

STONY CORALS OF THE SEAS AROUND INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Three hundred and fortytwo species of scleractinian corals of seventy six genera have been hitherto recorded from the seas around India, including the Maldives, the Laccadives, Ceylon, Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar along the Indian coast, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Mergui Archipelago. Out of these, 253 species divided among 49 genera are hermatypic and the rest ahermatypic. The Maldivian coral fauna, as it is known, includes 166 species of 66 genera and that of the Laccadives, 73 species divided among 29 genera. A total of 90 species assignable to 39 genera is known to occur in Ceylon. The Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam are known to harbour a total of 117 species belonging to 32 genera. The coral fauna of Tuticorin in the Gulf of Mannar has not been fully investigated and only 21 species of 19 genera have been hitherto recorded. The Andaman Islands are known to have 68 species divided among 31 genera and the Mergui Archipelago (west of 98°30'E) has 65 species of 31 genera. The deeper waters of Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, between the longitudes 60°E and 98°30'E and north of latitude 1°S, around the Indian subcontinent, other than the various localities already mentioned, are known to have 25 species belonging to 15 genera. These are mostly ahermatypic. A good many genera and species are common to the various localities mentioned but a few are peculiar to one or the other area.

INTRODUCTION

The area considered here lies between longitudes 65°E and 98°30'E and extends from latitude 1°S (incorporating the whole of the Maldives) north-wards to the coast of the Indian continent between the longitudes mentioned above (Fig. I). The major coral formations found within the area are those of the Maldives, the Laccadives, Ceylon, Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar along the Indian coast, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the western part of the Mergui Archipelago.

Some of the early works on the coral fauna of this area are of Ridley (1883) and Ortmann (1889) from Ceylon; Duncan (1889) from Mergui Archipelago; Alcock (1893, 1898) from the Andaman Sea, the Maldives and the Laccadives; Gardiner (1904, 1905) from the Maldives and Laccadives, and Matthai (1924) from the Andamans and the Mergui Archipelago. Harrison and Poole (1909) have described a few ahermatypic corals from Mergui Archipelago and Horst (1931) has given a short account of the solitary corals from the seas

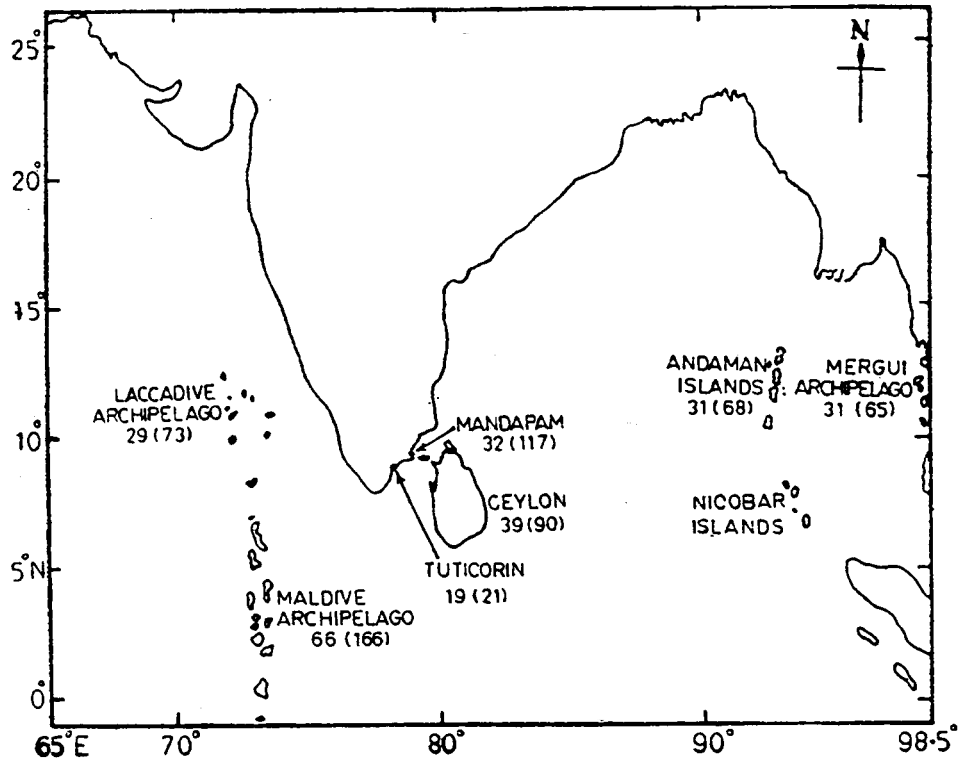


FIG. 1. Geographic limits considered in this work with distribution of coral genera; the number in brackets shows the number of species

