

Systematics of the Japanese Glyceridae
(Polychaeta, Annelida)

(日本のチロリ科(多毛綱、環形動物門)の分類学的研究)

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledge. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted to another university for the purpose of a degree.

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The dissertation entitled as “Systematics of the Japanese Glyceridae (Polychaeta, Annelida)” prepared and submitted by Yusof Shuaib bin Ibrahim in the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY is hereby accepted.

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CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	3–4
CHAPTER I Introduction	5–7
1.1 General characteristics of Glyceridae in Polychaeta	
1.2 Previous studies on glycerid fauna in Japan and neighbouring countries	
1.3 Specific objectives of the present study	
CHAPTER II Materials and Methods	8–10
2.1 Collection of specimens	
2.2 Examination of specimens	
2.3 Preparation for SEM observation	
CHAPTER III Taxonomic accounts of 29 Japanese species and an Australian reference species	11–72
3.1 Genus <i>Glycera</i> Savigny, 1818	
3.1.1 <i>Glycera capitata</i> species group	
<i>Glycera capitata</i> Ørsted, 1842	
<i>Glycera lapidum</i> Quatrefages, 1866	
3.1.2 <i>Glycera robusta</i> species group	
<i>Glycera robusta</i> Ehlers, 1868	
<i>Glycera pseudorobusta</i> Böggemann and Fiege, 2001	
3.1.3 <i>Glycera macintoshi</i> species group	
<i>Glycera. macintoshi</i> Grube, 1877	
<i>Glycera nicobarica</i> Grube, 1866	
3.1.4 <i>Glycera pacifica</i> species group	
<i>Glycera pacifica</i> Kinberg, 1865	
<i>Glycera americana</i> Leidy, 1855	
<i>Glycera ovigera</i> Schmarda, 1861 (reference species)	
3.1.5 <i>Glycera onomichiensis</i> species group	
<i>Glycera onomichiensis</i> Izuka, 1912	
<i>Glycera cinnamomea</i> Grube, 1874	
3.1.6 <i>Glycera macrobranchia</i> species group	
<i>Glycera macrobranchia</i> Moore, 1911	
<i>Glycera alba</i> (O. F. Müller, 1776)	
<i>Glycera tridactyla</i> Schmarda, 1861	
3.1.7 The other <i>Glycera</i> species	
<i>Glycera. oxycephala</i> Ehlers, 1887	
<i>Glycera branchiopoda</i> Moore, 1911	

Glycera brevicirris Grube, 1870
Glycera russa Grube, 1870
Glycera tessellata Grube, 1863
Glycera. sagittariae McIntosh, 1885
Glycera cf. rouxii Audonin and Milne-Edwards, 1833
Glycera amadaiba Imajima, 2003
Glycera neorobusta Imajima, 2009
Glycera okai Imajima, 2009
Glycera semibranchiopoda Imajima, 2009
Glycera sp. A
Glycera sp. B

- 3.2 Genus *Glycerella* Arwidsson, 1899
 Glycerella magellanica (McIntosh 1885)
- 3.3 Genus *Hemipodia* Kinberg, 1865
 Hemipodia simplex (Grube 1857)
 Hemipodia yenourensis (Izuka 1912)

CHAPTER IV Discussion	73–76
4.1 Geographical distribution	
4.2 Vertical distribution	
4.3 Epitokous metamorphosis and reproductive swimming of the three Japanese species	
REFERENCES	77–84
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	85
TABLES	86–87
FIGURES	88–167
APPENDIXES	168–188
1. Collection sites, dates, collectors and number of specimens for all 15 species examined by the present study.	
2. Quantitative data of densities for 6 species in 108 sites in Ariake Sea on 21–23 June 2007.	

ABSTRACT

This thesis presents a taxonomic review of all Japanese species (29 species belonging to 3 genera) of the family Glyceridae (Polychaeta, Annelida).

Chapter 1 is an introduction. General characteristics of the morphology of Glyceridae are summarized. Previous taxonomic studies on this family in the world and those in Japan are summarized. After that, the purpose of the present study is shown.

Chapter 2 gives an explanation of materials and methods. Methods for collecting and fixing specimens in the field, and morphological observation under ordinal microscopy and scanning electron microscopy in the laboratory are shown. The museum depositories, from where I borrowed type and non-type specimens, are also shown.

Chapter 3 presents the results on the systematics of 29 Japanese glycerid species and an Australian reference species. For all species, synonym list, diagnosis and geographical distribution are shown. For 15 species, I describe their morphological characteristics based on my own examination of newly collected or museum-deposited specimens including some type materials. Six species groups (*Glycera capitata* species group, *Glycera robusta* species group, *Glycera macintoshii* species group, *Glycera pacifica* species group, *Glycera onomichiensis* species group and *Glycera macrobranchia* species group) are newly erected.

For 3 species, the epitokous metamorphosis and reproductive swimming behavior of sexually mature adults (epitokes) are described; those of *Glycera nicobarica* and *G. onomichiensis* are first recorded in the world, and those of *G. americana* are first recorded in Asia. By a morphological comparison between the epitokes and the immature benthic individuals

(atokes) with comparable body sizes. I confirmed such characteristic features of epitokous metamorphosis as flattening of the body, reduction of the proboscis, enlargement of the parapodia, elongation and increase in number of the chaetae, and addition of simple capillaries in the neuropodia, for all of the three species.

Chapter 4 is a discussion. The geographical and vertical distributions of the all Japanese species of Glyceridae are compared with one another. The epitokous characteristics of the 3 *Glycera* species, *G. nicobarica*, *G. onomichiensis*, and *G. americana*, are compared with those of the other congeneric species which were previously reported from the world. The epitokous metamorphoses of the Japanese three species are basically similar to those previously described in eight other species of *Glycera* in the world.

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