

## **Supplementary note on Taenia saginata / by Frederick Tuckerman.**

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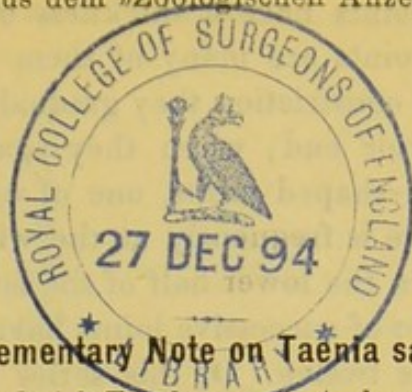
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**Supplementary Note on *Taenia saginata*.**

By Frederick Tuckerman, Amherst, Mass.

In a previous communication to the *Zoolog. Anzeig.* (XI. Jahrg. 1888 p. 94) I gave a brief description of a *Taenia saginata* of somewhat unusual size.

A few weeks following the expulsion of that specimen a second one was dislodged, without much difficulty, from the same individual.

This second specimen, which had been kept in alcohol sometime before I received it, is in many respects more noteworthy than the first. The main chain is 7.784 metres in length and contains 693 joints. The remaining portions of the worm in my possession, mostly from the caudal extremity, measure 0.469 metres in length and contain 34 joints, thus giving the worm a total length of 8.253 metres, exceeding the former specimen, as actually measured, by 0.798 metres. The number of joints (727) is considerably below the number allowed by most authorities to a much smaller worm.

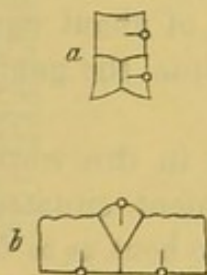


Fig. 1.

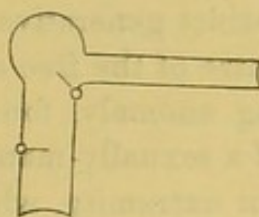


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

The smallest segment measures 1 mm in breadth, and is 2 mm long. The largest measures 4.5 mm transversely, and has a length of 31 mm. Throughout the chain the length of the segments is always greater than the breadth. The flat surfaces of many of the joints, particularly those of the middle third of the worm, are marked by sub-parallel, longitudinal grooves and their lateral margins have a wrinkled or scalloped appearance.



Several of these joints have a thickness of 2 mm. Towards the caudal extremity the joints are many of them very much constricted anteriorly: beyond this constriction they gradually increase in breadth until near their posterior end, when they again become somewhat smaller. In these flask-shaped joints, one of which is represented by figure 3, the genital pore is frequently at the widest part of the joint, and is always situated in the lower half of the lateral margin.

The largest number of successive joints having their genital opening on the same side is twelve. Of this series the extreme posterior one has a genital pore on each lateral border, the two being placed nearly opposite each other.

Supernumerary joints are not infrequent in this specimen of *Taenia saginata*, four examples occurring in the principal chain, two of which are shown in fig. 1. The other two are modifications of the variety *b*.

It may be questioned whether *a* can, properly speaking, be considered an example of extra joint, but there is no doubt of its being a malformed one.

The two joints are situated near the middle of the worm and are only about one-half the size of the other joints of this region. The posterior one of the two is impressed by a shallow longitudinal groove which divides it, on one side, into two nearly equal lateral halves. There is no distinct articulation present, and the genitals, which are not readily distinguishable, appear to fill the interior of the joint.

The second example of supernumerary joint, fig. 1 *b*, occurs a short distance beyond the one just described. It has the form of a heart, and is wedged in between two others of about equal size. It possesses a perfectly distinct generative apparatus, the genital opening being very near the centre of the free edge.

Another interesting anomaly, found also in this worm, is shown by fig. 2. It consists of a sexually-mature segment, situated about one metre from the posterior extremity, which is so bent as to form a right angle. The position of the genital pores is shown in the figure. The interior of the joint is completely filled by the genitalia. When the chain is straightened the outer expanded portion becomes folded on itself.

Amherst, Mass., U. S. A., 21 June 1888.

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