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Mary Ann Basinger Maggenti
University of California-Davis

Armand R. Maggenti
University of California, Davis

Scott Gardner
slg@unl.edu

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L

labella pl. of **labellum**

labellar abductor apodeme (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, a small cuticular process below the inner basal margin of each labellum, where the labellar abductor muscle attaches.

labellar basal sclerites (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, ventral sclerites in the membranous articulation between the prementum and the labella of the labium; basal sclerite.

labellar mesial sclerite (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, two narrow sclerotized strips on the inner surface of each labellum; mesial sclerite.

labellar sclerite (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, one of several cuticular plates of each labellum; the prominent basal sclerite; the furca of the labellum.

labellum n.; pl. -**la** [L. dim. *labrum,* lip] (ARTHRO: Insecta) One of variously expanded apexes of the labium; the bouton or flabellum of bees.

labial a. [L. dim. *labrum,* lip] Pertaining to lip or labium.

labial area (MOLL: Gastropoda) The flattened or callus-coated surface extending from inner lip of the shell.

labial disc (NEMATA) A circular elevation of cuticle surrounding the oral opening; perioral disc.

labial glands (ARTHRO: Insecta) Salivary glands in the majority of insects, situated below the anterior part of the alimentary canal; ducts originating from these glands unite into a common duct (salivary canal) which opens near the base of the labium or hypopharynx.

labial gutter see **premental gutter**

labial kidneys see **labial nephridia**

labial lumen see **premental gutter**

labial mask (ARTHRO: Insecta) A modification of the labium of dragonfly larvae in which the pre- and post-mentum are elongated and the palps modified into grasping organs for catching prey.

labial nephridia (ARTHRO: Insecta) Tubules in the head of Collembola and Thysanura, whose terminal sac may play some excretory role.

labial palp/palpus pl. -**pi** 1. (ARTHRO: Insecta) One of a pair of small feelerlike structures borne on the labium. see **maxillary palp**. 2. (MOLL: Bivalvia) One of 4 structures (2 on each side of the mouth) derived from the velum by which the larva swims and collects food.

labial plate (ARTHRO: Insecta) A sclerotized, serrated plate derived from the labium of larvae of aquatic Diptera; mental plate.

labial stipes see **labiostipes**

labial suture (ARTHRO: Insecta) Suture on the labium between the postmentum and the prementum.

labial veil see **oral lappets**

labiate a. [L. *labium,* lip] Having lips or lip-like parts or thickened margins.

labidophorous a. [Gr. *labis*, forcepts; *pherein,* to carry] Having pincer-like organs.

labiella n.pl.; sing. **labiellum** [L. dim. *labium,* lip] 1. (ARTHRO: Chilopoda) A mouth part of a myriapod. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) The hypopharynx; the median mouthpart.

labile a. [L. *labilis*, slipping] Readily changeable; unstable.

labiostipes n.pl. [L. dim. *labium,* lip; *stipes,* stem] (ARTHRO: Insecta) A portion of the basal part of the labium.

labis see **socii**

labium n.; pl. -**bia** [L. *labium,* lip] 1. A lip. 2. (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In Araneae, the lower lip, forming the floor of the mouth cavity. 3. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) The metastoma. 4. (ARTHRO: Insecta) One of the mouth-part structures, the lower lip, composed of fused second maxillae; has been referred to as the tongue at a certain phase of development. 5. (MOLL) The inner lip of a univalve shell, the inner side of the aperture or columellar lip extending from the origin at the lip of the labrum and resting on the columella.

see **inner lip**.

labral a. [L. *labrum,* lip] 1. (ARTHRO: Insecta) Pertaining to the upper lip. 2. (MOLL: Gastropoda) Pertaining to the outer lip of a shell.

labropalatum n. [L. *labrum,* lip; *palatum,* roof of mouth] (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, the oral surface of the labrum of mosquitoes; a division of the palatum. see **clypeopalatum**.

labrum n.; pl. -**bra** [L. *labrum,* lip] 1. A lip or edge. 2. (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In Araneae, has been incorrectly used for the labium. 3. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) The unpaired outgrowth arising in front of the mouth and often covering it; upper lip. 4. (ARTHRO: Insecta) The upper lip located below the clypeus and in front of the other mouth parts. 5. (ARTHRO: Trilobita) The hypostoma of a trilobite fossil. 6. (ECHINOD: Echinoidea) A flap of the interambulacrum which projects over the ventral peristome.

labrum-epipharynx (ARTHRO: Insecta) The mouth part representing the labrum and epipharynx.

lac n. [Skr. *laksa*] (ARTHRO: Insecta) A yellowish or reddish-brown resinous substance secreted by a homopterous scale insect in the family Kerridae (=Tachardiidae, Lacciferidae), important commercially as lac or shellac for varnishes, as sealing wax, and as insulating material in electrical work, cultivated in India, Ceylon and Burma; also has a medicinal use in Mexico.

lacerated a. [L. *lacer*, torn] Having edges jagged or irregular.

lacinia, **lacinea** n.; pl. **laciniae** [L. *lacinia*, flap] 1. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) The inner distal spiny lobe of the second segment of the maxillula. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) *a.* In many, the inner lobe (elongate jaw-like structure) of the *maxilla,* located at the apex of the stipes. *b.* In Psocidae, represented by a hard elongate rod, slightly bifurcated at its free end and ensheathed by the galea, sometimes called the pick; similar modification to a stylet-like shape in Mallophaga.

lacinia mandibulae see **lacinia mobilis**

lacinia mobilis 1. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) A small, generally toothed process articulated with the incisor process of the mandible. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) A small movable lobe-like process near the extremity of the mandible; a prostheca.

laciniate a. [L. *lacer*, torn] Slashed or cut into irregularly narrow lobes or deep segments.

lacteous a. [L. *lac*, milk] Of white or milky color.

lactescent a. [L. *lactescere*, to turn to milk] Like milk in appearance; yielding or secreting a milky fluid.

lactic acid Organic acid formed in tissues of two molecules for every molecule of glucose used where oxygen is in short supply.

lacuna n.; pl. -**ae** [L. *lacuna*, cavity] 1. A space, gap, cavity or channel. 2. (ACANTHO) Channels making up the lacunar system. 3. (ARTHRO: Insecta) In wing development, canals that contain nerves, tracheae, and hemolymph. 4. (BRACHIO:Articulata) The large open space surrounding the lophophore. 5. (BRYO) Open space between tubular porechambers. 6. (MOLL: Bivalvia) Irregular, blood-filled spaces between various organs in the mantle and visceral mass.

