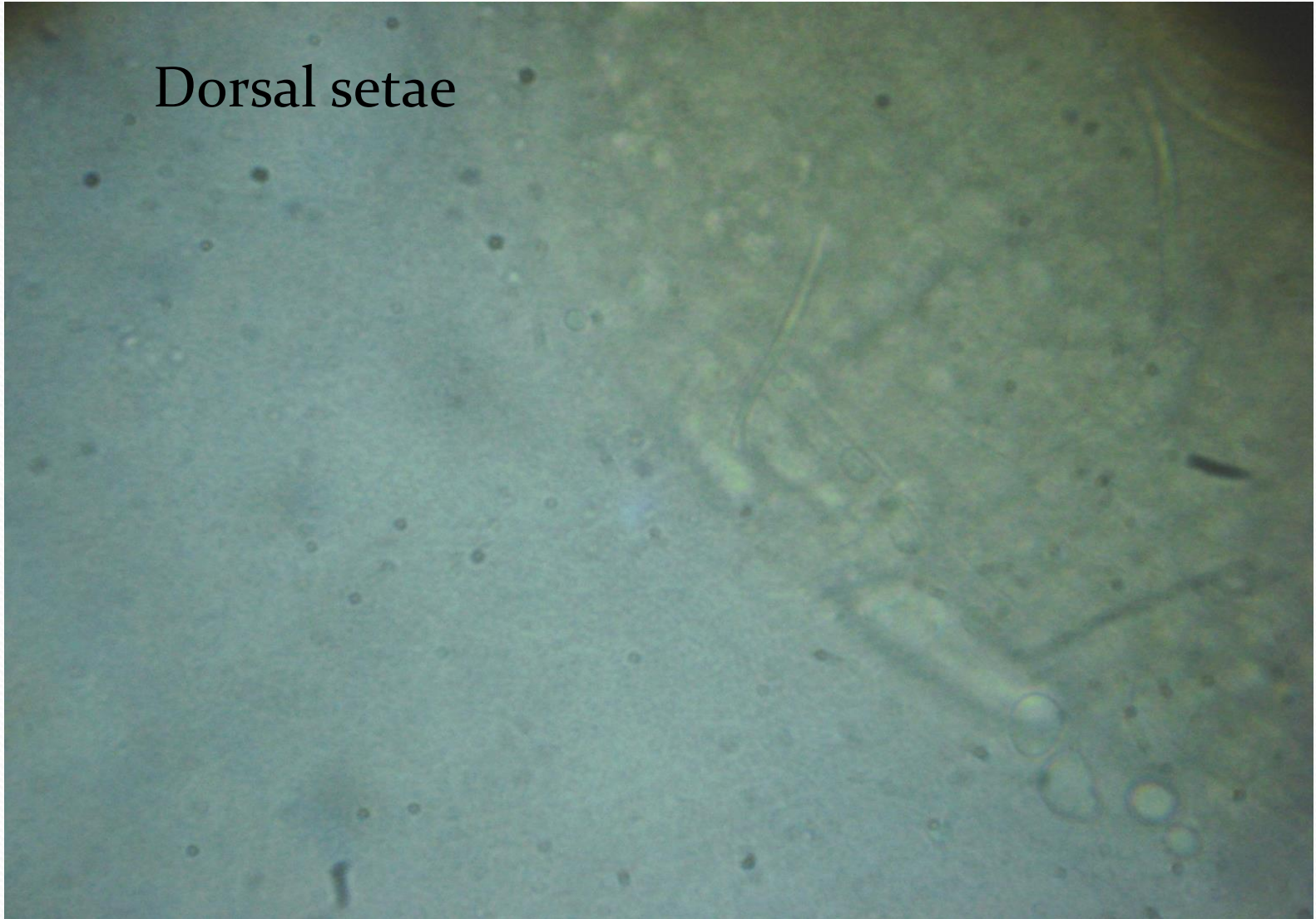


# *Pristina breviseta*



# *Pristina breviseta*

Dorsal setae

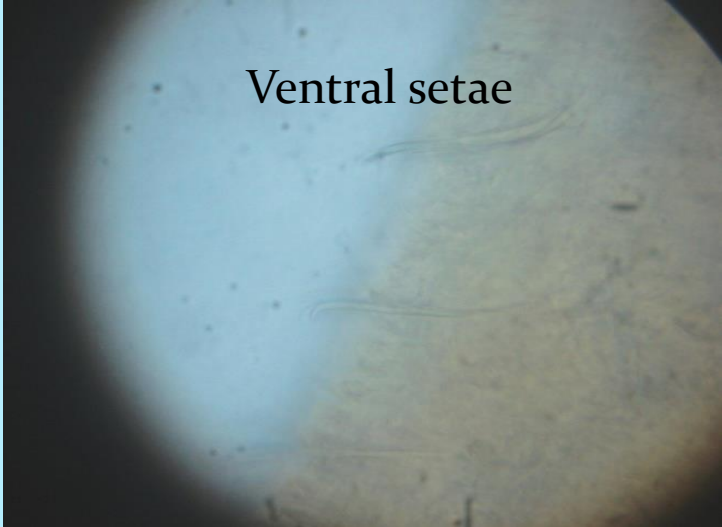


## *Nais barbata*

- First 7 ventrals have long upper and small lower tooth
- Needle seta is short and pointed
- Dorsal from VI with one hair and one needle



Dorsal setae



Ventral setae



*Nais barbata*-anterior



*Nais barbata*-posterior



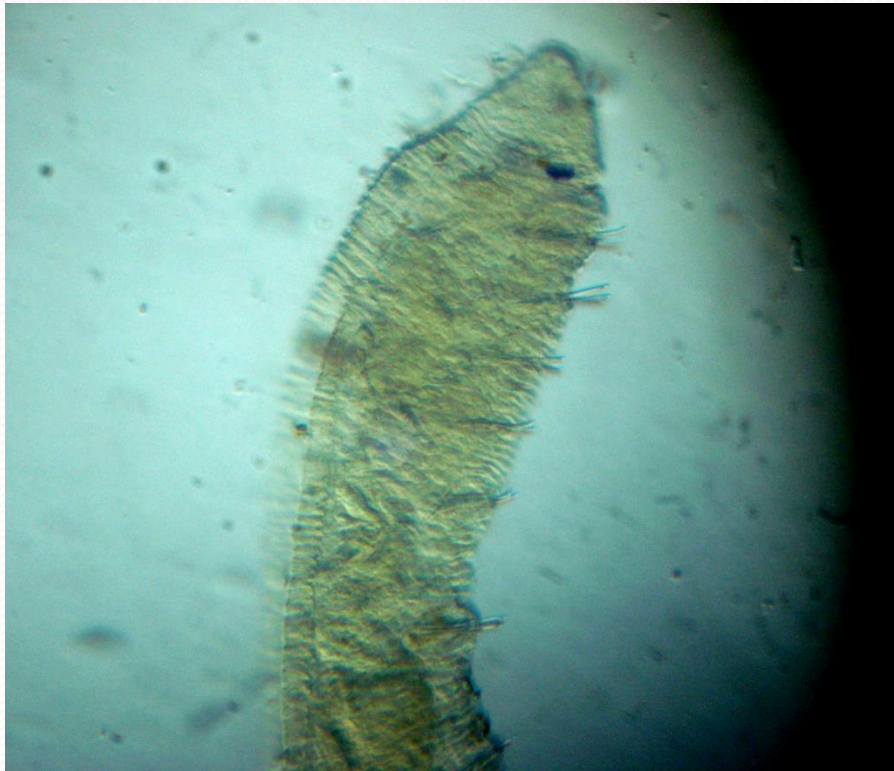
*Nais barbata*-dorsal



*Nais barbata*-ventral

# *Nais barbata*

Anterior region



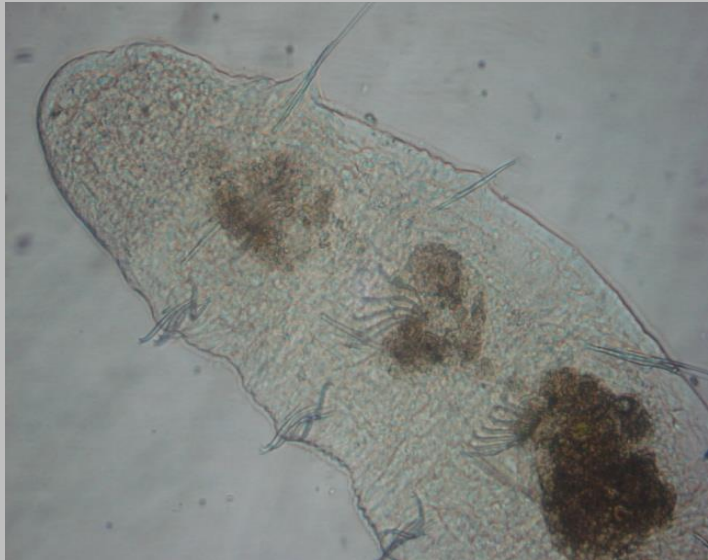
Posterior region



## *Allonais paraguayensis*



- Needle setae with distal tooth rudimentary or shorter than proximal.
- Dorsal setae from VI segment
- ventral-5-6 with slightly longer upper tooth at anterior and equal at posterior

