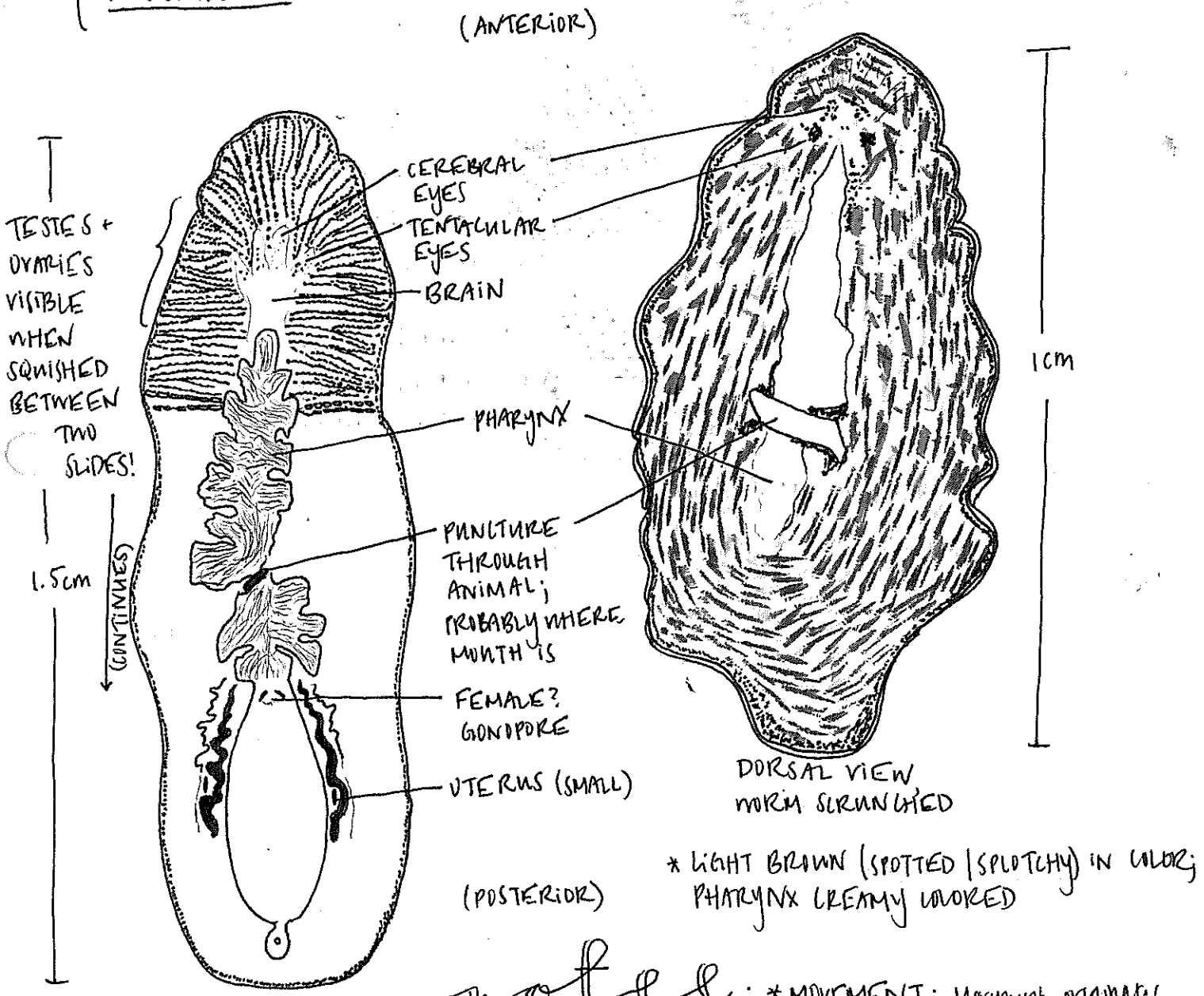


PHYLUM PLATYHELMINTHES: TURBELLARIAN FLATWORMS! / 04.13.17

① FREE-LIVING FLATWORMS

- PHYLUM PLATYHELMINTHES
- "CLASS" TURBELLARIA
- ORDER POLYCLADIDA
- NOTO COMPLANATA SP.