lacunar system (ACANTHO) The circulatory system.

lacunose a. [L. *lacuna*, cavity] Marked by shallow, scattered depressions; pitted.

lacustrine a. [L. *lacus*, lake] Of or pertaining to living in or near a lake.

laeotorma n; pl. -**ae** [Gr. *laios*, left; *torma*, socket] (ARTHRO: Insecta) In beetle larvae, transverse sclerite extending inward from the left hind angle of the epipharynx, usually with a projection.

laeotropic a. [Gr. *laios*, left; *tropos,* turn] Of or pertaining to the left; sinistral; opposed to dexiotropic.

lagena n. [L. *lagaena*, flask] 1. Bottle-shaped; dilated below and tapering to a narrow neck above; lageniform. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Lepidoptera, the smaller lobe of the spermatheca; may be fused into one organ. see **utriculus**.

Lamarckism A theory espoused by Lamarck, that evolution is brought about by volition or by environmental induction; Geoffroyism.

lamella n.; pl. -**ae** [L. *lamella,* small plate] 1. A thin plate or

leaflike structure. 2. (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) A triangular plate on the promargin of the cheliceral fang furrow in some spiders. 3. (MOLL: Gastropoda) Flared axial projection of the outer lip of the shell.

lamellar ligament (MOLL: Bivalvia) That part of the ligament secreted by the mantle edge that is lamellar in structure and contains no calcium carbonate; elastic to both compression and tension.

lamellate a. [L. *lamella,* small plate] Composed of or covered by thin scales, plates or layers.

lamellate antennae (ARTHRO: Insecta) Antennae with an asymmetrical 3- to 7-segmented club of more or less flattened segments.

Lamellibranchia see Class **Bivalvia**, Phylum **Mollusca**

lamellibranchiate a. [L. *lamella,* small plate; Gr. *branchia,* gills] (MOLL) With plate-like gills that are bilaterally symmetrical; bilaterally compressed, symmetrical body.

lamellicorn a. [L. *lamella,* small plate; *cornu,* horn] Having the joints of the antenna expanded into flattened plates.

lamelliform a. [L. *lamella,* small plate; *forma,* shape] Having the form of scales, thin plates or layers.

lamellocyte see **plasmatocyte**

lamello-fibrous (MOLL) Referring to shells with one portion composed of fibers and another of laminae.

lamellose a. [L. *lamella,* small plate] Composed of lamella.

lamina n.; pl. -**nae**, -nas [L. *lamina,* a plate] 1. A thin plate, scale or layer. 2. (ARTHRO) A distal synaptic region in the optic lobes. 3. (NEMATA) The main body of the male spicule; the blade.

lamina lingualis pl. **laminae linguales** (ARTHRO: Diplopoda) One of two median distal plates in the gnathochilarium.

lamina of insertion see **insertion plate**

lamina phalli (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Caelifera, endophallic membrane sclerotizations restricting the spermatophore sac.

laminar a. [L. *lamina,* plate] Arranged in thin plates or layers; laminiform.

laminate a. [L. *lamina,* plate] Composed of leaf-like, overlapping plates or scales.

laminiform a. [L. *lamina,* plate; *forma,* shape] Laminar.

lampbrush chromosomes Very large chromosomes with fine lateral projections; found in invertebrates and vertebrates.

lanate a. [L. *lana*, wool] Covered with long, very fine or wooly hairlike filaments.

lanceolate a. [L. *lanceola*, little lance] Tapering to a point at the *apex,* or sometimes at both ends; lance-shaped.

lancet n. [L. *lancea*, light spear] 1. Any piercing structure. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) *a.* In Hymentoptera, the first valvulae. *b.* The first gonapophyses of *Apis*. 3. [NEMATA] Small teeth in the buccal cavity of some nematodes.

lancinate v.t. [L. *lancinare*, to tear to pieces] To tear, lacerate, pierce or stab.

Lang's vesicle (PLATY: Turbellaria) A blind extension of the female canal of certain Acotylea, proximal to where the oviducts join.

lantern n. [L. *lanterna*, lantern] 1. (ARTHRO: Insecta) The light organs of fireflies and certain beetles. 2. (MOLL: Cephalopoda) The photophore. see **Aristotle's lantern**.

lanuginous a. [L. *lanugo*, down] Covered with very fine soft hair.

lapidicolous a. [L. *lapis*, stone; *colere,* to inhabit] Living under stones.

lapidrous a. [L. *lapis*, stone] Of the nature of a stone.

lappet n. [A.S. *laeppa*, a loose hanging part] 1. A fold, small flap, lobe or loose hanging portion. 2. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Mysidacea, a ventrally projecting subdivision of the pleura. 3. (CNID: Scyphozoa) A flaplike projection on the bell margin. 4. (ECHINOD: Crinoidea) A movable plate on the margin of an ambulacral groove. 5. (ECHI) In Bonellidae, the shortened arms of the proboscis. 6. (PLATY: Turbellaria) In Tricladida, earlike process on the head.

larva n.; pl. -**ae** [L. *larva,* mask] The preadult stage in some

invertebrates after hatching from the egg, lacking adult features, usually active and feeding. **larval** a.

larval-pupal apolysis (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, the interim before the cryptocephalic pupa. see **pupal-adult apolysis**.

larval shell (MOLL: Gastropoda) The hard parts of a pelagic larva before it settles down and undergoes metamorphosis.

larval stages The period of growth between molts.

larval stem nematogen (MESO: Rhombozoa) In Dicyemida, an early stage in development.

larvarium n. [L. *larva,* mask; *-arium,* place of a thing] A nest or case made by a larva as a shelter.

larvate see **pupa larvata**

larviform a. [L. *larva,* mask; *forma,* shape] Shaped like a larva.

larviparous a. [L. *larva,* mask; *parere,* to produce] Producing by bringing forth living larvae; viviparous. see **oviparous**.

larvipositor n. [L. *larva,* mask; *ponare,* to place] (ARTHRO: Insecta) A modified ovipositor.

larvivorous a. [L. *larva,* mask; *vorare,* to devour] Larvae eating.

lasiopod n. [Gr. *lasios*, wooly; *pous,* foot] (ARTHRO: Crustacea) A cirral appendage of barnacles, with a transverse row of setae at each articulation. see **acanthopod**, **ctenopod**.