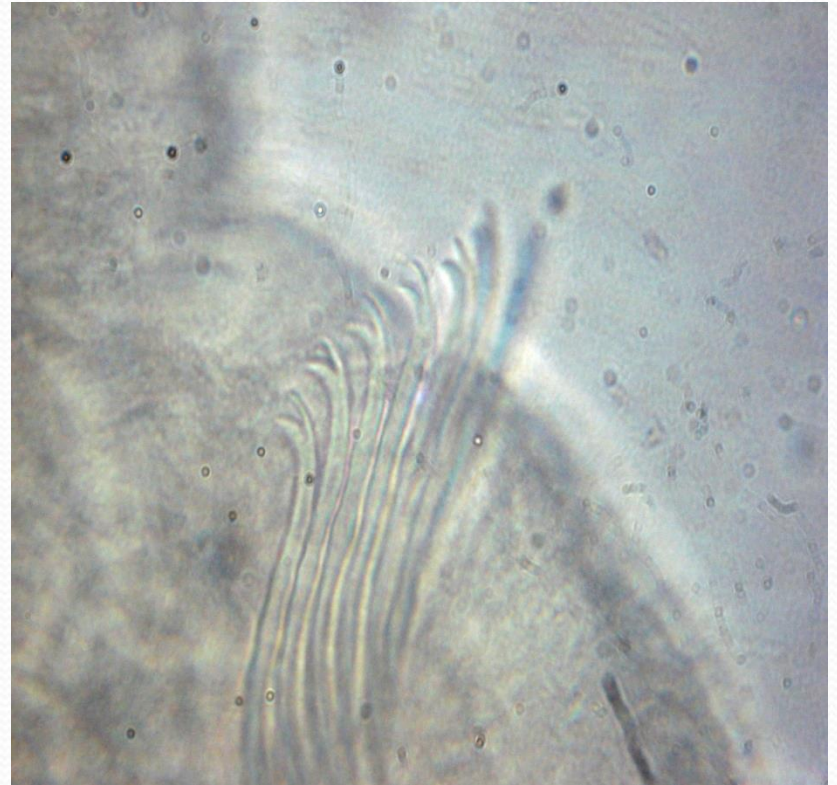


# *Allonais paraguayensis*

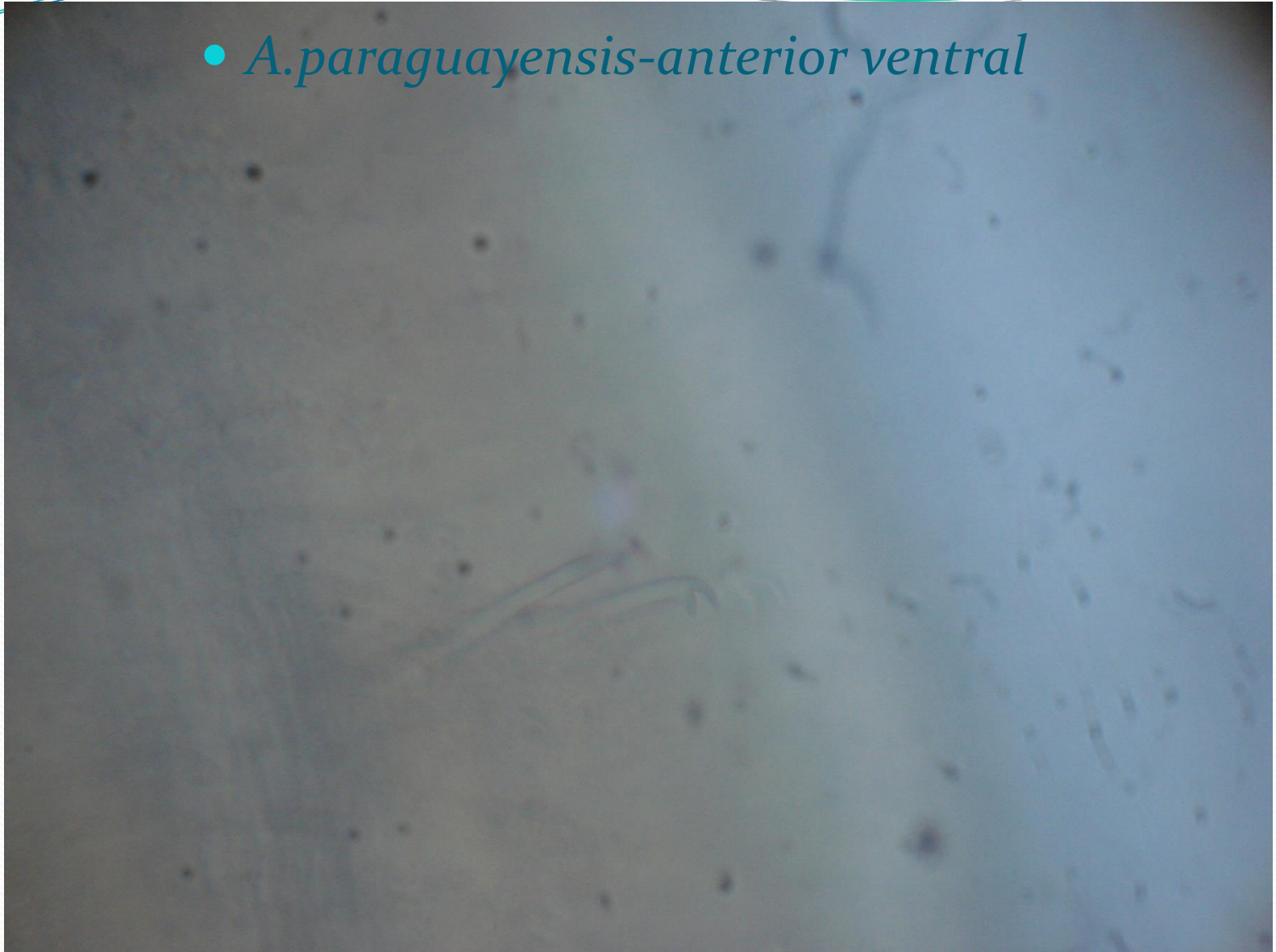
Needle setae



Ventral setae



- *A. paraguayensis*-anterior ventral

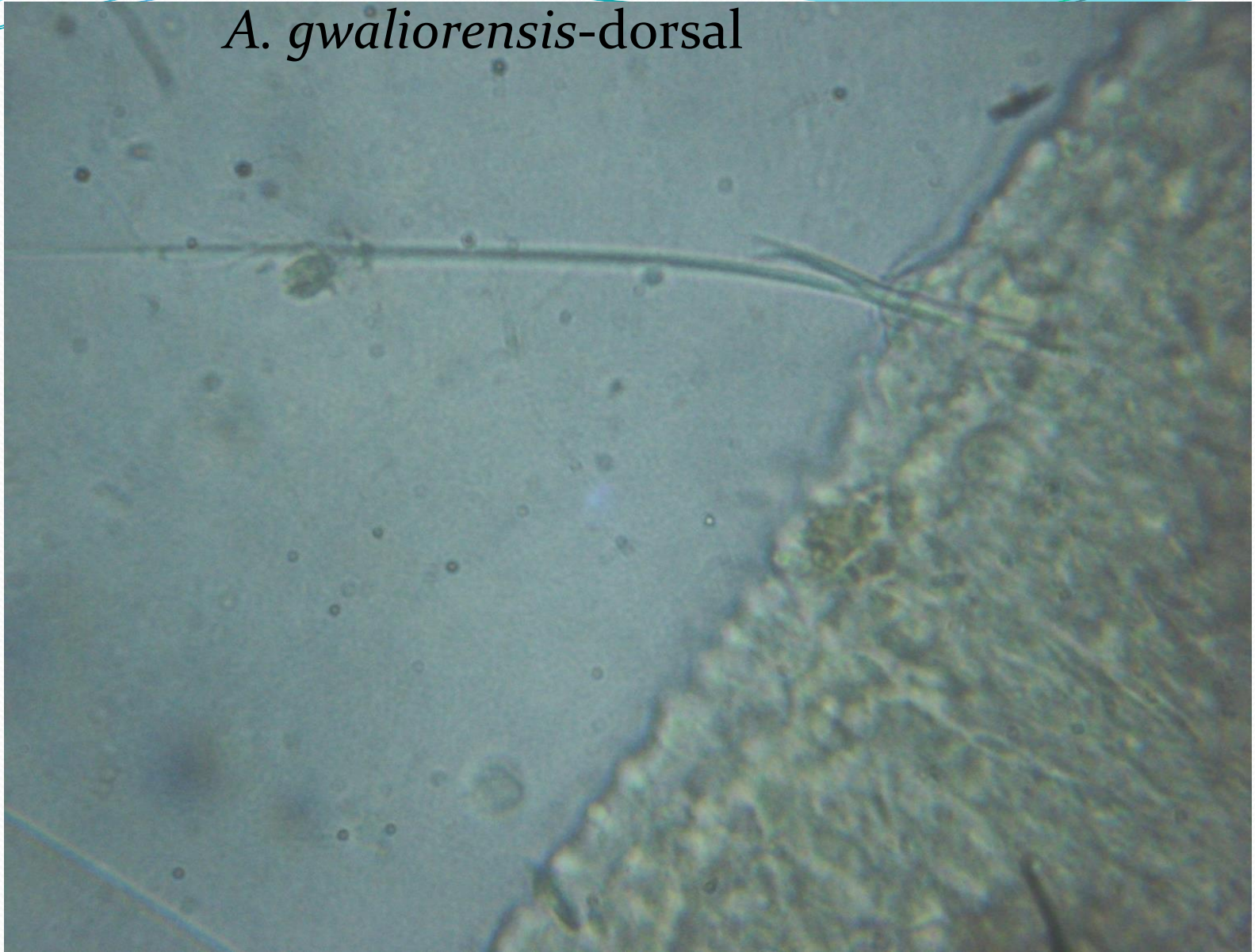


# *Allonais gwaliorensis*

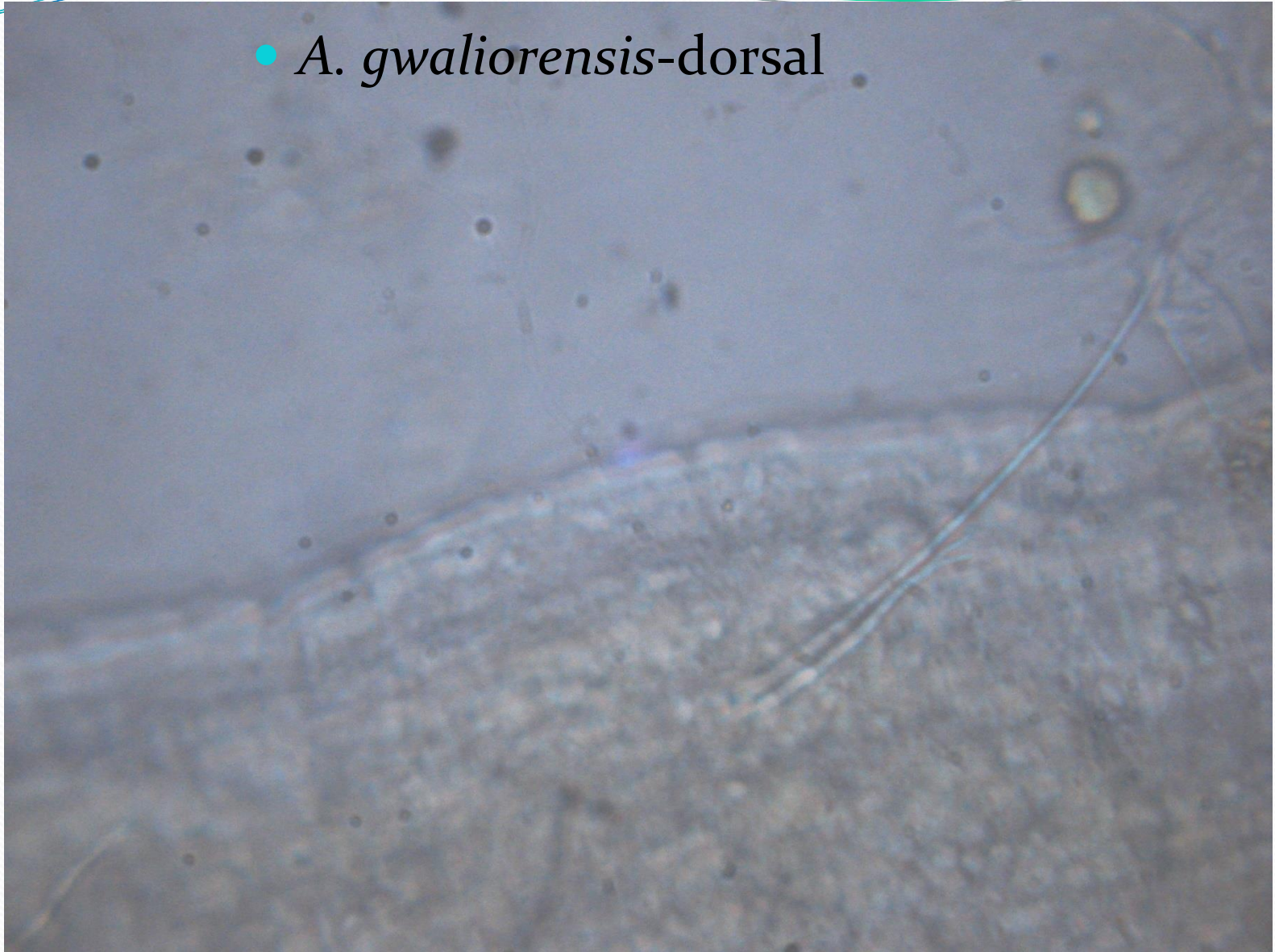
