

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Horsehair Worm

Gordius spp.

Horsehair worms are long, slender parasitic invertebrates often found in water or damp environments. They are known for their striking resemblance to strands of horsehair and can reach lengths of up ...

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate

Family: Gordiidae

Habitat: Freshwater

Diet: Parasitic (Larval), Non-feeding (Adult)

Conservation status: Least Concern

Lifespan: 1-2 years

Weight: Less than 1 gram

Scientific name: *Gordius* spp.

Did you know?

- Horsehair worms were once believed to spontaneously generate from horsehair left in water, a myth that persisted for centuries.
- Horsehair worms can survive being cut in half and regenerate. Their larvae can manipulate the behavior of their insect hosts, driving them to water s...

What I learned