lasso n. [L. *laqueus*, snare, noose] 1. (CNID) Fibrils, thought to be contractile, extending down the stalk of a cnidoblast securing the nematocyst. 2. (NEMATA) Circular traps; a three-celled ring of predacious fungi that constrict around a nematode, penetrating the cuticle and ramifying inside the tissue.

lasso cell see **coloblast**

last whorl (MOLL: Gastropoda) In coiled shells, last-formed complete volution of a helicocone.

latera pl. of **latus**

laterad adv. [L. *latus,* side; *ad,* toward] Toward the side, directed away from the midline of the body.

lateral a. [L. *latus,* side] 1. Of or pertaining to the side; situated at, coming from, or directed towards. 2. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Cirripedia, one of a pair of compartmental plates, typically located between the carinolateral and rostrum; latus or median latus.

lateral abdominal gills (ARTHRO: Insecta) In a few genera of Odonata, filamentous (or true abdominal appendages) on either side of the 2nd to 7th or 8th abdominal segments.

lateral ala (NEMATA) Lateral longitudinal expansions or incisures.

lateral apodeme see **endopleurite**

lateral bar (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Acrothoracica, one of a pair of external chitinous thickenings, extending from the apertural thickenings medially down each side of the mantle sac.

lateral carina (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Conchostraca, a narrow ridge on the side margin of the carapace.

lateral cilia (MOLL: Polyplacophora) Cilia on the flat surfaces of the leaflets of the ctenidia.

lateral comb (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, lateral spines or scales on the eighth abdominal segment of mosquito larvae.

lateral commissures 1. (ANN) Commissural blood vessels. 2. (NEMATA) Dorso- or ventro-lateral nerves connecting ganglia and major dorsal or ventral nerves.

lateral cups (ARTHRO: Crustacea) Paired elements of the nauplius eye; absent in malacostracans.

lateral denticle (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Stomatopoda, small projection at the base of each lateral tooth on the terminal abdominal segment.

lateral facials (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, one or more bristles on each side of the face below and toward the eye.

lateral field see **lateral line**, **lateral ridge**

lateral filaments (ARTHRO: Insecta) Cerci on the margins of the abdomen in some aquatic larvae.

lateral frontal organs (ARTHRO: Insecta) In most Apterygota,

separate capsules containing the median neurosecretory cells on the dorsal side of the brain.

lateral gonapophyses (ARTHRO: Insecta) In female Odonata, a pair of chitinous processes of the ovipositor on the 9th abdominal segment.

lateral hearts see **commissural vessels**

lateral hinge system (MOLL: Bivalvia) Hinges in some prodissoconchs both anterior and posterior to the provinculum.

lateralia n. [L. *latus,* side] 1. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) Lateral plates, variable in number, of lepadomorphs and balanomorphs. 2. (GNATHO) Lateral paired sensory bristles on the head.

lateral line 1. (ANN: Oligochaeta) In aquatic forms, the line formed by the nuclei of the fibers of the circular muscles. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) In eruciform Trichoptera, finely haired, longitudinal cuticular fold on each side of the abdomen. see **supraspiracular line**. 3. (NEMATA) In some nematodes, lateral, longitudinal cuticular incisures beneath which the lateral nuclei of the hypodermis are found; lateral field lines. see **lateral ridge**.

lateral lips 1. (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In Acari, lateroventral protuberances anterior to the mouth; joined to the labrum usually, and the labium when present. 2. (NEMATA) Lateral lobes of the hexaradiate labial region.

lateral longitudinal carina (ARTHRO: Insecta) In ichneumonid Hymenoptera, the longitudinal carina of the propodium on each side laying between the median and pleural carinae.

lateral mesentaries (CNID: Anthozoa) In Zoantharia, the mesentaries, excluding directive or dorsal and ventral pairs.

lateral ocelli see **stemma**

lateral organs 1. (ANN: Polychaeta) Ciliated sensory structures located between the notopodium and neuropodium of each parapodium. see **dorsal organ**. 2. (NEMATA) The amphids.

lateral oviduct (ARTHRO: Insecta) Paired canals of the female system, leading from ovaries, frequently mesodermal, and joining the common (median) oviduct.

lateral penellipse (ARTHRO: Insecta) In lepidopterous larvae, an almost complete circle of crochets, open or incomplete, toward the meson. see **penellipse**.

lateral ridge (NEMATA) The ridge formed by two contiguous lateral lines, when seen in cross-section or with SEM; lateral field ridges.

lateral skeletal projections (BRYO: Stenolaemata) Skeletal structures in living chambers opposite the feeding organs; including hemisepta, hemiphragms, ring septa, mural spines, and skeletal cystiphragms.

lateral teeth (MOLL: Bivalvia) Interlocking teeth, not functioning as a hinge, but serving to prevent valves from sliding upon each other when closed.

laterigrade a. [L. *latus,* side; *gradus,* step] Walking sideways, as some spiders and crabs.

lateris see **pygidial fringe**

laterocranium n. [L. *latus,* side; LL. *cranium*, skull] (ARTHRO: Insecta) The region of the head comprised of the genae and postgenae.

laterofrontal a. [L. *latus,* side; *frons,* front] Situated on the side but towards the front.

lateromarginal expansion (ARTHRO: Insecta) The median part of the marginal region of the phallobase of scarabaeoid beetles, characterized by an expansion of the margin into the lateral membrane.

lateropleural area (MOLL: Polyplacophora) The upper portion of the side slopes of an intermediate valve; denoting sculpture of a valve, lacking demarcation between the lateral and pleural areas.

lateroproximal marginal region (ARTHRO: Insecta) A lateral marginal region of the phallobase of scarabaeoid beetles, extending from the articulation with the tectum to where the margin and rugula intersect.

laterosternite n. [L. *latus,* side; Gr. *sternon,* breast; *-ites*, part] (ARTHRO: Insecta) Lateral plates at the sides of the eusternum in Isoptera, Dermaptera, and Blattaria.

laterotergite n. [L. *latus,* side; *tergum,* back; *-ites*, part] (AR-

THRO) A lateral or dorsolateral tergal sclerite.

lateroventral a. [L. *latus,* side; *venter,* belly] To the side (away from the midline of the body) and below.

lateroverted a. [L. *latus,* side; *vertere,* to turn] Displaced toward the side of the body; laterally displaced.

