1900

Ophiuroids Collected by the Investigator in the Indian Ocean. II. The Littoral Ophiuroids: A Translation of *Ophiures Recueillies par l'Investigator dans l'Océan Indien. II. Les Ophiures Littorales*

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John M. Lawrence
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OPHIURES

RECUEILLIES PAR

L'INVESTIGATOR

DANS

L'OCEAN INDIEN

PAR

R. KOEHLER,
PROFESSEUR DE ZOOLOGIE À L'UNIVERSITÉ DE LYON.

II. LES OPHIURES LITTORALES.

CALCUTTA.

1900.
Koehler, R. 1900. Ophiuroids collected by the Investigator in the Indian Ocean. II. The littoral ophiuroids. Translated by John M. Lawrence.


Translator’s note.

The illustrations of the ophiuroids collected by the Investigator are not in this publication. They were published separately in “Illustrations of the shallow-water Ophiuroidea collected by the Royal Indian Marine Survey ship Investigator”.

Kœhler’s name is spelled Koehler on the cover, Kœhler in the text. I have not changed these.
OPHIUROIDS

COLLECTED BY THE “INVESTIGATOR”

IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

By R. KOEHLER.

PROFESSOR OF ZOOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LYON

THE LITTORAL OPHIUROIDS.

The plates included in the present fasciculus represent the new species and some species already known of littoral species collected by the INVESTIGATOR in the Indian Ocean. The reader is asked to refer, for the description of the species figured to the work that I published in 1898 in the Bulletin Scientifique de la France et de la Belgique, volume XXXI under the title Echinodermes recueillis par l’Investigator dans l’Océan Indian. Deuxième mémoire: les Ophiures littorales. A single species, Ophiothrix innocens, is not mentioned in this memoir. Its description was published in the Bulletin de la Société Zoologique de France, 1898, under the title Description d’une Ophiure nouvelle de l’Océan Indien.

I include in the littoral ophiuroids all the species that the “Investigator” captured at depths to 40 fathoms. This distinction between the littoral forms and deep-sea forms was all the better indicated because between this depth of 40 fathoms and 112 fathoms that is the upper limit of deep-sea species studied in a previous memoir, the “Investigator” did not collect any ophiuroids.

The fauna of littoral ophiuroids in the Ind-Pacific domain has already been the subject of numerous works, among which those of von Martens, of Brock, of P. de Loriol and of Döderlein come first. This fauna is remarkably rich and varied. Some genera are represented by numerous species. The genus Ophiothrix notably has at this time at least fifty representatives in this large ocean domain. Brock, who gave in 1888 a review of all known species at that time in the Indo-Pacific region, arrived at a total of 132 different forms, from which we must remove some synonyms. We can add to the list this author gave and in addition some species that he forgot, the ophiuroids of the Korean Sea, Duncan, and around forty others that have been reported since the publication of his work by P de Loriol, by Studer, by Döderlein, etc., following the investigations of Bedot at Amboin, of Semon in the Torres Strait and at Amboin, as well as the discoveries of the “Gazelle” and of the “Pinguin.” Finally, to complete this enumeration, it is appropriate to add
eighteen species collected by the “Investigator: and that are new or that had not been mentioned in the Indo-Pacific domain. I have found some species that have already been reported by Duncan in the seas of China. It is probably that the other species found in these seas will be collected in the Indian Ocean.

The list of presently known ophiuroids in the Indo-Pacific domain contains thus 193 species.

Fifty species were collected by the “Investigator” that can be divided into:

- Ophiuroids strictly speaking…..47
- Astrophytonidæ………………. 3

There are 15 new species or varieties, with 14 true ophiuroids and one Astrophytonidæ. The latter belongs to a new genus.

The fourteen new species or varieties, of new ophiuroids are distributed into genera in the following manner:

- **Ophiolepis** .......... 1 species.
- **Amphiura** .......... 1 species.
- **Ophiopsila** .......... 1 species.
- **Ophiocoma** .......... 1 species.
- **Ophiacantha** .......... 2 species.
- **Ophiomaza** .......... 1 species.
- **Ophiothela** .......... 1 variety.
- **Ophiothrix** .......... 5 species.
- **Ophiomyxa** .......... 1 variety.

