

A BRIEF NOTE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POLYCHAETE, *MANAYUNKIA SPECIOSA* LEIDY, IN WESTERN LAKE ERIE.¹

During the winter of 1954, while analyzing 61 samples of bottom fauna collected in autumn, 1954, from the Island area of western Lake Erie, I discovered the polychaete, *Manayunkia speciosa*, in some of the samples. At the time of the discovery, only 24 of the 61 samples remained to be analyzed. Of these 24 samples, 10 of them contained *Manayunkia*. Since these polychaetes are very small and since they showed up in almost half of the samples analyzed after first noticing them, it is highly probable that they were present in at least some of the 37 previously analyzed samples. In one sample collected from a station northeast of

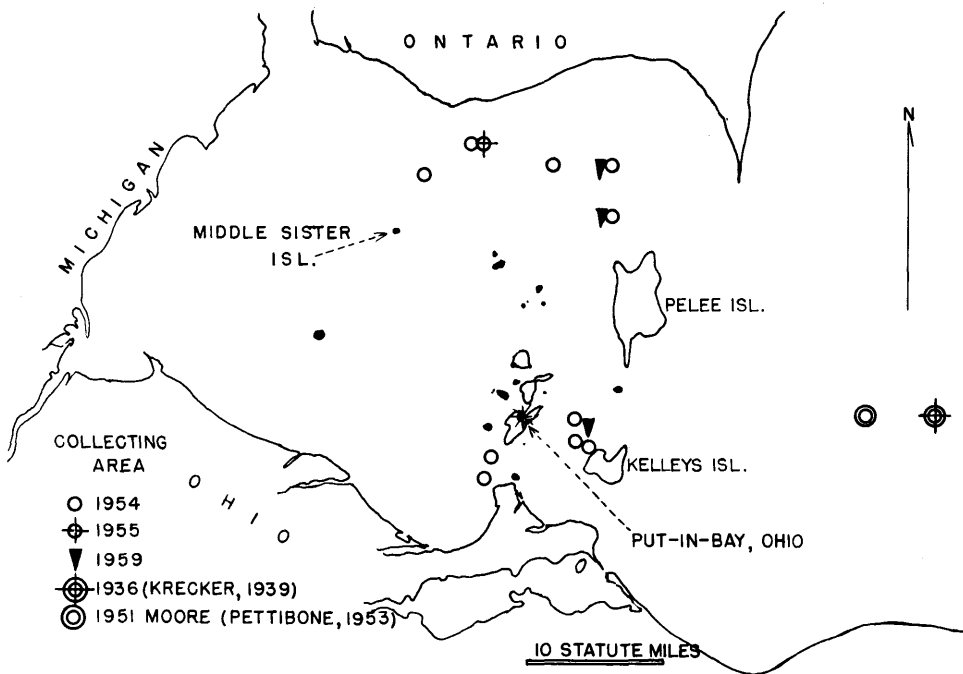


FIGURE 1. Map of western Lake Erie showing the locations where the polychaete, *Manayunkia speciosa* Leidy, has been collected.

¹Manuscript received May 30, 1964.

Middle Sister Island, over 100 *Manayunkia* per square meter were counted. The 35-mesh-per-inch sieves used were coarse enough to allow small oligochaetes to pass through them. It is likely that many more of the polychaetes passed through the sieves than were retained in the samples; therefore, no attempt was made to determine the number per square meter in the other samples.

Since 1954, this worm has been found on several occasions. The map (fig. 1) shows the locations of stations where I have collected this organism. Krecker (1939) found *Manayunkia* in 1936 and 1938 about 30 miles east of Put-in-Bay, Ohio, in water 55 ft in depth. George M. Moore collected 23 specimens of *Manayunkia* on July 13, 1951, about 22 miles east of Put-in-Bay in water 55 ft in depth (Pettibone, 1953).—N. WILSON BRITT, *Department of Zoology and Entomology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210.*

LITERATURE CITED

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Pettibone, Marian H. 1953. Fresh-water polychaetous annelid, *Manayunkia speciosa* Leidy, From Lake Erie. *Biol. Bull.* 105(1): 149–153.
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