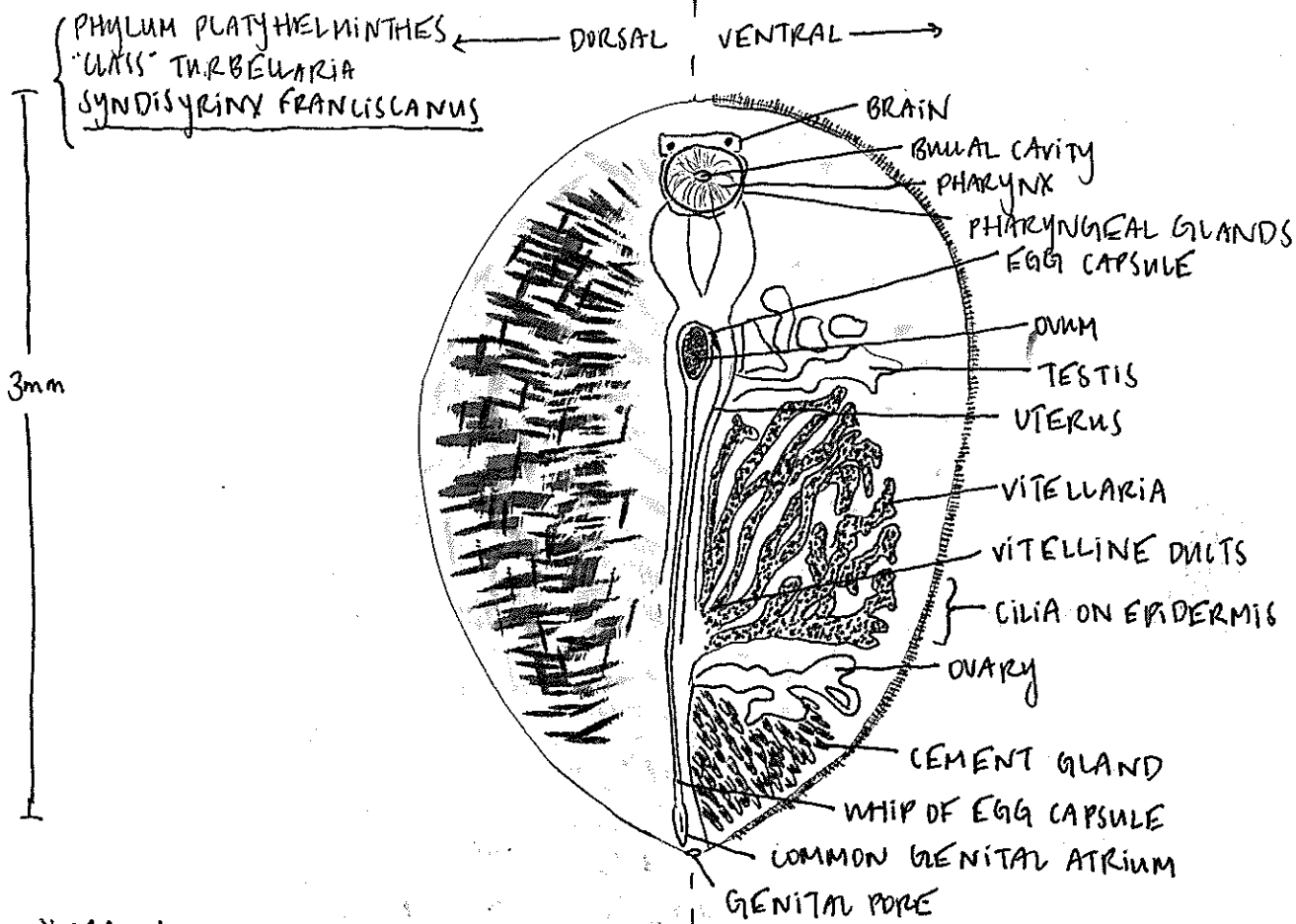


VENTRAL VIEW, WORM ELONGATED

note: * MOVEMENT: Movement originates from the anterior end of the animal, and looks as if the worm contracts "waves" posteriorly, a process called pedal waving. To accomplish this movement, the worm contracts its longitudinal muscles, relaxes its posterior end, then contracts its circular muscles to propel its body forward.

* PHOTOTAXIS: NotoComplanata is negatively phototaxic (it moves away from light preferentially). Further, these organisms much prefer to be properly dorso-ventrally oriented. When flipped upside-down, they immediately turn right-side up. But, if they are on a slide (attached) and the sides meet, they exhibit no real

(II) COMMENSAL FLATWORMS:



* MANY OTHER STRUCTURES NOT VISIBLE:

→ Sperm duct, common sperm duct, spermidium vesicle, oovitellic duct, accessory glands, female antrum, penis, buccal canal, infundibulum canal, bursa feminalis,

notes: *DISSECTED A PURPLE SEA URCHIN (STRONGYLOCENTROTUS PURPURATUS) TO ACQUIRE THIS ORGANISM:

→ Another organism (turbellarian), Syndesmis, co-ocurs in purple urchin intestines. However, they occupy different areas of the gut and don't affect each other's site utilization. I hypothesize that this is because they are adapted to eating different endociliates or Syndisyrinx (more posteriorly located) consumes some of the already-digested fecal matter of the urchin. That is not to say they feed on the urchin tissue, but rather the urchin by-product before it is to be released out. A question for the Gastrology lab to ponder, indeed!

* COLOR: Bright red, with the reproductive organs being markedly lighter than the rest of the body. Eye spots black. Pharynx opaque.