

New record for Otsego Lake: *Cristatella mucedo*
(Ectoprocta; Plumatellida; Cristatellidae)

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METHODS

A SCUBA dive was made on 19 October 2002 to 13m just south of Bissel's Fill (vic N 42° 45.368'; W 74° 54.156') to observe accumulated silt on the gravel know to form this slope (Lord, 2000).

RESULTS

While ascending from depth, a stick was observed at approximately 8m which had attached to it bryozoans which I had not been previously seen in the Lake. There appeared to be six colonies. Several started to move as soon as the stick was moved through the water. These colonies did not detach until the stick was placed in a plastic container with Lake water. The colonies were subsequently transferred to a glass dish and maintained under refrigeration until examined microscopically on 23 October. Identification was made using Pennak (1989) who notes that the species is "circumpolar...widely distributed, but not common".

DISCUSSION

There is no way of determining whether this new record is the result of a human facilitated introduction, or a natural introduction (via statoblasts attached to an animal or windblown), or whether the species has simply escaped notice heretofore by virtue of a minimal population.

REFERENCE

Pennak, R. W. 1989. Freshwater Invertebrates – United States. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. New York.

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