around India. The Scleractinia of the Krusadai Island in the Gulf of Mannar was reported by Gravely (1927). Wells and Davies (1966) have listed the corals of the Addu Atoll in the Maldives. *The Catalogue of the Madreporarian corals in the British Museum* by Brook (1893) Bernard (1896, 1897, 1903, 1905) and Matthai (1928) also includes several species from this area.

MATERIAL

The following are the details of collections examined by the author.

Collections from Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar

The Palk Bay and the Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam (Fig. 2) have several small fringing reefs with a rich and varied coral fauna. In the Palk Bay there extends a reef of about four kilometres length parallel to the shore and up to the northern side of Rameswaram Island. There is a chain of small islands in the Gulf of Mannar extending from Tuticorin (Long. 78°9'E, Lat. 8°48'N) to the Rameswaram Island (Long. 79°15'E, Lat. 9°15'N) all of

which are surrounded by fringing reefs. Most of the collections of the author were made from these, notably Shingle Island, Krusadai Island, Pulli Island, Manauli Island, Hare Island and the reef of Palk Bay. These reefs are rich in members of the families Pocilloporidae, Acroporidae, Faviidae and Poritidae.

Collections from Tuticorin

The collections were mostly made by the Substation of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute at Tuticorin. Though the number of species collected is small, they are interesting, since most of them are new records to this place.

Collections from Andamans

A small collection of corals was made by Mr. D. B. James of this Institute in early 1965 at Port Blair. Later a few more specimens were received from this place, mostly collected by the Unit of the C.M.F.R. Institute there. These are mostly members of the Acroporidae and Faviidae.

Collections from Laccadives

A collection of corals from the Chetlat Island (Long. 72°40'E Lat. 11°41'N) at the northern end of the Laccadive Archipelago was brought by Mr. Alimanik Fan of this Institute in 1966. The species represented in the collection, though small in number, are of value since almost all of them are new records to the Island. In March 1968 the author visited the Minicoy Island and, during a fortnight's stay, made an intensive collection of corals from the lagoon shoals and the reef flats. This collection has served to increase our knowledge of the fauna of this atoll to a great extent, especially those of the Acroporidae and the Poritidae, of which very little was previously known.

COMPOSITION OF THE CORAL FAUNA OF THE SEAS AROUND INDIA

In listing the coral fauna, as far as possible, all available information has been incorporated. The scleractinian corals of the seas around India, within the area mentioned already, is known to include 342 species belonging to 76 genera and 7 subgenera. Out of these, 253 species of 49 genera are hermatypic and the rest ahermatypic. A short account of the composition of the coral fauna of the various regions considered is given below. The number of species in each case may need revision in future when the synonymy of several species is fully known and more collections are worked out.

The Maldivé Archipelago

The author has not examined* any specimen from the Maldives and the following discussion is based chiefly on Gardiner (1904, 1905), Gardiner and

* In 1971 the author examined an extensive collection from Maldives in Darmstadt, West Germany, and the report will be published later with Dr. G. Scheer. The collection includes many species not included here.