A special mention should be made for the two new species of **Ophiacantha**. This genus had until this day very few littoral species being, in particular, very poorly represented in the littoral fauna of the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

Among the species already known and that were found by the “Investigator,” some are very interesting to note because they have still been collected only in a single locality and the “Investigator” encountered them in a region more or less distant from this first locality. Their area of geographical distribution is considerably increased. These are notably the following species:

- **Ophioglypha stellata** Studer,
- **Ophioglypha Forbesi** Duncan,
- **Ophiocnida Picteti** Loriol,
- **Amphiura Duncani** Loriol,
- **Ophiostigma formosa** Lutken,
- **Ophiocampsis pellucida** Duncan,
- **Ophiopteron elegans** Ludwig,
- **Ophiothrix vitrea** Döderlein,
- **Ophiothrix lepidus** Loriol.
In addition to the new species collected by the “Investigator”, I have believed it necessary to figure some species already known, but very insufficiently described that have not yet been represented, following the example of P. de Loriol and of Döderlein, whose so conscientious works greatly facilitate the task of their followers. Most of the old authors, Müller and Troschel, Grube, Peters, etc., have given some ophiuroids descriptions so summary and incomplete that it is difficult and sometimes impossible to recognize the species they have named, all the more that they have not published figures. This example has unfortunately been followed by Brock and sometimes by Lyman. It is especially in the study of numerous Indo-Pacific species of the genus Ophiothrix that we encounter these difficulties. I do not believe that the identification of Ophiothrix would be much more difficult that that of other ophiuroids if we had sufficient descriptions and especially of good figures. But presently, several species of this genus are impossible to identify for those who do not have the original specimens before their eyes. It is thus desirable that zoologists who have these specimens make a revision and publish descriptions with drawings making it possible to recognize the species they were used to establish.

I am happy to state here my thanks to MM. Döderlein, de Loriol and Marktanner for their extreme kindness in examining some doubtful specimens or comparing them to the types that they possessed and communicating to me very valuable information.
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ECHINODERMA OF THE INDIAN MUSEUM.
OPHIUROIDEA.

ILLUSTRATIONS
OF THE
SHALLOW-WATER OPHIUROIDEA
COLLECTED BY THE
ROYAL INDIAN MARINE SURVEY SHIP
INVESTIGATOR

BY
R. KOEHLER,
PROFESSOR OF ZOOLOGY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LYON.

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Translator’s note.

The “Illustrations of the shallow-water Ophiuroidea collected by the Royal Indian Marine Survey ship Investigator” are those cited in the “List of species collected by the Investigator” in a separate publication, “Ophiuroids collected by the Investigator in the Indian Ocean. II. The littoral ophiuroids”.

The figures are not in this publication. They were published separately as “

Kœhler’s name is spelled Koehler on the cover and in the plate captions, Köehler in the text. I have not changed these.
EDITORIAL NOTE.

The Prefaces to the “Investigator” Reports issued last year explain how the “Investigator” collections came to be made and to find their way to the Indian Museum.

The present Fasciculus contains the figures of the Shallow-water Ophiuroidea described by Dr. Kœhler in the Bulletin Scientifique de la France et de la Belgique and in the Bulletin de la Société Zoologique de France, for 1898. The figures form eight plates, which are numbered XV–XXII in continuation of the plates of Deep-sea Ophiuroidea published last year.

I have, in behalf of the Trustees of the Museum and of the Naturalists of the “Investigator,” to record my best thanks to Dr. Kœhler for having carried an onerous voluntary undertaking to a happy issue.

A. Alcock, Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent of the Indian Museum.
EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

OPHIUROIDS.

(by R. Koehler at Lyon)

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Fig. 2. — *Pectinura gorgonia*. Ventral surface. Mag. 8.


Fig. 3. — *Ophioglypha stellata* Studer, Dorsal surface. Mag. 15.

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(*Bulletin Scientifique*, p. 59)

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

OPHIUROIDS.

(by R. Koehler at Lyon)

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

OPHIUROIDS.

(by R. Koehler at Lyon)

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

OPHIUROIDS.

(by R. Koehler at Lyon)

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

OPHIUROIDS.

(by R. Koehler at Lyon)

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

OPHIUROIDS.

(by R. Koehler at Lyon)

PLATE XX.

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

OPHIUROIDS.

(by R. Koehler at Lyon)

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EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

OPHIUROIDS.

(by R. Koehler at Lyon)

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