

L. Myrophis sp. (127–137 myomeres), Text-fig. 3, E-I.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. *Centre d'Océanographie de l'Institut Français d'Océanie Collection (5 specimens)*: 52.0mm total length, IFO Station D 10b, 14° 19' S, 157° 55' E, 17/5/60 (0214hrs), S1/2mO, 0m–300m; 36.1, St Foa MWT, 22° 20' S, 165° 42' E, 10/1/62, MWT, H, ca. 100m; 41.8, St S.2, 20° 10' S, 163° 27' E, 7/6/62, MWT5, H, ca. 95m; 56.1, St S.8, 9° 35' S, 161° 00' E, 18/6/62, MWT5, H, ca. 95m; 57.3, St 7–2, 22° 35' S, 166° 16' E, 17/7/62, MWT5, H, ca. 70m.

Australian Museum Collection (1 specimen): 54.3, Aust. Mus. regd. no. IB.4115, Collaroy Beach, N.S.W., 14/10/58.

DESCRIPTION. Six specimens: total lengths 36.1mm–57.3mm, myomeres 41–49 + 78–89, first vertical blood vessel at myomere 17–18, last at myomere 48–49, anterior margin of gall bladder at myomere 18–20, teeth $\frac{1 + \text{III-VII} + 3\text{-}4}{1 + \text{III-VI} + 2\text{-}3}$, dorsal rays 188–284, anal rays 225–236, caudal rays 2–3 + 3, a–d = — 22 to + 20. Description made from a 57.3mm specimen, IFO Station 7–2 (measurements in mm): head 4.1, snout 1.7, eye 0.7, cleft of mouth 2.2, postorbital 2.0, pectoral 1.0, predorsal 14.6, snout-vent 23.7, depth just before eye 1.1, at pectoral origin 1.8, at vent 6.9, at midpoint of caudal region 6.8. Dorsal rays 284, anal rays 229, caudal rays 3 + 3. Teeth $\frac{1 + \text{VII} + 4}{1 + \text{V} + 3}$. Myomeres 47 + 87 = 134. a–d = + 19. Last vertical blood vessel at myomere 48, anterior margin of gall bladder at myomere 18.

Body moderately elongate, much compressed except along head region, its maximum depth at about middle of the body and about 8.5 in total length, tapering equally in front of, and behind, this point; head relatively long, contained 14 times in total, not conspicuously differentiated from trunk; snout long, 2.4 in head, acute; nasal organ well developed, forming a bulge in the dorsal profile of the snout but with the nostrils not differentiated; eye oval, its horizontal diameter 2.5 in snout or about six times in head length; cleft of mouth slightly oblique, reaching to below posterior margin of eye; teeth acute, relatively numerous and in three series on each side of upper and lower jaws as follows: the first in the upper jaw a very acute curved fang, the second series of seven rather large teeth and the third of four very small teeth, the pattern in the lower jaw very similar. Branchiostegal rays barely differentiated. Pectoral fin not greatly reduced, rounded; dorsal well developed, its origin placed about halfway between levels of pectoral and vent; anal also well developed; caudal not abbreviated, moderately pointed, supported by two conspicuous hypurals. Intestine swollen slightly at four equally spaced places along its length.

Pigmentation inconspicuous, occurring in general on the head, at various positions along the intestine and along the anal base, in detail as follows: five small, compact chromatophores along the under surface of the rostrum; three on the tip of the lower jaw; a large pigment spot on the lateral surface of the head at the level of the mesencephalon; a large chromatophore deep above the myelencephalon; two deep on the isthmus; one below the pectoral base; five chromatophores on the dorsal aspect of the anterior lobe of the liver at about the 8th myomere; nine in a similar position in a line on the posterior lobe of the liver; six between this level and the vent on the dorsal aspect of the intestine; as many as 24 below the opisthonephros immediately in front of the vent; groups of four or five chromatophores below the intestine at positions intermediate between the above with scattered spots between these again; a long chromatophore at the base of many of the anal rays; six deep clumps of pigment spots immediately below vertebral column along the caudal region, the last three of these closer together than the preceding; two widely spaced chromatophores on the dorsal aspect of the posterior extremity of the spinal cord.