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Herbert Boschung
University of Alabama

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OCCURRENCE OF *Branchiostoma longirostrum* FROM VERACRUZ, MEXICO

Chavez (1964) reported 14 specimens of lancelets that he classified as *Branchiostoma caribaeum* from Sacrificios Island, about 2 km off the port of Veracruz, Mexico. The specimens were in two lots, 4 were collected in March and 10 in May of 1963. The substrate was fine and coarse whitish sand at 60 cm depth.

Chavez (1964) reported the total myotome numbers of these specimens to range from 56 to 63 and the dorsal fin-ray chambers from 228 to 330. Such wide variation in these two characters aroused my attention. I asked for a loan of the specimens and subsequently received five for making careful counts and measurements. These data are as follow:

Specimen number	Total length in mm.	Total Myotomes	Dorsal fin-ray chambers	Ventral fin-ray chambers	Rostrum
1	18.9	61	224	44	long
2	23.7	61	231	41	long
3	26.2	61	305	50	short
4	27.3	60	338	59	short
5	29.1	61	330	62	short

Clearly, specimens 1 and 2 are *Branchiostoma longirostrum*, a species recently described (Boschung, 1983), and the other three specimens are what I prefer to assign at this time to *Branchiostoma* sp. cf. *bennetti*, at least until a large series of specimens from Veracruz can be studied.

I had overlooked these data at the time of the description of *B. longirostrum*. This record of *B. longirostrum* should not go unnoticed as the range of the species is extended in the Gulf of Mexico to below the tropic of Cancer, and these are the first specimens of the species to be found in water less than about 11 meters.

LITERATURE CITED

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- Herbert Boschung, *Department of Biology, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.*