Dorsal setae- *A.gwaliorensis*



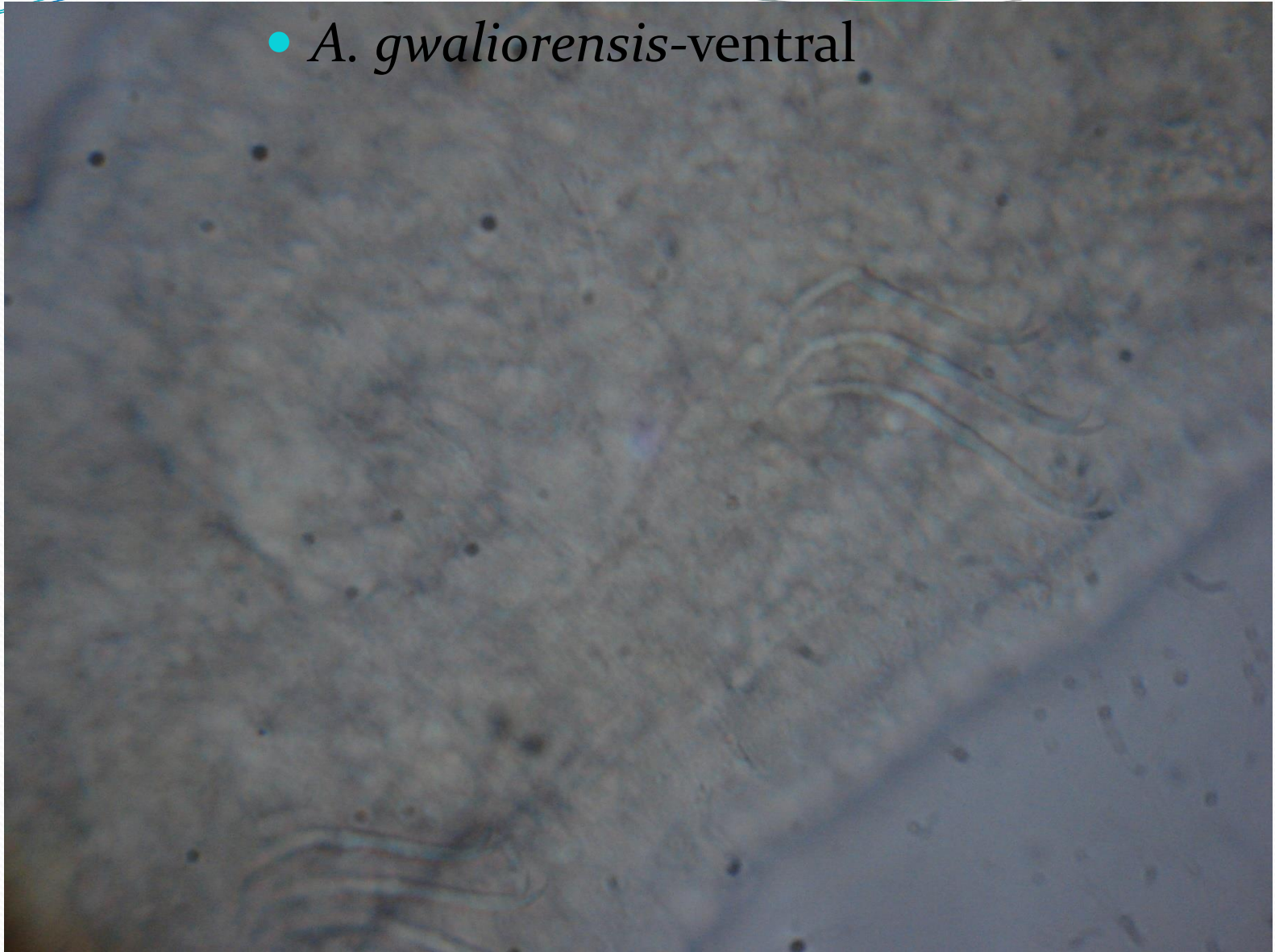
*A. gwaliorensis*-dorsal



- *A. gwalioensis*-dorsal

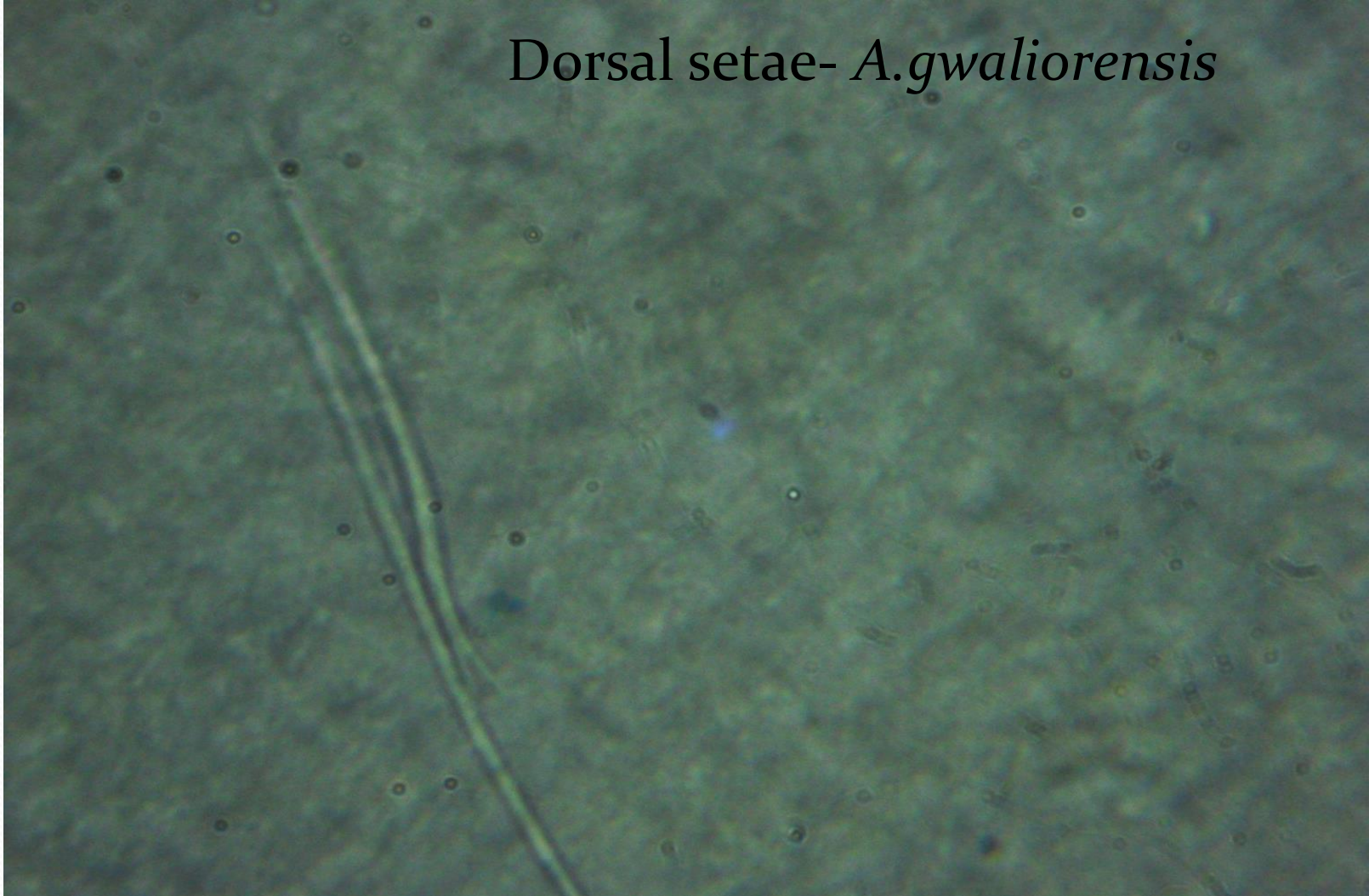


- *A. gwaliorensis*-ventral



# *A. gwalioensis*

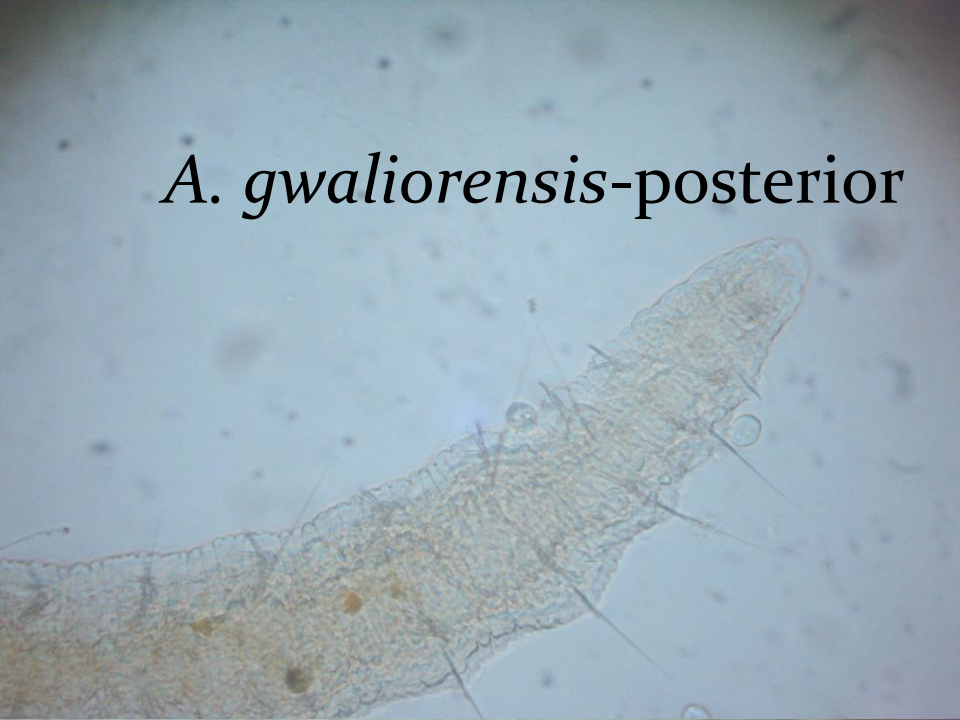