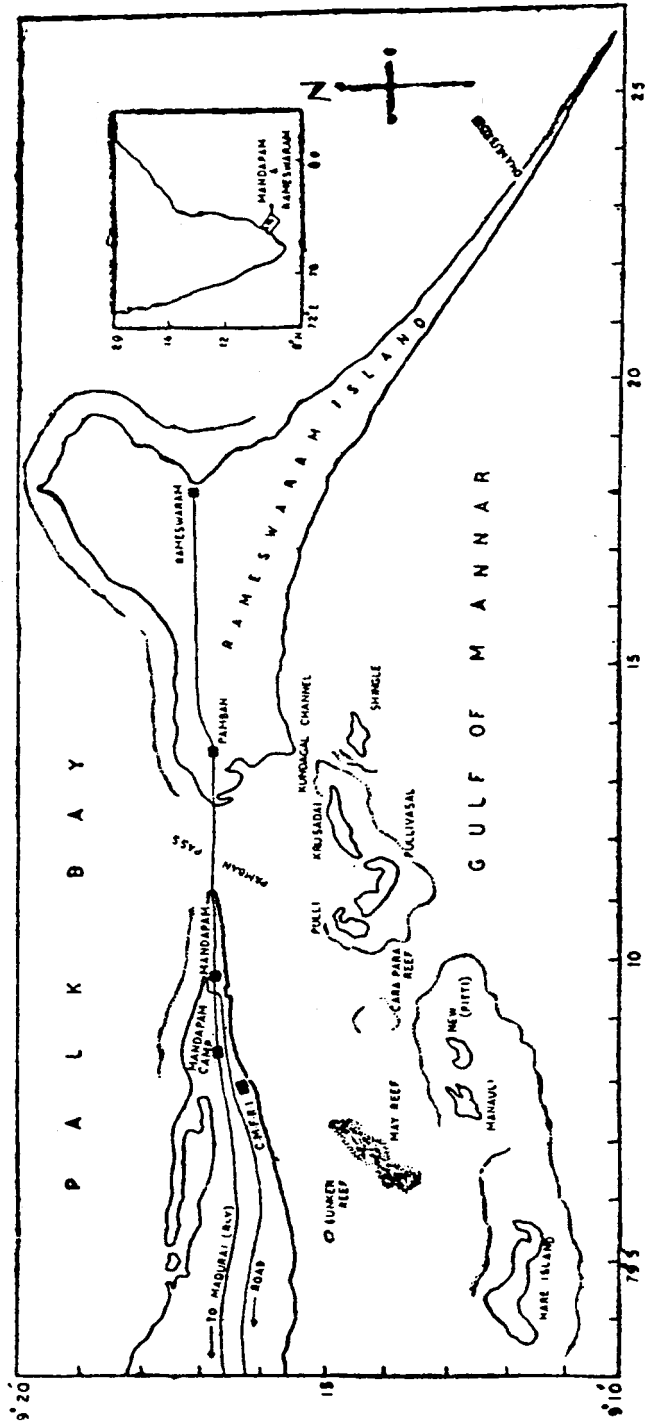


FIG. 2. Enlarged map of Mandapam area

Waugh (1938, 1939) and Wells and Davies (1966). But all other available information on the fauna, scattered in literature, has also been incorporated. The coral fauna of Maldives, as far as known, includes 166 species divided among 66 genera, of which 42 species belonging to 19 genera are ahermatypic. Among the hermatypic genera, *Stylocoeniella*, *Caulastrea*, *Ulophyllia*, *Sclerhelia*, *Halomitra*, *Stephanophyllia*, *Oxypora* and *Plerogyra* are known only from the Maldives in the seas around India. Among these, *Plerogyra* is a rare genus and *Oxypora* is generally not found in very shallow waters. The Maldivian coral fauna is rich in Acroporidae, Poritidae, and Faviidae.

The Laccadives

Our knowledge of the coral fauna of the Laccadives is still scanty except for some information on the fauna of Chetlat Island in the north and Minicoy in the south. The faunal list of Minicoy includes a total of 73 species of corals divided among 29 genera. The author's collection has greatly extended our knowledge of the genera *Acropora*, *Porites* and *Goniopora* of the Minicoy Atoll. A list of species of corals of this atoll with some information on the distribution of the various genera in the lagoon and the reef-flats are being presented elsewhere (Pillai, MS). The ahermatypic forms are poorly known. The dominant members of the fauna are *Goniastrea retiformis*, *Diploastrea heliopora*, *Lobophyllia corymbosa* and various species of *Acropora* and *Porites*. While *Acropora* is dominating the lagoon shoals, *Pocillopora damicornis* and *Porites* spp. are the commonest on the reef-flat. None of the known genera from Minicoy is endemic, all being wide-spread. An interesting feature noted in the Minicoy is the absence of *Montipora*. The author could not find any of the members of this genus anywhere in the shallow waters of Minicoy though a careful search was made. Yet another is the paucity of *Cyphastrea* and *Echinopora*, both of which are common Indo-Pacific forms.

