

Basicladia in Illinois

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Basicladia, which grows on the backs of snapping turtles, has not yet been reported to occur in Illinois. Previous to this paper it had been identified three times in the laboratories of the University. The first was from a collection from an unknown source, the second from collections from the Polly-Wogs, a private fishing club in Vermillion County, Illinois, and the third from the Illinois River near Beardstown, Illinois.

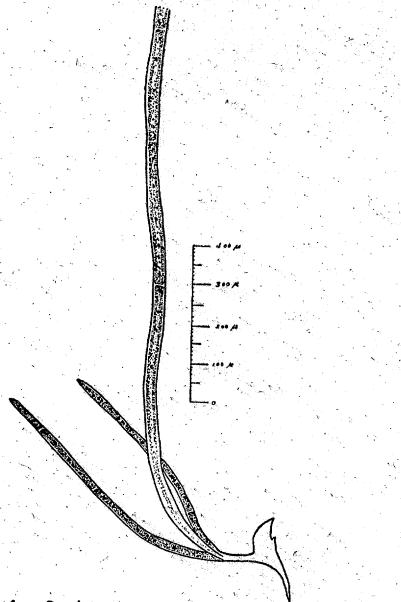


Fig. 1 *Basicladia chelonum* (Collins) Hoffman and Tilden
comb. nov.
Maple Lake, Cook Co., Illinois

This paper is based upon collections of algae found on the backs of turtles taken from Maple Lake, Cook County by Lynn H. Hutchins of the University of Illinois, August 8 to 19, 1937.

In June, 1909, F. S. Collins described a species of *Chaetomorpha chelonum* based on collections taken from the backs of turtles, *Chrysemys marginata*, and *Aronchelys odorata* in Michigan.

This fresh-water species was again found on turtles at Tewksbury, Massachusetts.

L. H. Tiffany, Ohio State University, collected and identified *Chaetomorpha chelonum* from the backs of turtles, *Chrysemys marginata belli*, Miller's Bay and Lake West Okoboji, Iowa, July and August, 1915 and again in 1923.

In the summer of 1923 collections were made at St. Peters, Minnesota by W. E. Hoffmann. The specimens proved to have very distinctive characteristics, but were easily traced to Collins' *Chaetomorpha chelonum*, except that branching occurred and the dimensions were much larger.

A second collection was made in Minnesota in 1926 from a shell of a turtle in the Zoological Museum of the University. Because of branching and the variation in size, Hoffmann and Tilden changed the genus from *Chaetomorpha* to *Basicladia* and recognized two species.

Basicladia crassa, Hoffmann and Tilden, sp. nov., upright filaments reaching a diameter of 50 to 120 microns. Collected from the shell of the snapping turtle, *Chelydra serpentina*, St. Peters, Minnesota, August 17, 1923.

Basicladia chelonum (Collins, Hoffmann and Tilden) comb. nov., (*Chaetomorpha chelonum*, Collins), upright filaments 45 microns or less in diameter. This species is known from only Michigan, Massachusetts, and Iowa.

The maximum diameter of the main filament of the *Basicladia* found in the Maple Lake collections never measured over 45 microns. It was identified as *Basicladia chelonum*.

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