Dorsal setae- *A. gwalioensis*



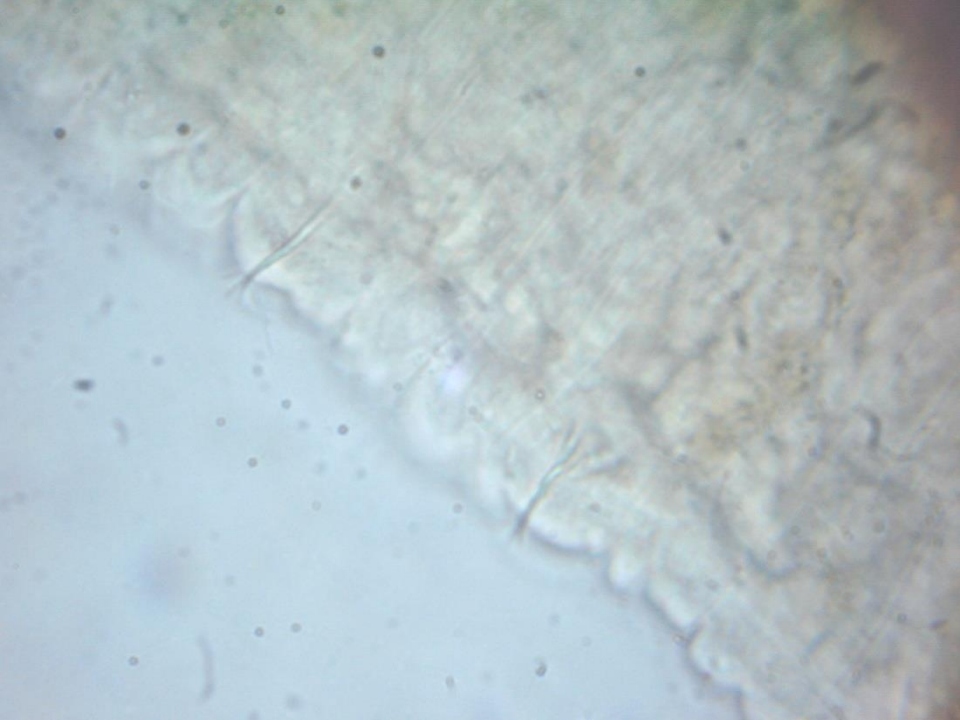
*A. gwalioensis*-anterior



*A. gwalioensis*-posterior

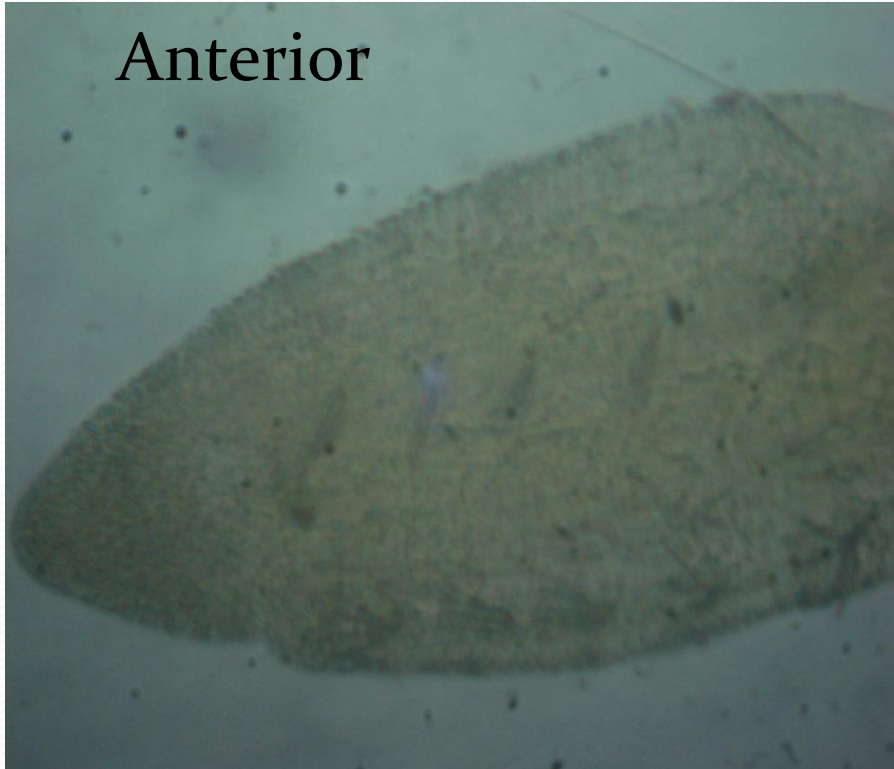


*A. gwalioensis*-ventral



# *Allonais gwaliorensis*

Anterior

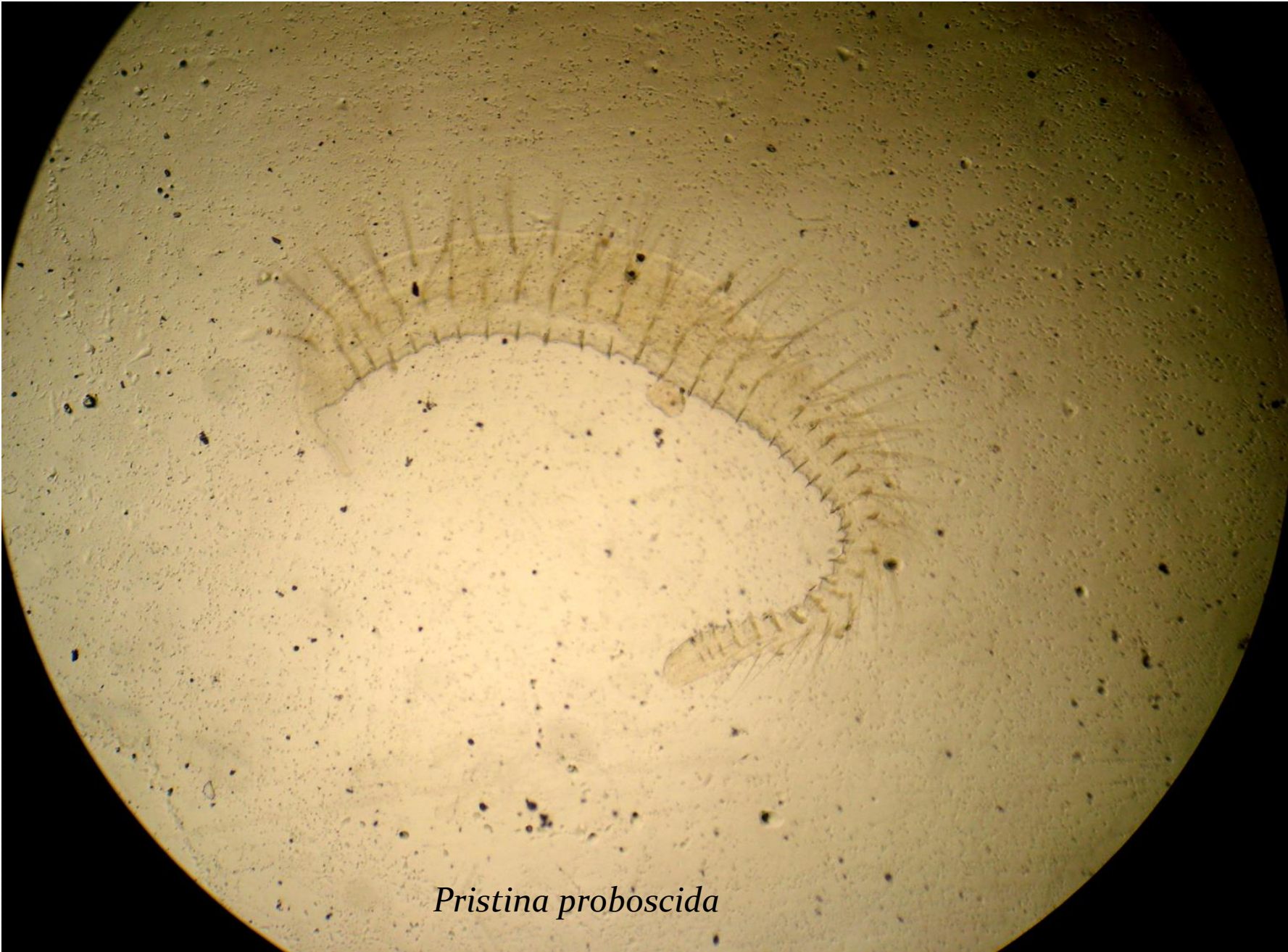


Posterior