laticorn trumpet (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Diptera, a respiratory structure of mosquito pupae bearing the longest axis transverse to the stem, frequently with a secondary cleft in the pinna opposite the meatal cleft, less wide-mouthed than the angusticorn type, but with an elaborate lobe (tragus) on the rim of the pinna. see **angusticorn trumpet**.

laticostate a. [L. *latus,* broad; *costatus*, ribbed] Broad-ribbed.

latigastric a. [L. *latus,* broad; Gr. *gaster,* stomach] (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) Pertaining to those of the subphylum that are broadly joined between prosoma and opisthosoma. see **cauligastric**.

latirostrate a. [L. *latus,* broad; *rostrum,* beak] Having a broad rostrum. see **angustirostrate**.

latrodectism n. [Latrodectus sp.; L. *latro*, brigand; Gr. *dektes*, biter; L. *-ism*, condition] (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In Arachnida, envenomation of humans by Latrodectus (black widow) spiders.

latticed a. [Gr. *latte*, lath] To cross or interlace; cancellated.

latus n.; pl. **latera** [L. *latus,* side] (ARTHRO) 1. The side of the body. 2. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Cirripedia, any of the capitular plates except paired scuta and terga and unpaired *rostrum, carina,* subrostrum and subcarina of certain Lepadomorpha. see **carinal**, **inframedian**, **lower lateral plates**, **rostral and upper latus**.

Laurer's canal (PLATY: Trematoda) In Digenea, a tubular canal extending from the base of the seminal receptacle; sometimes opening dorsally to the exterior; Laurer-Stieda canal.

leaflets n.pl. [A.S. dim. *leaf*] (MOLL: Bivalvia) A double row of flat, triangular, ciliated processes on the ctenidia of Protobranchia that project into the mantle cavity for clearing particulate matter from the gills.

leberidocytes n.pl. [Gr. *leberis*, shed skin; *kytos,* container] (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In Arachnida, glycogen containing cells that develop from and back to leucocytes during molting.

lecithin n. [Gr. *lekithos,* egg yolk; -in, ending for fats, etc.] A very common, widely dispersed phospholipid, found in many kinds of cells.

lecithotrophic a. [Gr. *lekithos,* egg yolk; *trophe,* food] Obtaining nourishment from a large quantity of stored yolk, as in various invertebrates.

lecithotrophic development (BRYO: Gymnolaemata) Production of brooding larvae lacking a digestive tract.

lectoallotype n. [Gr. *lektos*, choose; *allos,* other; *typos,* type] A subsequent specimen of the opposite sex of the lectotype chosen from the original material.

lectotype n. [Gr. *lektos,* choose; *typos,* type] A specimen selected from a syntypic series that, subsequent to the publication of the original description, is selected and designated through publication to serve as the type.

left valve (MOLL: Bivalvia) While holding the bivalve shell with the hinge up and the apex or umbo pointed away from the pallial sinus toward the holder, the left valve is to the left.

lek n. [Sw. *lika*, to play] (ARTHRO: Insecta) A communal display area where males congregate for the purpose of attracting and courting females, and to which females come for mating; sometimes called an arena.

lemniscate, **lemniscata** n. [Gr. *lemniskos*, ribbon] A club-shaped organ.

lemniscus n.; **lemnisci** pl. [Gr. *lemniskos*, ribbon] (ACANTHO) One of a pair of elongate structures attached to the neck region and extending into the trunk cavity; may act as a reservoir for the fluid of the neck region when the proboscis is invaginated.

lemnoblast see **Schwann cell**

length n. [A.S. *lang*, long] (MOLL: Bivalvia) Greatest dimension by a projection of the shell extremities onto the cardinal axis.

lens n.; pl. **lenses** [L. *lens*, lentil] Transparent covering of the

eye, serving to focus the rays of light.

lentic, **lenitic** a. [L. *lentus*, slow, viscous] Living in still water; applied to organisms that inhabit swamps, ponds or lakes. see **lotic**.

lenticular a. [L. *lenticularis*, lentil-shaped] Having the form of a biconvex lens.

lentigerous a. [L. *lens*, lentil; *gerere,* to bear] Having a lens.

lepidopterism a. [Gr. *lepis*, scale; *pteron,* wing; -*ismos*, denoting condition] (ARTHRO: Insecta) Any pathological condition caused by the Lepidoptera. see **erucism**, **paraerucism**, **cryptotoxic**, **phanerotoxic**, **metaerucism**, **pseudoerucism**.

lepocyte n. [Gr. *lepis*, scale; *kytos,* container] A nucleated cell with a cell wall. see **gymnocyte**.

leprous a. [L. *lepra*, scaly] Having loose irregular scales; scale-like; covered with scales.

leptiform see **campodeiform larva**

leptoblast n. [Gr. *leptos,* thin; *blastos,* bud] (BRYO) A floatoblast that quickly germinates after release from the parent colony.

leptoderan a. [Gr. *leptos,* thin; *deras,* hide, leather] (NEMATA) With caudal alae restricted to two sides of the body and not surrounding or meeting posterior to the tail tip. see **pelodderan**.

leptonema n. [Gr. *leptos,* thin; *nema,* thread] A chromatin thread or chromosome at leptotene stage of prophase I in meiosis; sometimes used as a synonym of leptotene stage. see **leptotene**.

leptopelagic a. [Gr. *leptos,* thin; *pelagos,* sea] Extremely fine living or non-living material floating in sea water.

leptophragmata n.pl. [Gr. *leptos,* thin; *phragma,* hedge, fence] (ARTHRO: Insecta) In cryptonephridial forms, specialized cells at points of attachment of Malpighian tubules to the rectal peritrophic membranes.

leptostraterate a. [Gr. *leptos,* thin; *stratos,* covered] (ECHINOD: Asteroidea) Having the ambulacral plates narrow and crowded together.

leptotene n. [Gr. *leptos,* thin; *tainia,* ribbon] Early stage of prophase I in meiosis with chromosomes appearing as fine threads, although made up of two chromatids which are not apparent until the pachytene stage. see **leptonema**, **pachynema**.

leptotrombicula n. [Gr. *leptos,* thin; It. *tromba*, trumpet] (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) The slender larva of the thrombiculid mite that transmits Tsutsugamushi disease, also known as Japanese flood fever or scrub typhus.

