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NOTE ON A GORGONACEAN AND AN ALCYONACEAN
FROM THE VOYAGE OF H. R. H. THE PRINCE LEOPOLD
OF BELGIUM TO THE FAR EAST IN THE YEAR 1932

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Order : GORGONACEA.

Sub-order : HOLAXONIA.

Family : ISIDAE. Sub-family : ISIDINAE.

Isis hippuris Linn.

For *descriptions* see : ESPER, 1788-1790, *Pflanzenh.*, vol. I,
p. 27, plates 1-3; plate 4, figs. 1-5.

KÜKENTHAL, 1924, *Das Tierreich*, p. 443.

A fine bushy specimen of only the bare axis, none of the coenenchyma left on it. A membranous basis, showing twisting longitudinal furrows, spreads over a piece of madreporal coral and from this arise two clumps of the species. In one clump two main axes, and in the other, six, seem united at their bases but immediately separate into distinct main axes. The maximum height of the main clump is 15 cm. and the spread, 11 cm.

The thick axes are very typical, with horny, black nodes, varying greatly in length, and white, calcareous internodes, up to 8 mm. in length, with deep longitudinal furrows on the surface. The branching tends to be in one plane, the branches arising from the internodes, in number up to three from one internode.

Locality : Dredged in the Sulu Sea off Asia, near the mouth

of the river Sipalay, Negros island (Philippines), April 1932. Previously recorded from the tropical Indopacific Ocean.

Order : ALCYONACEA.

Family : ALCYONIIDAE.

Sarcophytum trocheliophorum Marenz.

For descriptions see : MARENZELLER, 1886, *Ueber die Sarcophytum benannten Alcyoniden*, Zool. Jahrb., pp. 369-62, 2 figs.

THOMSON and DEAN, 1931, *Alcyonacea of the Siboga Expedition*, Monog. XIII, p. 60.

A well developed specimen with a short, flattened stalk having an average basal diameter of 8.5 cm., and a roughly circular capitulum, 19.5 × 14.5 cm., the total height of the colony being 5 cm.

It shows typically the characteristics of the species. The margin of the capitulum is convoluted in thick low folds, the texture is smooth and rubbery, the siphonozooids, clear to the naked eye, but only slightly depressed, are as many as 7-8 to a centimetre at the edge of the colony but become fewer towards the centre where they may be 3-5 mm. apart.

The spicules include broad, almost oblong cylinders with in most cases two median zones and two terminal clusters of compound warts. These *Lobophytum*-like spicules are very typical and distinctive of this species of *Sarcophytum*. In some of these barrel-shaped spicules the whole surface is covered with compound tubercles not arranged in whorls. They attain a size of 0.28 × 0.18 mm. In addition there are slender spindles with relatively few simple conical prominences; ill-defined clubs, small irregular crosses and a few small, almost smooth spindles.

The colour of the colony in spirit is a greenish-grey.

Locality : Dredged in the Sulu Sea of Asia, near the mouth of the river Sipalay, Negros island (Philippines), April, 1932. Previously recorded from Red Sea, Amboina, Tonga Islands, Port Denison (Australia), East Indies.



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