- *A.gwalioensis*





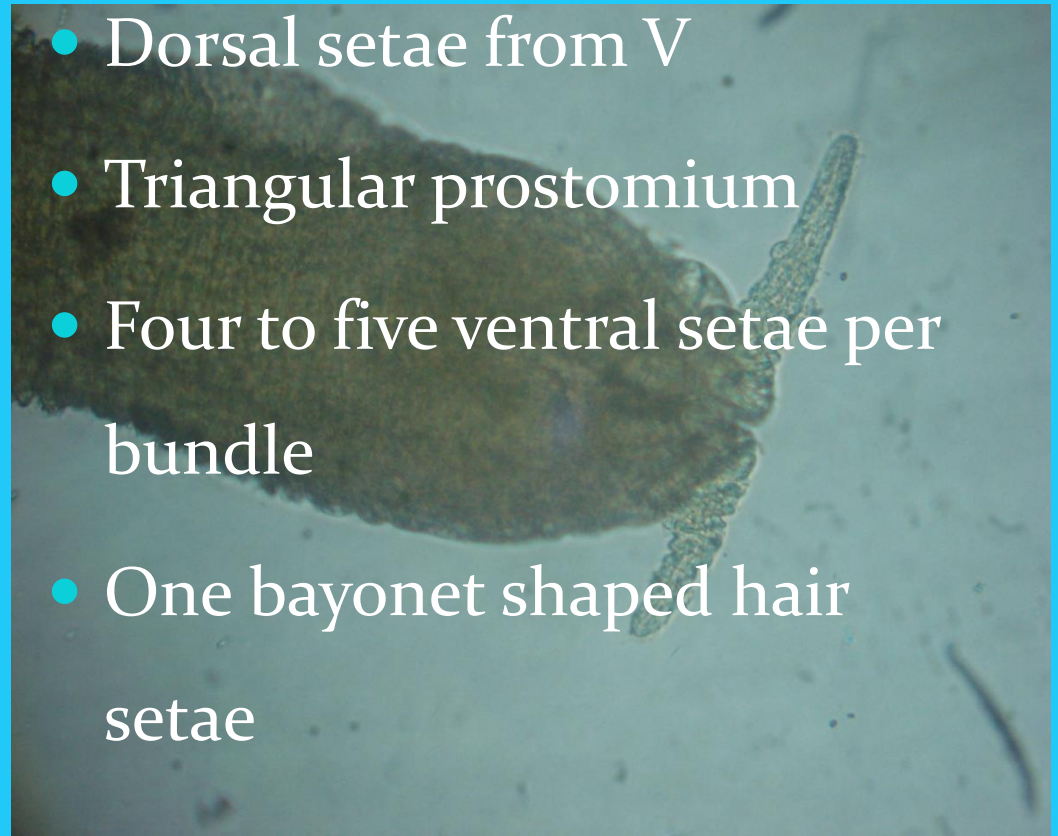
*Pristina proboscida*

Anterior region



# *Aulophorus moghei*

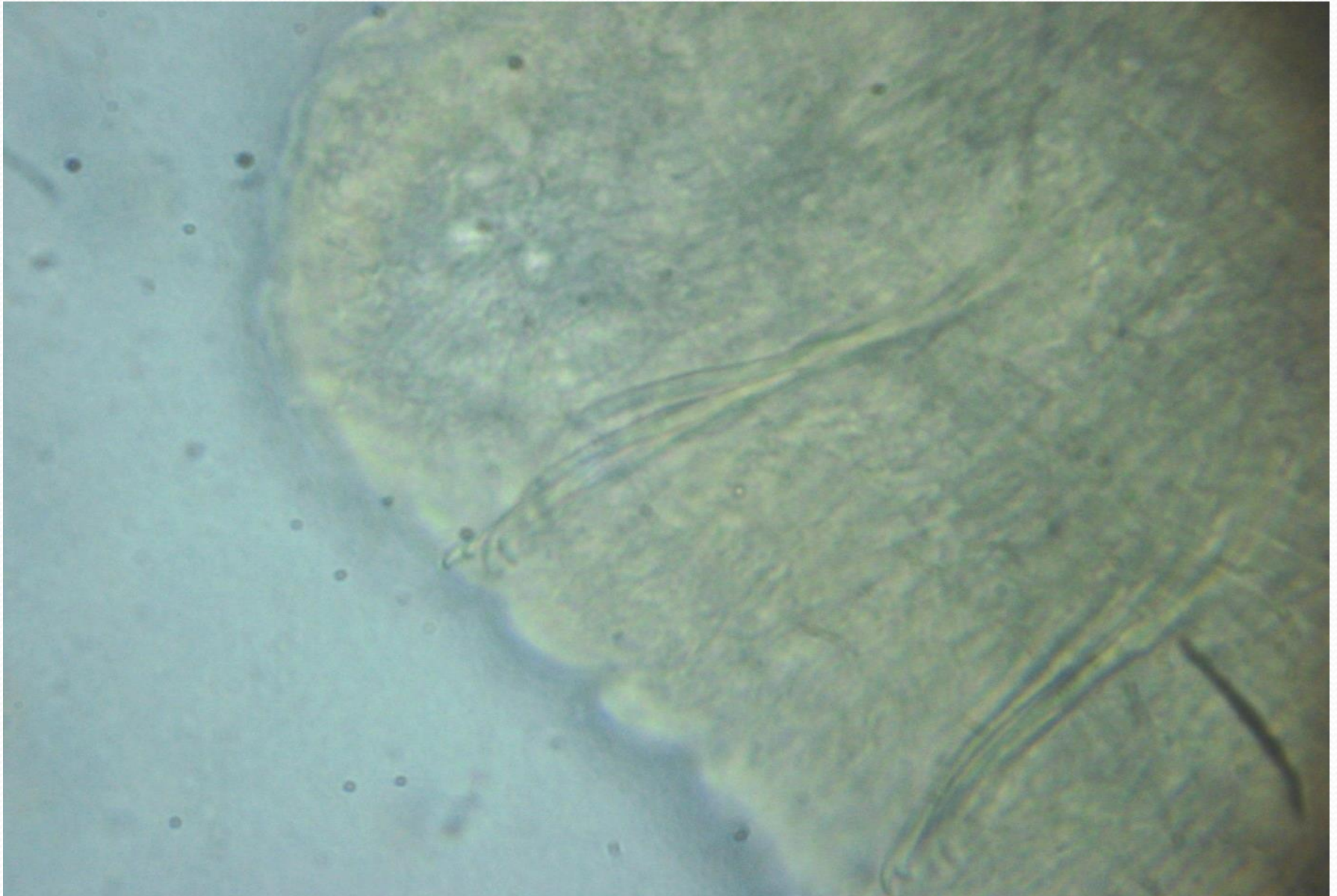
- Dorsal setae from V
- Triangular prostomium
- Four to five ventral setae per bundle
- One bayonet shaped hair setae