leptus n. [Gr. *leptos,* small] (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In Acari, larval form of mites with 6 legs.

lerp n. [Native name, lit., sweet] (ARTHRO: Insecta) In australian jumping plantlice, a scale or test on leaves or small twigs under which sedentary nymphs of Spondyliaspinae shelter.

lesion n. [L. *laedere*, to injure] In plants or animals, a wound or injury causing circumscribed pathological change in tissues, including a change or loss of function.

lestobiosis n. [Gr. *lestes*, robber; *biosis,* manner of life] (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Hymenoptera, a type of symbiosis in which a group of 'thief ants' of small size nest in or near the chambers of termites and larger ants, eating their stored food, larvae, and pupae unnoticed by their benefactors. see **cleptobiosis**.

lethal factor see **balanced lethals**

lethargy n.; pl. -**gies** [Gr. *lethargios*, drowsy] A state of inaction.

letisimulation n. [L. *lethum*, death; *similis*, like] Feigning death; thanatosis.

leucine n. [Gr. *leukos*, white] An amino acid, x-amino isocaproic acid found in tissues of various invertebrates.

leucoblast n. [Gr. *leukos*, white; *blastos,* bud] The developing leucocyte; a precursor of a leucocyte; a proleucocyte; a prohemocyte; leukoblast.

leucocyte see **plasmatocyte**

leucon see **leuconoid grade or type**

leuconoid grade or type (PORIF) A grade of construction of

sponges in which the choanocyte chambers are small, and distributed through the interior tissues. see **asconoid grade**, **synconoid grade**.

leucopterine see **pterine (pteridine) pigments**

levation n. [L. *levare*, to raise] The raising of the leg or a part of the leg; part of protraction.

levator n. [L. *levare*, to raise] Any muscle serving to raise an organ or part.

levels of integration Levels of complexity in structures, patterns, or associations when new properties emerge that could not have been predicted from the properties of the component parts.

levigate a. [L. *levigare*, to make smooth] Smooth surfaced; polished.

Leydig cells 1. Secretory cells of various glands. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Hymenoptera, produces an attractant pheronome in Apis; mandibular gland and Koshevnikov gland. 3. (MOLL: Gastropoda) In Prosobranchia, cells in the mantle, foot and around the digestive tract.

life cycle The complete series of successive forms through which any particular kind of organism passes in the course of its development to maturity.

ligament n. [L. *ligare,* to bind] 1. A band or sheet of tough, fibrous tissue between parts or segments. 2. (BRYO) Muscle fibers embedded in collagen with a tubular peritoneal envelope. 3. (MOLL: Bivalvia) A horny, elastic band located above the hinge, causing the valves to open when the adductor muscles relax.

ligamental area (MOLL: Bivalvia) An area between the umbo and ligament that shows the growth track of the ligament.

ligament fulcrum see **nympha**

ligament groove (MOLL: Bivalvia) A narrow depression in the cardinal area for attachment of ligament fibers.

ligament pit (MOLL: Bivalvia) A broad depression in the cardinal area for ligament attachment.

ligament sac 1. (ACANTHO) Encloses the genital apparatus of male and female; separates immature eggs from mature in

females. 2. (MOLL) The sac housing the ligaments attached to the base of the teeth.

ligament strand (ACANTHO) The nucleated, syncytial band of tissue lying between the ligament sacs or along the ventral face of the single ligament sac.

ligament suture Elongate space behind the umbones, apparent after the ligament is gone.

ligneous a. [L. *lignum,* wood] Of or like wood; woody.

lignicolous a. [L. *lignum,* wood; *cola*, inhabitant] Living in wood.

lignivorous a. [L. *lignum,* wood; *vorare,* to devour] Eating wood or woody tissue.

ligula n.; pl. -**lae** [L. *ligula*, little tongue] 1. (ANN: Polychaeta) Lobe of the parapodium. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) *a.* The terminal lobe or lobes of the labium; the glossae and paraglossae collectively. *b.* In adult dipteran mosquitoes, the sharp-pointed lobe on the midline of the labium between the labella; ligular lobe. *c.* In male Odonata, the strongly curved process over the stem of the prophallus. 3. (BRYO) A calcareous projection from the cross-bar of an avicularium. 4. (MOLL: Cephalopoda) In octopods, a specialized terminal area of the hectocotylus.

ligular lobe see **ligula**

ligulate a. [L. *ligula*, little tongue] Strap shaped.

ligule n. [L. *ligula*, little tongue] (ANN: Polychaeta) A parapodial lobe covering the anus dorsally.

limacel n.; pl. -**le** [F., fr. L. *limax*, slug] (MOLL: Gastropoda) The concealed vestigial shell of slugs.

limaciform a. [L. *limax*, slug; *forma,* shape] Shaped like a slug.

limb n. [A.S. *lim*, limb] The leg or wing of an animal.

limb n. [L. *limbus*, an edge] The border, rim or edge.

limbate a. [L. *limbus*, an edge] 1. Having a margin or limb of another color. 2. (ANN) Term used to describe seta with a flattened margin to the blade.

limbus n. [L. *limbus*, an edge] 1. (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In

Acari, the border of an element of the exoskeleton, such as a tectum. 2. (BRACHIO) The flattened inner margin of the inarticulate valve.

limicolous a. [L. *limus*, mud; *colus*, dwelling in] Living in mud or shore dwelling.

liminal a. [L. *limen*, threshold] Pertaining to threshold. see **subliminal**.

limited chromosome May be eliminated or diminished in cleavage, thus producing clones of differing functional karyotypes.

limiting factor Essential factor in the environment that is in short supply; thus limiting growth, some life process or population size.

limivorous a. [L. *limus*, mud; *vorare,* to devour] (ANN) Mud eating to obtain the organic matter.

limnic, **limnetic** a. [Gr. *limne,* marsh, lake, pool] 1. Living in standing fresh water. 2. Inhabiting the pelagic zone in a body of fresh water; limnicolous.

limnium n. [Gr. *limne,* marsh, lake, pool] A lake community.

limnobios n. [Gr. *limne,* marsh, lake, pool; *bios,* life] All life in fresh water.

limnology n. [Gr. *limne,* pond; *logos,* discourse] The study of fresh waters, in physical, chemical, meteorological and biological conditions.

limophagous see **limivorous**

limpid a. [L. *limpidus*, clear] Characterized by being clear or transparent.

linea n.; pl. **lineae** [L. *linea*, line] Linear markings or structures.

