

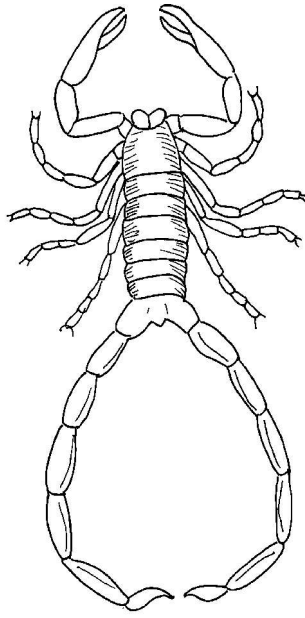
A TWO TAILED SCORPION

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The rare occurrence of a two-tailed scorpion always attracts a good deal of attention. According to a recent article by Professor Max Vachon (*Endeavour*, April, 1953) the anomaly was known in antiquity and Pliny placed two-tailed scorpions in a class by themselves. The phenomenon is the result of incomplete twinning; this division of the rear end of the body sometimes also affects a portion of the abdomen.

A very young specimen of a two-tailed scorpion was brought to the Museum several years ago (26th Jan. 1950) by Mr. John Thompson. Unfortunately it was dead - we would have certainly endeavoured to bring it to maturity had it reached us alive. Should any member discover a two-tailed scorpion we would be very pleased to have it - alive if possible.



NHSJ