

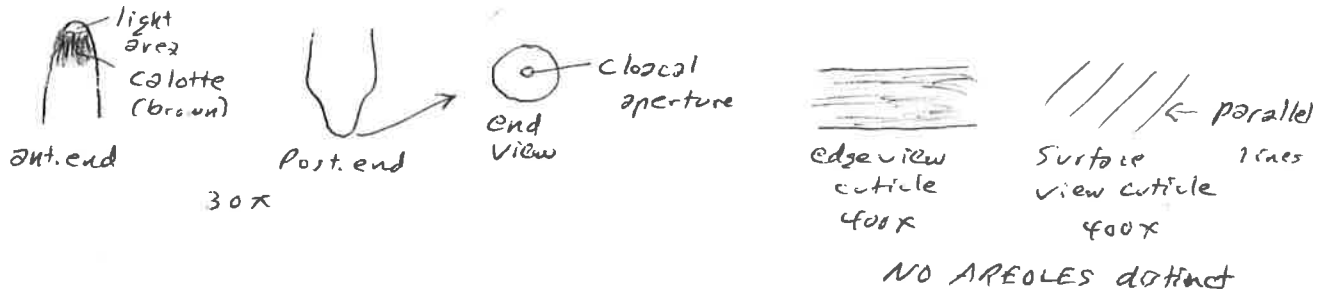
Murfreesboro, Tenn.
8 September 1993

Dr. C. R. Parker
National Park Service
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738

Dear Dr. Parker:

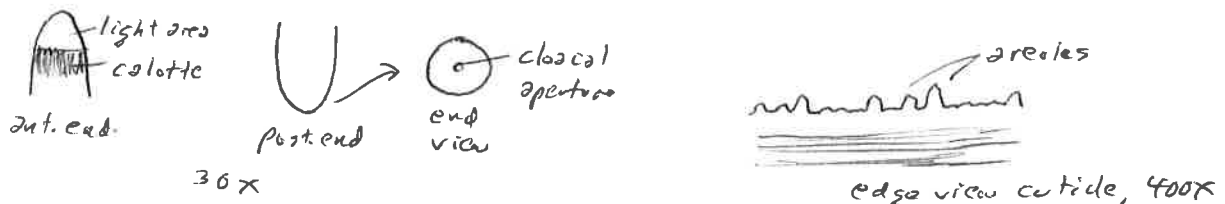
Here are my observations and results on the horsehair worms you sent. I made temporary mounts with lactophenol of pieces of the cuticle from the specimens so I could examine these under 400X. Other observations were made with a stereoscope.

- 1) On label: TN: Sevier Co., GSMNP, on sidewalk behind headquarters,
Date: 23 1 92 Elev: 451, Coll C. R. Parker
One specimen; uniformly light brown, smooth cuticle under 30X;
1 mm diam. at midlength, 24.7 cm long. Took piece of cuticle from
mid region for examination.



DIAGNOSIS: female Gordius robustus.

- 2) On label: NC: Swain Co., GSMNP, Flat Ck I & M # 1, Date: 3 Oct. 92
Coll: HS, GS, CP
Two specimens, ant. end of each similar, as well as post. end.
Each dirty brown, somewhat flattened.
a) 0.3 mm diam midlength, 10.5 cm long
b) 0.5 mm diam midlength, 7.4 cm long (took sec from mid region)



DIAGNOSIS: both specimens are female Chordodes morgani.

- 3) On label: TN: Sevier Co., GSMNP, Twin Creeks area at Uplands Field Research Lab, Date: 7/15/93 1920 ft, Coll. Denise Williams
On back: Driveway at UFL along LeConte Creek
One specimen, uniformly yellowish, 1 mm diam at midlength, 31 cm long, no distinct mouth, no calotte, no cloacal aperture seen (sec. from midlength in lactophenol).
Cuticle with 400X revealed no areoles but a thick cuticle.
DIAGNOSIS: this may be a mermithid nematode, it doesn't seem to be a horsehair worm (mermithids are superficially quite similar to horsehair worms).

Under separate cover I am returning the specimens.
If you could arrange it, I would appreciate a check for \$50.00 to cover postage and materials.

Sincerely, *Clay*

1210 Wiseman Place
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

CLAY M. CHANDLER
Emeritus Prof. of Biology, MTSU