linear-ensate Somewhere between linear and ensiform in shape.

lineate a. [L. *linea*, line] Marked longitudinally with depressed parallel lines or striae.

lineola n. [L. dim. *linea*, line] Marked with minute lines. **lineolate** a.

lingua n. [L. *lingua,* tongue] (ARTHRO: Insecta) The tongue; maxillary appendages; the hypopharynx, or organ of; glossa.

lingual a. [L. *lingua,* tongue] Of or pertaining to the tongue.

lingual ribbon [L. *lingua,* tongue] (MOLL) The radula or odontophore.

lingual sclerites (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Psocidae, two oval sclerites, each connected to a median sitophore sclerite by a fine filament.

linguiform a. [L. *lingua,* tongue; *forma,* shape] Tongue-shaped; lingulate.

lingula n. [L. dim. *lingua,* tongue] (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Aleyrodidae, a tongue or strap-shaped organ in the vasiform orifice with the anal opening at the base where honeydew accumulates.

lingulid larvae (BRACHIO) Free swimming bivalve larvae of the order Lingula with elongate valves. see **discinid**.

linkage n. [ME. *linke*] The association in heredity of genes located in the same chromosome; the more tightly they are linked, the less likely they will be separated by crossing over.

linkage group A group of gene loci placed in a linear order on a chromosome.

linkage map A chromosome map.

linker gene A small piece of synthetic DNA with a restriction site used to splice genes together.

linneon n. [Linne, Swedish naturalist] A taxon distinguished on morphological grounds, generally applies to one of the large species described by early naturalists.

liocyte see **chromophile**

lip n. [A.S. *lippa*, lip] Any liplike part or structure.

lipase n. [Gr. *lipos,* fat; -ase, enzyme] An enzyme that hydrolyses fats.

lip cap (NEMATA) A disc-like, anterior-most cuticular annulation, circumoral and usually thicker than adjacent head annuli.

lip gland (SIPUN) A glandular organ with a ciliated groove run-

ning from pore to tip of lip.

lipids n.pl. [Gr. *lipos,* fat] Organic compounds soluble in various organic liquids and insoluable in water; including carbon and hydrogen with a small proportion of oxygen and/or other elements, i.e., fats, phospholipids, sterols, etc.

lipin n. [Gr. *lipos,* fat] Complex lipids such as phospholipids, glycolipids, and cerebrocides.

liplets [A.S. dim. *lippa*, lip] (NEMATA) Small, reduced lips restricted to the apex of the head; pseudolips.

Lipocephala see **Bivalvia Class, Mollusca**

lipochromes n. [Gr. *lipos,* fat; *chroma,* color] Fat soluble pigments.

lipogastry n. [Gr. *leipo*, to be lacking; *gaster,* stomach] Temporary obliteration of gastral cavity as occurs in sponges and some other organisms.

lipoid a. [Gr. *lipos,* fat; *eidos,* like] Of fatty nature.

lipoid membrane see **fertilization membrane**

lipolysis n. [Gr. *lipos,* fat; *lysis,* loosen] Decomposition of fat by lipase. **lipolytic** a.

lipomerism n. [Gr. *leipo*, to be lacking; *meros,* part; *ismos,* denoting condition] Coalescence or suppression of segmentation.

lipomicrons n. [Gr. *lipos,* fat; *mikros,* little] (ARTHRO: Insecta) Minute fat particles found in the blood.

lipopalingenesis n. [Gr. *leipo*, to be lacking; *palin,* anew; *genesis,* beginning] The omission of a stage or series of stages in phylogeny.

lipopolysaccharide n. [Gr. *lipos,* fat; *polys,* many; *sakcharon,* sugar] Molecule with a lipid attached to a polysaccharide.

lipoprotein n. [Gr. *lipos,* fat; *proteios,* primary] Molecule with a lipid joined to a protein.

lipostomous a. [Gr. *leipo*, to be lacking; *stoma,* mouth] (PORIF) Having no apertures visible to the naked eye.

lipotrophic n. [Gr. *lipos,* fat; *trephein*, to eat] A compound with an affinity for lipids; influencing fat metabolism.

lip ring (NEMATA) A ring at or near the oral aperture formed by fused, separate or subdivided cheilorhabdions.

lira n., pl. **lirae** [L. *lira*, ridge] 1. Fine grooves or thread-like sculpture or ridge. 2. (MOLL: Gastropoda) Fine linear elevation on a shell surface or within outer lip. **lirate** a.

list n. [A.S. *liste*, ridge] (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Ostracoda, a ridge inside the selvage on the sealing margin of the shell.

listrium n. [Gr. *listrion*, small shovel] (BRACHIO:Inarticulata) In some Discinidae, a plate closing the anterior end of the pedicle opening.

lithistid n. [Gr. *lithos,* stone] (PORIF) A reticulated skeleton.

lithite see **statolith**

lithocyst see **lithocyte**

lithocyte n. [Gr. *lithos,* stone; *kytos,* container] Cell within a statocyst that contains the movable concretion or statolith; lithocyst.

lithodesma n. [Gr. *lithos,* stone; desma, bond] (MOLL: Bivalvia) 1. A calcareous reinforcement of the internal ligament. 2. A small shelly plate; ossiculum.

lithodomous a. [Gr. *lithos,* stone; domos, house] Living in or burrowing in rock.

lithophagous a. [Gr. *lithos,* stone; *phagein,* to eat] Burrowing in rock.

lithosere n. [Gr. *lithos,* stone; *serere*, to join] A sere originating on exposed rock surfaces. see **xerosere**, **hydrosere**.

lithostyle see **rhopalium**

lithotomous a. [Gr. *lithos,* stone; *tomos,* cut] Stone boring.

littoral, **litoral** a. [L. *litoralis*, of the seashore] Of or pertaining to a shore, coastline, or region between high and low water marks.

lituate a. [L. *lituus*, augur's staff] Being forked with prongs outwardly curving.

litura, **liturate** An obscure color spot with pale margins; appearing daubed or blotted.

liver-pancreas Digestive gland in crustaceans and other in-

vertebrates. see **hepatopancreas**.

livid a. [L. *lividus*, to be black and blue] Pale purplish-brown; lead-colored; ashy-pale.

living chamber (BRYO: Stenolaemata) Outer part of the zooid body cavity that contains the major organs.

lobar a. [Gr. *lobos,* lobe] Of or pertaining to a lobe or lobes.

