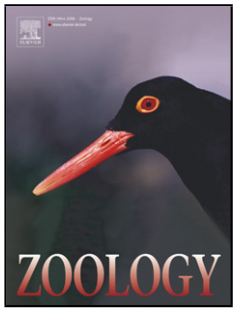

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Strategies for tube construction in *Owenia caissara* (Oweniidae, Annelida) from southern Brazil

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Highlights

- The adults of *Owenia caissara* show a clear preference for large particles.
- The individuals of *Owenia caissara* completely removed from their tubes were unable to build new ones.
- The individuals of *Owenia caissara* can rebuilt the tube at both ends.
- The individuals of *Owenia caissara* were not able to reconstruct their tubes with silt-clay particles.
- *Owenia caissara* can survive on different substrates and even use filamentous plant debris for tube reconstruction.

Abstract

In this paper, we have experimentally assessed tube-building strategies of *Owenia caissara* Silva & Lana, 2017, including the particle size preferences. After acclimation, individual tubes were broken by their mid-region, and placed in experimental aquaria with four types of homogeneous substrates (from silt-clay to coarse sand) and four types of mixed substrates. Animals completely removed from their tubes were unable to build new tubes. Adults in broken