Ceylon

The account here of the coral fauna of Ceylon is mostly based on Ridley (1883), Ortmann (1889) and Bourne (1905). A total of 90 species divided among 39 genera is known from the Ceylon waters, of which 27 genera and 70 species are reef-building. The hermatypic forms are mostly members of Acroporidae and Faviidae.

Tuticorin

The faunal list presented here includes only 21 species belonging to 19 genera. The number of species from this area will be much more if more detailed investigations are carried out.

Mandapam area

An intensive collection of shallow water corals from the Palk Bay and the Gulf of Mannar by the author yielded 117 species belonging to 32 genera.

The deep water forms, if any, have not been investigated. An interesting element in the fauna is *Siderastrea*, a relic genus of the Old Tethyan coral fauna (Wells, 1954), which is represented here by two species, viz., *S. lilacea* and *S. savignyana*. The *Montipora* fraction is rich and the genus is represented by 20 species. But there is scarcity of Fungiidae. The genera *Fungia*, *Halomitra*, *Podabacia* are yet to be known from this area. *Porites* species are numerous, the commonest members being *P. solida*, *P. somaliensis* and *P. mannarensis*. The genus is gradually dwindling here as evidenced by the presence of larger quantities of dead colonies on the reefs and the comparatively smaller number of living ones. This is partly due to the exploitation of this genus in large quantities for various economic purposes in this area. Very many common genera such as *Astrotopora*, *Seriatopora*, *Stylophora*, *Lobophyllia*, *Diploastrea*, *Caulastrea* and *Euphyllia*, only to mention a few, are still not known from this area.

Andamans

But for the work of Matthai (1924) we have little previous information on the corals of the Andamans. Thanks to Alcock (1893, 1898) we have some knowledge of the deep sea corals of the seas around Andamans. A total of 68 species belonging to 31 genera is known from this area, of which 57 species divided among 23 genera are hermatypes. The only genus that is not recorded from any other regions considered here but occurs at Andamans is *Oulastrea* which is essentially East Indian.

Mergui Archipelago

Duncan (1889), Harrison and Poole (1909) and Matthai (1924) together report a total of 65 species of corals belonging to 31 genera from Mergui Archipelago. Out of these, 51 species of 26 genera are reef-building and the rest ahermatypic. It may be noted that information on several genera from this area is incomplete. The above discussion can be summarised as follows:— (See Fig. 2).

Region	Hermatypic		Ahermatypic		Total	
	Genera	Species	Genera	Species	Genera	Species
Maldives	47	124	19	42	66	166
Laccadives	26	69	3	4	29	73
Ceylon	27	70	12	20	39	90
Mandapam area	25	110	7	7	32	117
Tuticorin	14	16	5	5	19	21
Andamans	23	57	8	11	31	68
Mergui Archipelao	26	51	5	14	31	65
Other regions	2	3	13	26	15	19
Total	49	253	27	89	76	342

SYSTEMATIC LIST

A check-list of scleractinian corals of the seas around India is presented below with their known occurrence. Most of the species mentioned herein from Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar, Laccadives and Andamans have been examined by the author. Information on the occurrence of the various species at other localities is based on previous work which are referred to. Detailed descriptions of the genera and species with relevant illustrations will be published elsewhere. The classification adopted here is that of Vaughan and Wells (1943) as modified by Wells (1956).

Phylum COELENTERATA
 Subphylum CNIDARIA
 Class ANTHOZOA
 Subclass ZOANTHARIA
 Order SCLERACTINIA
 Suborder ASTROCOENIINA
 Family ASTROCOENIIDAE
 Subfamily ASTROCOENIINAE
 Genus STYLOCOENIELLA

Stylocoeniella guentheri (Basset-Smith), 1890. Addu Atoll (Maldives) (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Family THAMNASTERIIDAE
 Genus PSAMMOCORA

Psammocora contigua (Esper), 1797. Chetlat Island (Laccadives), Minicoy; Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