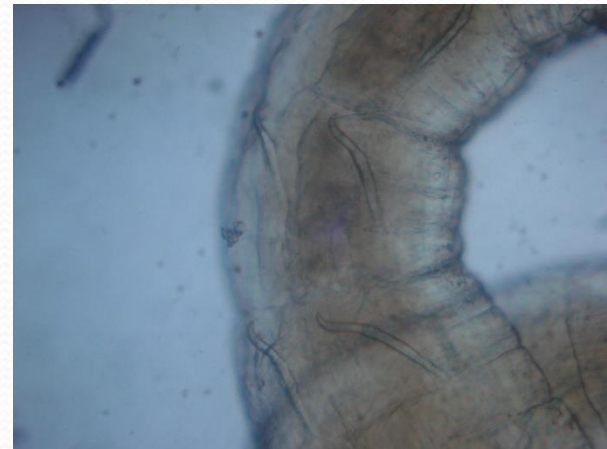
Dorsal setae



# *Aulophorus moghei*-ventral setae

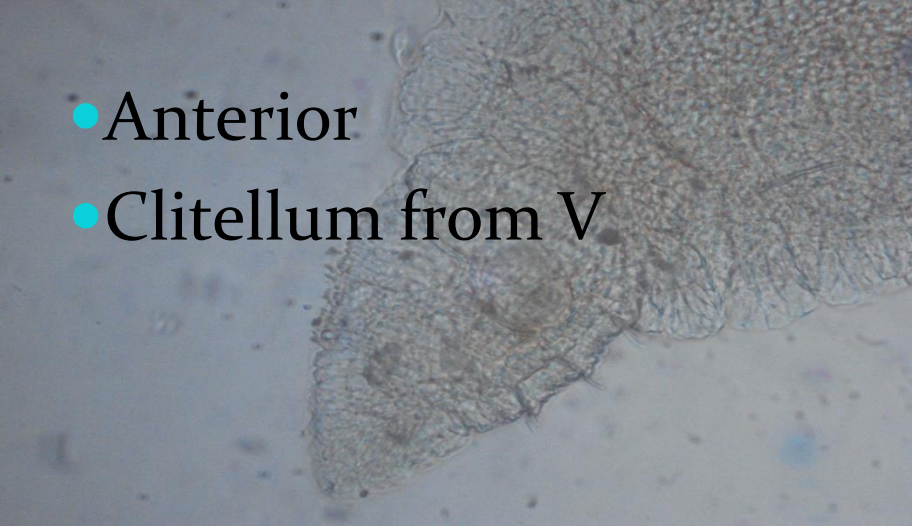


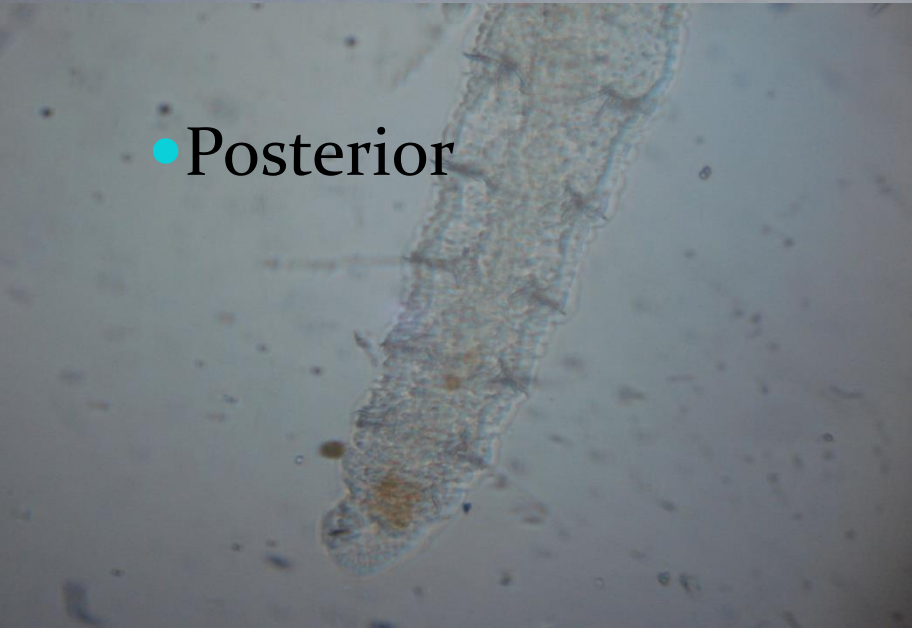
# *Chaetogaster* sps



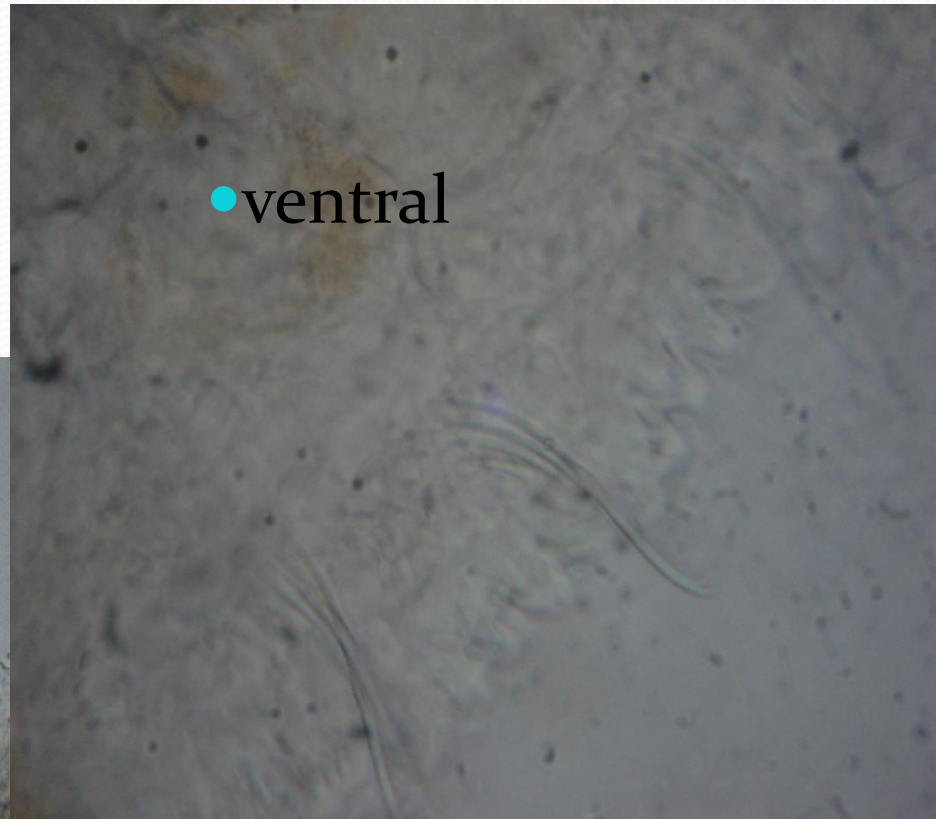
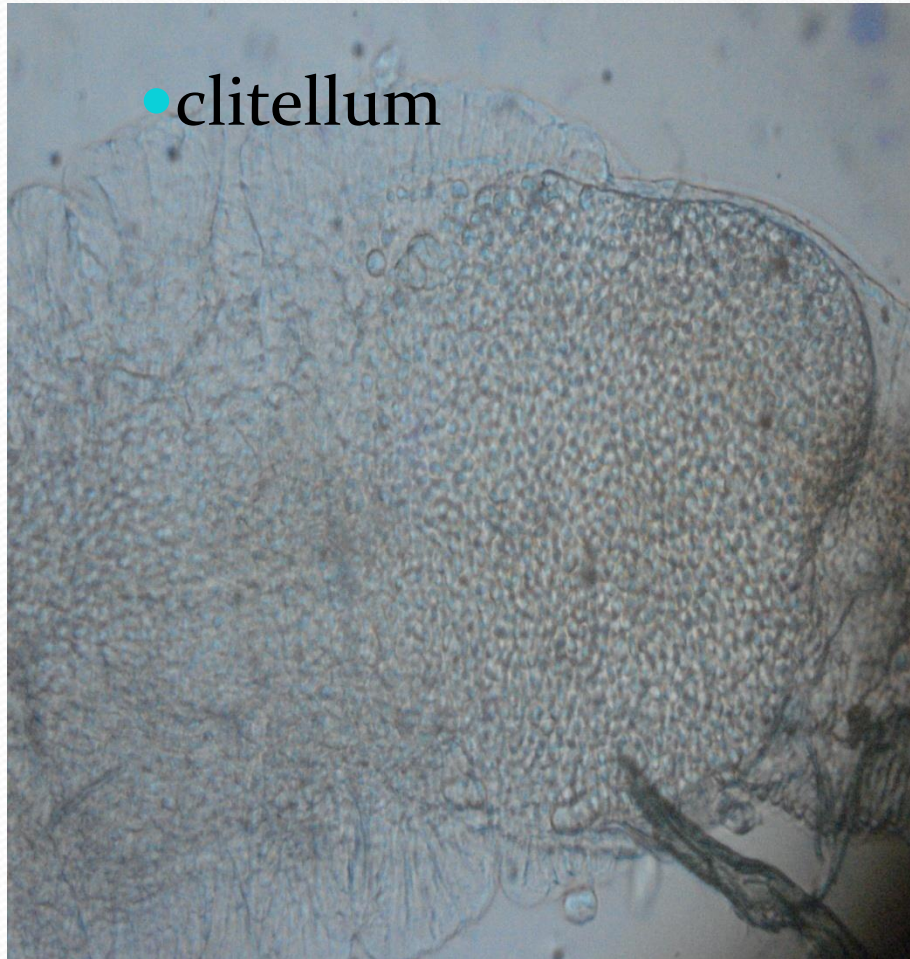
# *Nais elinguis*

- Dorsal setae
- 

- Anterior
  - Clitellum from V
- 

- Posterior
- 

# *Nais elinguis*



# Water quality analysis

BDL=Below detection limit

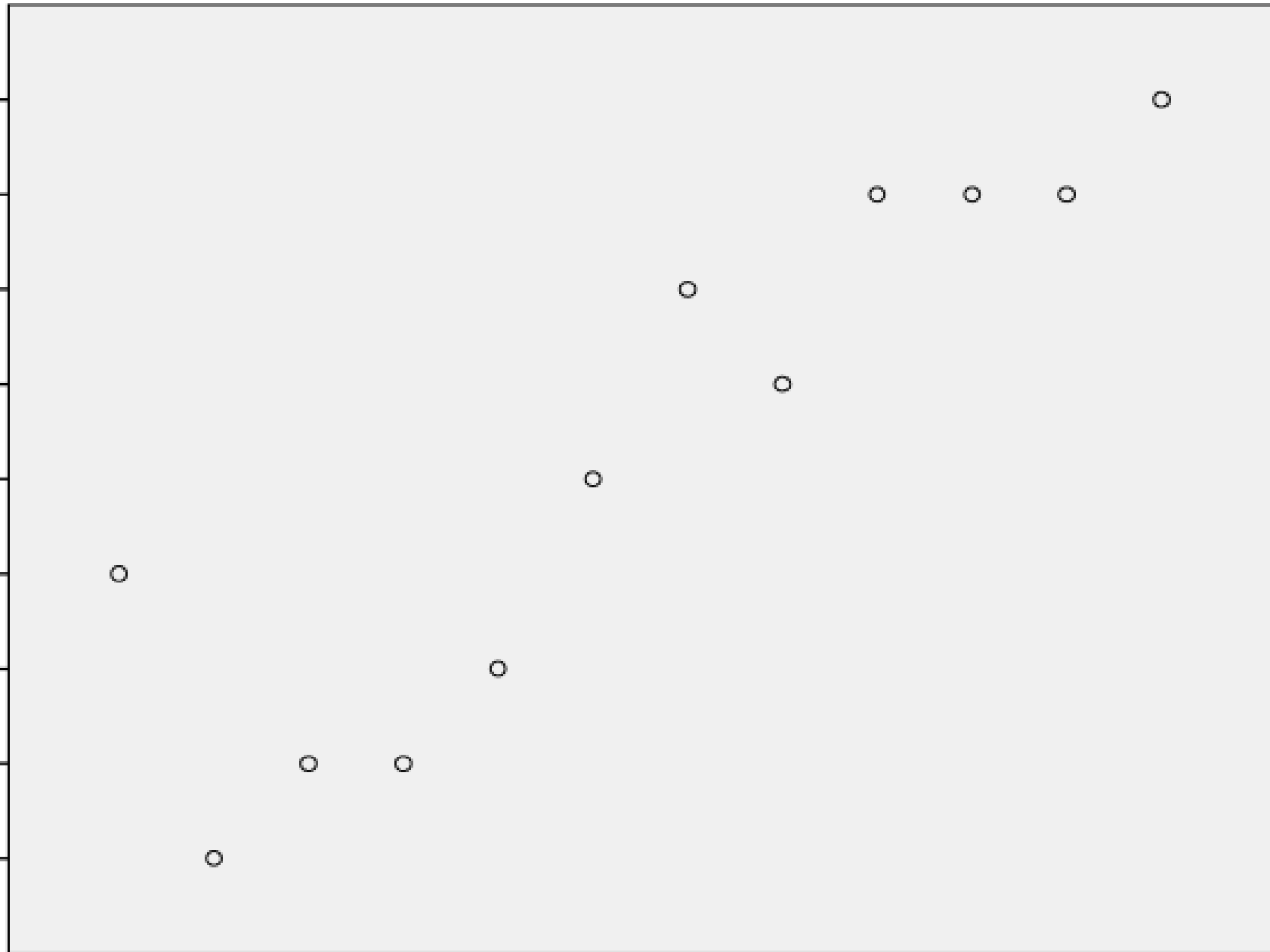
| Sl.no | Parameter                         | Sample 1<br>(Wetland-<br>Karkala) | Sample-2<br>(Anekere-<br>Karkala) | S01<br>(Agumbe) | S02<br>(Ananthp<br>ura) | R01<br>(Anekere) |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1     | Nitrate (N) mg/l                  | 0.12                              | 0.13                              | 0.14            | 0.38                    | 0.11             |
| 2     | Phosphate (PO <sub>4</sub> ) mg/l | 1.44                              | 2.98                              | BDL             | 4.72                    | 0.56             |
| 3     | Pottasium (K) mg/l                | 0.9                               | 0.9                               | 0.6             | 5                       | 1.3              |
| 4     | Calcium (Ca) mg/l                 | 2.1                               | 3.6                               | 2.6             | 12                      | 2.5              |
| 5     | Magnesium (Mg) mg/l               | 1.32                              | 1.70                              | 3.62            | 2.02                    | 1.26             |
| 6     | Sodium (Na) mg/l                  | 2.9                               | 1.6                               | 3.4             | 10.67                   | 1.2              |
| 7     | pH                                | 6.26                              | 6.75                              | 8.09            | 7.11                    | 6.64             |

