

Short note

***Kondakovia longimana* Filippova, 1972 (Onycotheuthidae) from Terra Nova Bay, Ross Sea**

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Location and features

A large female of *Kondakovia longimana* Filippova 1972 was found floating in Terra Nova Bay (Ross Sea) near the Italian Antarctic Station of Terra Nova (74°41'42" S; 164°07'25" E) in January 1991.

It was alive, but not able to do swim swiftly and was surrounded by a small flock of skuas (*Catharacta* sp.). It was collected by means of a dip-net and appeared undamaged except for some deep wounds in the eyes and the incomplete left tentacle. It was moved to the aquarium of the Station and survived for two days. Dimensions and indices are given in Table I. At present, the specimen is preserved in neutralized formaldehyde in the ICRAM Antarctic collection, in waiting to be deposited in the Italian Antarctic Museum.

Table I. Morphometric data for a female *Kondakovia longimana* specimen caught in Terra Nova Bay. Indices are expressed as % of the mantle length.

			Left	Right
Wet weight	7 kg	Tentacular length index	/	102
Mantle length	670 mm	Club length index	/	25.4
Lower rostral length	14.5 mm	I arm index	65.1	65.9
Mantle width index	28.6	II arm index	71.4	80.9
Fin length index	30.1	III arm index	70.6	73
Fin width index	40.5	IV arm index	76.7	74.6

This cephalopod is endemic to Antarctic waters, specimens have been caught between 49° – 65° S (Roper *et al.* 1985). Few records of whole specimens exist and most samples have been small-size specimens ranging from 105–355 mm ML (Filippova 1972, Nemoto *et al.* 1985). The morphometric indices reported by Filippova (1972) partially agree with ours. This adult specimen shows smaller fins and shorter arms than immature specimens of Filippova, probably due to allometric body growth changes during ontogenesis.

The record is notable in that the specimen is the largest whole *Kondakovia longimana* so far caught, and it is the southern most record of this species.

References

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