lobate a. [Gr. *lobos,* lobe] Provided with lobes; lobed.

lobe n. [Gr. *lobos,* lobe] A generally rounded part or projection of a part or organ.

lobiform a. [Gr. *lobos,* lobe; L. *forma,* shape] Shaped like a lobe or rounded process.

lobopods n.pl. [Gr. *lobos,* lobe; *pous,* foot] (ONYCHO) Annulate, sacklike legs with internal musculature.

lobula n. [Gr. dim. *lobos,* lobe] (ARTHRO: Insecta) The proximal synaptic area in the optic lobes. see **lobular complex**.

lobular complex (ARTHRO: Insecta) Lobula and lobular plate of the interior synaptic region of the optic lobes. see **medulla interna**, **opticon**.

lobulate a. [Gr. dim. *lobos,* lobe] Divided into small lobes or lobules.

lobulate glands (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Campodea, glands situated in the head and the anterior part of the prothorax composed of cells arranged around a system of ducts opening into the cephalic hemocoel; possibly functioning in secreting some form of growth hormone.

lobule n. [F. dim. *lobos,* lobe] A small lobe.

lobulus n.; pl. -**li** [F. dim. *lobos,* lobe] A lobe or lobule. see **alula**.

local population see **population**

loci p. of **locus**

lociation n. [L. *locus,* place] Local variations in the abundance or proportion of dominant species in an association.

lock and key theory Morphological theory of antibody-antigen, enzyme-substrate, and insect genitalia interactions; fitting exactly for the interactions to take place.

loco citato Place cited; abbr., l.c. and loc.cit.

locomotor rods see **ambulatory setae**, **adhesion tubes**

locotype see **topotype**

locular a. [L. *loculus,* cell] Having or containing small cavities or chambers.

loculus n.; pl. **loculi** [L. *loculus,* cell] 1. A cavity, compartment or chamber. 2. (CNID) Cavities between septa at the base of some polyps. 3. (PLATY: Turbellaria) Shallow, sucker-like depressions in the adhesive organ.

locus n.; pl. -**ci** [L. *locus,* place] The position of a gene in a chromosome; may be occupied by any gene of a particular allelic series.

lodix n. [L. *lodix*, blanket] (ARTHRO: Insecta) The ventral plate of the seventh (7th) abdominal segment that covers the genital plate in Lepidoptera.

logarithmic phase Geometric or exponential growth section of the logistic curve characteristic of unrestrained population growth.

logistic curve Growth of a population with time as described by a sigmoid curve; begins slowly, increases rapidly, and grows slowly or not at all as the population fills available sites.

logotype n. [Gr. *logos,* word; *typos,* type] A type species of a genus by subsequent designation, not originally described as such.

longicorn a. [L. *longus,* long; *cornu,* horn] Having long antennae as in certain beetles.

longipennate a. [L. *longus,* long; *penna,* wing] Having long-wings.

longirostral, **longirostrate** a. [L. *longus,* long; *rostrum,* beak] Having a long beak or rostrum.

longitudinal a. [L. *longus,* long] 1. Lengthwise of the body or an appendage. 2. The length of a shell or direction of the longest diameter.

longitudinal canal see **longitudinal tube**

longitudinal muscle 1. (ECHI) Layer of longitudinal muscle of

the body wall sometimes thickened into bundles. 2. (NEMATA) The somatic muscles of nematodes. 3. (SIPUN) Innermost layers of muscle that make up the body wall of the trunk.

longitudinal rugae (NEMATA) The cuticular fold projecting anteriorly from the stoma of diplogasterids supporting the circumoral membrane.

longitudinal section Section along or parallel to the longitudinal axis.

longitudinal septum (ARTHRO: Crustacea) An inner and outer laminae partition of the compartmental plate in some balanomorph barnacles, resulting in longitudinal tubes; parietal tubes.

longitudinal tube (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In some Balanamorpha, a canal between longitudinal septa and inner and outer lamina in the compartmental plate; longitudinal canal; parietal tube; parietal pore.

loop n. [ME. *loupe*, loop] (BRACHIO) A support for the lophophore composed of secondary shell and variously placed, usually ribbon-like with or without supporting septum from floor of the brachial valve.

looper n. [Eng. *looper*, to crawl or slink] (ARTHRO: Insecta) 1. Caterpillars with two or more anterior prolegs reduced or missing. 2. Crawl in a looping manner like the Geometridae (inch worm).

lophobranchiate a. [Gr. *lophos,* crest; *branchia,* gills] Having tufted gills.

lophocaltrops n. [Gr. *lophos,* crest; A.S. coltraeppe, type of thistle] (PORIF) A sponge spicule with branched or crested rays.

lophocytes n. [Gr. *lophos,* crest; *kytos,* container] (PORIF) Mobile collagen-secreting cells that trail attached collagen fibrils.

lophophoral fold (BRYO) Part of the vesicle of the polypide from which the lophophore is formed.

lophophore n. [Gr. *lophos,* crest; *pherein,* to carry] A crown of tentacles, found in Bryozoa, Brachiopoda and Phoronida.

lophophore neck (BRYO: Gymnolaemata) A long movable cylindrical structure formed by the everted tentacle sheath that allows extension of the tentacles beyond the orifice.

lora pl. **lorum**

loral arm (ARTHRO: Insecta) A laterally extending process from the middle of each suspensorium of the hypopharynx of certain primitive pterygote insects.

lore see **lorum**

lorica n.; pl. -**ae** [L. *lorica*, corselet] A hard shell or case on Rotifera, Loricifera and Priapulida larvae. see **cuirass**.

loricate a. [L. *lorica*, corselet] To cover with a protective coating or crust.

loricifera n. [L. *lorica*, corselet; *fero,* bear] A phylum of microscopic organisms with a flexible, retractable tube mouth, a girdle of platelets and a crown of clawlike and club-shaped spines.

lorum n.; pl. **lora** [L. *lorum*, strap] 1. (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In Arachnida, a protective dorsal plate on the pedicle. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) *a.* The cheek. *b.* A sclerite on both sides of the head of Homoptera and certain Hemiptera, and Hymenoptera. *c.* In Apis, the submentum. *d.* In Homoptera, a narrow lateral sclerite between the clypeus and the front extending to the genae, that is an upward extension of the hypopharynx.