Number of worms per 10cm<sup>3</sup> of water

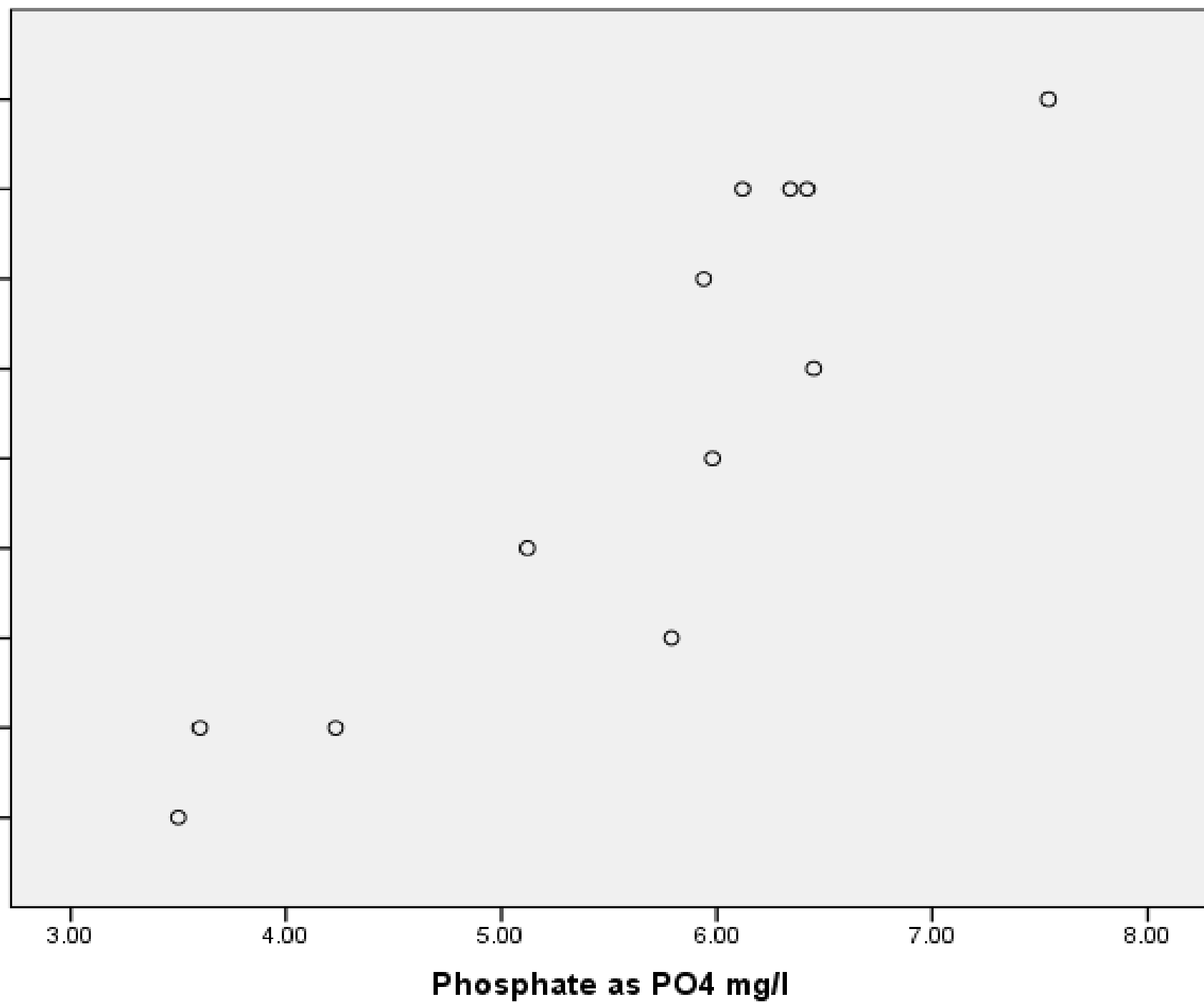
25.00  
16.00  
12.00  
8.00  
6.00  
5.00  
4.00  
3.00  
2.00  
1.00

.06 .01 .11 .12 .5 .78 .82 .93 1.02 1.23 1.4 2.34

Nitrate as N mg/l



Number of worms per 10cm<sup>3</sup> of water



Number of worms per 10cm<sup>3</sup> of water

25.00  
16.00  
12.00  
8.00  
6.00  
5.00  
4.00  
3.00  
2.00  
1.00

.00

1.00

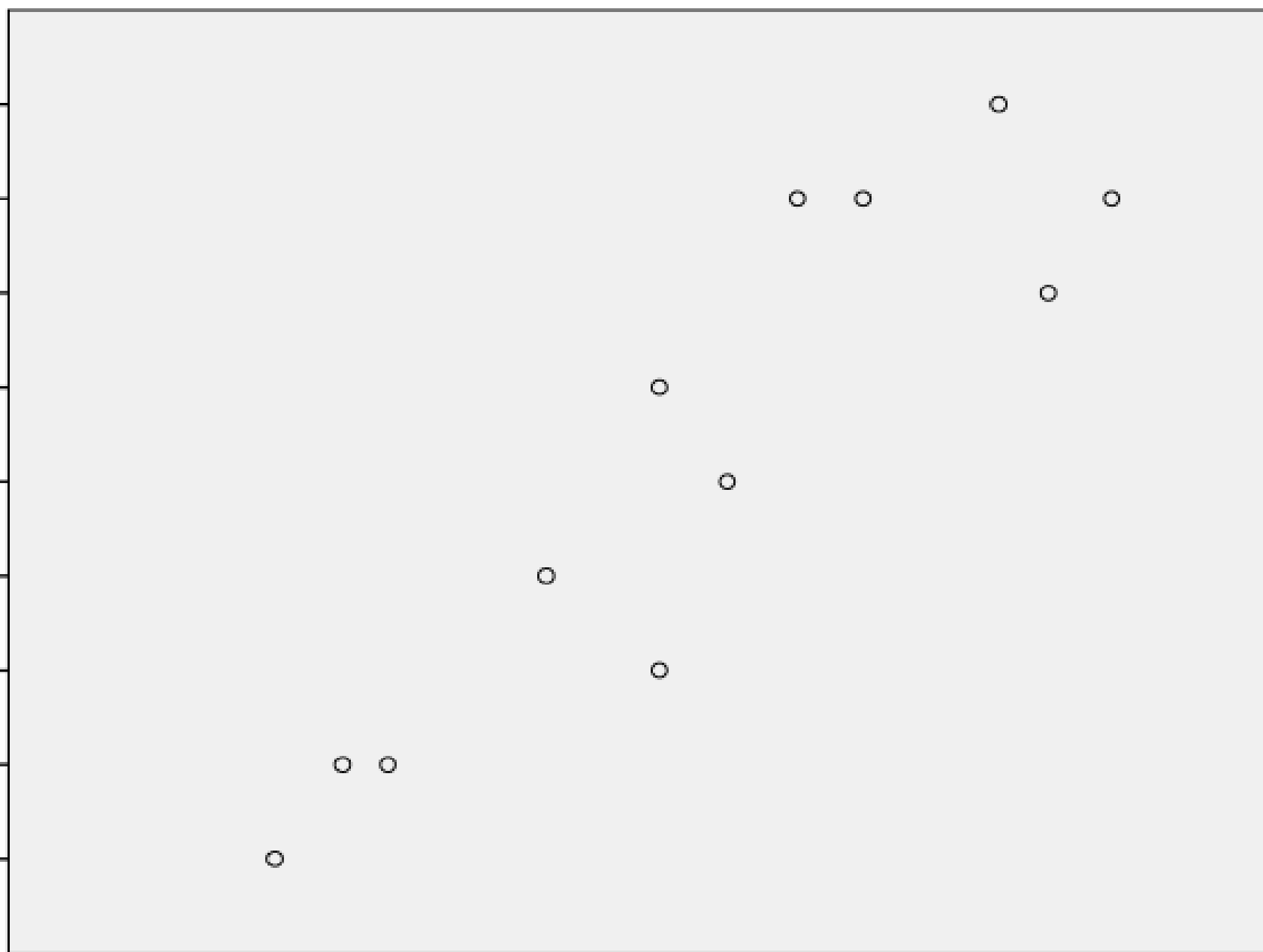
2.00

3.00

4.00

5.00

Potassium as K mg/l



## Conclusion

- ✓ Naidids (aquatic oligochaetes ) decompose organic matter in all kinds of unpolluted wetlands.
- ✓ They are found in rice fields where agro-chemicals are not used
- ✓ The abundance/population density was found to be higher in pre-monsoon season when compared to monsoon and post-monsoon season.
- ✓ Asexual reproduction such as budding is noticed in favorable conditions
- ✓ Other aspects like toxicity analysis, study of life cycle, regeneration were also carried out in in-vitro conditions, besides water quality analysis and studying other ecological parameter in relation to species diversity in the in –vivo conditions

# THANK YOU

