

Three new Ophryotrocha species (Polychaeta: Dorvilleidae) from hydrothermal vent and whale-fall habitats in the Southern Ocean

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The polychaete genus *Ophryotrocha* comprise around 70 described species, and they are often found in organically enriched habitats such as near sewage outlets and harbours, and on bacterial mats occurring on whale-falls, cold seeps and hydrothermal vents. Until now, only four described *Ophryotrocha* species have been reported from Antarctic waters, although records of undescribed species exists. Two of the new species in this study were discovered in samples from two vent sites along the East Scotia Ridge, and the third species was found on a nearby whale-fall in Kemp Caldera. The most abundant vent species exhibits vivipary, with a large number of specimens containing embryos and larvae in different developmental stages.