lotic a. [L. *lotus*, washed] Living in rapidly flowing waters; applied to organisms that inhabit these waters. see **lentic**.

lower a. [ON. *lagr*, low] (MOLL) The abapical part of the shell.

lower latus plate (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Cirripedia, a valve near the basis of the shell.

loxometaneme n. [Gr. *loxos*, oblique; *meta,* behind; *nema,* thread] (NEMATA) Metaneme that is at an angle of 10-30 o to the longitudinal body line; found running diagonally across the lateral hypodermal cords.

lozenge n. [OF. *losenge*, a square window pane] A parallelogram with four equal sides having two acute and two obtuse angles; lozenge-shaped; a rhombus form; diamond-shaped.

lucid a. [L. *lucidus*, clear] Luminous; translucent; pellucid; shining.

luciferase n. [L. *lux,* light; *ferre,* to bring; -ase, enzyme] An enzyme of luminescent organisms involved in the oxidation of luciferin and the production of light.

luciferin n. [L. *lux,* light; *ferre,* to bring] A substance found in luminescent organisms that, in the presence of the enzyme luciferase, oxidizes and produces light.

lucifugous a. [L. *lux,* light; *fugere,* to flee] Avoiding the light, or living in concealment. see **photophobic**, **lucipetal**.

lucinoid teeth (MOLL: Bivalvia) Having 2 cardinal teeth in each valve; left valve anterior tooth is medial below the beak.

lucipetal a. [L. *lux,* light; *petere,* to seek] Requiring light. see **lucifugous**.

lumbar ganglia (NEMATA) Large paired ganglia in the anal region which receive the lateral nerves and from which the laterocaudal nerves pass posteriad in the tail.

lumbriciform a. [L. *lumbricus*, earthworm; *forma,* shape] Like an earthworm in appearance; lumbricoid. see **vermiform**.

lumbricine a. [L. *lumbricus*, earthworm] (ANN: Oligochaeta) Having 4 pairs of setae per segment as in earthworms of the family Lumbricidae. see **perichaetine**.

lumen n. [L. *lumen,* light] Space within any tubular organ or vessel.

lumenate a. [L. *lumen,* light] Having a lumen.

luminescent a. [L. *lumen,* light; *escens*, beginning of] Producing light. see **bioluminescence**.

luminescent organ 1. Specialized light emitting organs of various invertebrates. see **bioluminescence**. 2. (MOLL: Cephalopoda) Open ectodermal pockets filled with luminescent bacteria.

lunate a. [L. *luna*, moon] Semicircular; falcate; crescent-shaped.

lunellarium see **clausilium**

lung books see **book lung**

lunula n.; pl. **lunulae** [L. dim. *luna*, moon] 1. A small lunate mark or crescent-shaped object. 2. (MOLL: Gastropoda) A crescentic ridge on the selenizone, concave toward aperture. **lunular** a.

lunule n. [L. dim. *luna*, moon] 1. A crescent-shaped part or marking. 2. (ARTHRO: Crustacea) In Copepoda, small, sucker-like adhesion disc on the anterior margin. 3. (ECHINOD: Echinoidea) One of several perforations in the test of some sand dollars that may serve for passage of sand and water while burrowing. 4. (MOLL: Bivalvia) Cordate shaped depression anterior to the beaks.

lurid a. [L. *luridus*, pale yellow] A dirty yellowish color; dismal; dingy.

luteous a. [L. *luteus,* golden yellow] Yellow in hue, especially an orange or reddish yellow.

lycophore n. [Gr. *lykos*, hook; *pherein,* to carry] (PLATY: Cestoda) Ten-hooked first larval stage of a tapeworm; a decacanth.

lygophil n. [Gr. *lygaios*, gloomy; *philos,* fond of] Shade or darkness dwellers.

lymph gland 1. (ANN: Oligochaeta) Organs on the anterior faces of septa associated with the dorsal blood vessel, in the intestinal regions of some earthworms, possibly functioning in production of phagocytes. 2. (ARTHRO: Insecta) Organs that release free mesodermal cells into the hemolymph near pupation of Drosophila larvae.

lymphocyte see **plasmatocyte**

lyocytosis n. [Gr. *lyein,* to loose; *kytos,* hollow] The process of histolysis by extracellular digestion.

Lyonnet's glands (ARTHRO: Insecta) In Lepidoptera, paired accessory glands opening by a separate duct into the silk gland on its own side; Filippi's glands.

lyra n. [L. *lyra,* lyre] (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) Stridulating organs of arachnids found on various places of the male body; they consist of a tooth (or teeth) that rubs against a series of ridges.

lyrate a. [L. *lyra,* lyre] Lyre-shaped; spatulate and oblong with small lobes toward the base.

lyre n. [L. *lyra,* lyre] (ARTHRO: Insecta) In caterpillars, the border or upper wall of the spinning tube.

lyre-shaped Like a string musical instrument with two curved arms and strings attached to a yolk between the curved arms.

lyrifissure n. [L. *lyra,* lyre; *fissura,* crack] (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) Small fissures or pores in the cuticle of the body or appendages; sometimes with an internal channel; thought to be stretch receptors.

lyriform organs (ARTHRO: Chelicerata) In arachnids, a lyre-shaped organ on the joints of the legs and other appendages, sterna of the cephalothorax and abdomen and on the sting of Scorpiones; thought to be chemoreceptors; also called slit sense organs.

lyrule n. [L. dim. *lyra,* lyre] (BRYO) A median tooth on the proximal edge of the orifice.

lyse a. [Gr. *lysis,* loosen] To undergo lysis.

lysigenoma n. [Gr. *lysis,* loosen; gene, to produce; -oma, tumor] (NEMATA) The name given a group of giant cells or syncytia denoting their origin from lysis or dissolution of walls of normal cells, forming a tumor-like structure.

lysin n. [Gr. *lysis,* loosen] Any of a number of substances capable of dissolving cells, bacteria, or tissues.

lysis n. [Gr. *lysis,* loosen] 1. The decomposition of a substance. 2. The digestion of cells or tissues by enzymatic action.

lyssacine a. [Gr. *lysis,* loosen; *akis*, point] (PORIF: Hexactinellida) Skeletal framework formed by interlacing of the elongate rays of hexactines producing loose networks with irregular meshes in siliceous sponges; may be considered an earlier stage of the dictyonine framework.

lytic a. [Gr. *lysis,* loosen] Pertaining to lysis or to a lysin.

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