P. divaricata Gardiner, 1905. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

P. profundacella Gardiner, 1905. Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).

P. merstraszi vander Horst, 1921. Addu Atoll—Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

P. (Stephanaria) togianensis Umbgrove, 1940. Addu Atoll—Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

P. (Stephanaria) exesa Dana, 1846. Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

P. (Stephanaria) folium Umbgrove, 1939. Addu Atoll (Wells and Davies, 1966).

P. (Plesioseris) haimeana Milne Edwards and Haime, 1851. Minicoy, Maldives.

Family POCILLOPORIDAE
 Genus STYLOPHORA

Stylophora mordax (Dana), 1846. Chetlat Island, Minicoy (Laccadives); Maldives.

S. pistillata (Esper), 1797. Addu Atoll (Wells and Davies, 1966).

S. subseriata (Ehrenberg), 1834. Addu Atoll (Wells and Davies, 1966)

Genus SERIATOPORA

Seriatopora angulata Klunzinger, 1879. Addu Atoll (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus POCILLOPORA

Pocillopora damicornis (Linnaeus), 1758. Krusadai Island, Pulli Island Manauli Island, Hare Island (Gulf of Mannar), Mandapam (Palk Bay; Tuticorin; Minicoy; Chetlat Island; Andamans; Maldives.

P. favosa Ehrenberg, 1834. Sullivan Island — Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).

P. acuta Lamarck, 1816. Addu Atoll (Wells and Davies, 1966).

P. danae Verrill, 1864. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar).

P. brevicornis Lamarck, 1816. Andamans (Pillai, 1967), Ceylon (Ridley, 1883).

P. verrucosa (Ellis and Solander), 1786. Andamans; Minicoy.

P. meandrina var. *nobilis* Verrill, 1864. Addu Atoll (Wells and Davies, 1966).

P. ligulata Dana, 1846. Minicoy.

P. eydouxi Milne Edwards and Haime, 1860. Gulf of Mannar; Minicoy; Maldives.

Family ACROPORIDAE

Genus ACROPORA

**Acropora cervicornis* (Lamarck), 1816. Krusadai Island (Gulf of Mannar) (Gravely, 1927).

A. intermedia (Brook), 1893. Mandapam (Palk Bay); Minicoy; Maldives (Brook, 1893).

A. formosa (Dana), 1846. Mandapam (Palk Bay); Manauli Island, Hare Island (Gulf of Mannar); Tuticorin; Minicoy; Maldives; Andamans.

A. nobilis (Dana), 1846. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar), Ceylon (Brook), Andamans.

A. haimei Milne Edwards and Haime, 1860. Mandapam (Palk Bay) Minicoy; Ceylon and Maldives.

A. pharaonis Milne Edwards and Haime, 1860. Mandapam (Palk Bay) (Sewell, 1935). Minicoy.

A. thurstoni (Brook), 1893. Rameswaram, Palk Bay.

A. multicaulis (Brook), 1893. Pulli Island, Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar).

* Gravely probably misidentified this species. *A. cervicornis* is West Indian.

- A. multiformis* (Ortmann), 1889. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar: Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889)).
- A. abrotanoides* (Lamarck), 1816. Minicoy; Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
- A. valenciennesi* (Milne Edwards and Haime), 1860. Ceylon (MEd-H, 1860).
- A. hemprichi* (Ehrenberg), 1834. Minicoy; Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966); Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889).
- A. sp. cf. conigera* (Dana), 1846. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
- A. monticulosa* (Brüggemann), 1879. Minicoy-Reef flat.
- A. rotumana* (Gardiner), 1898. Addu Atoll (Maldives) (Wells and Davies, 1966).
- A. obscura* (Brook), 1893. Mandapam Palk Bay, Rameswaram.
- A. orbicularis* (Brook), 1892. Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889).
- A. efflorescens* (Dana), 1846. Minicoy.
- A. palifera* (Lamarck), 1816. Minicoy; Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
- A. corymbosa* (Lamarck), 1816. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Tuticorin; Minicoy.
- A. hyacinthus* (Dana), 1846. Mandapam; Minicoy; Ceylon; Maldives; Andamans.
- A. surculosa* (Dana), 1846. Manauli Island, Hare Island (Gulf of Mannar); Mergui Archipelago.
- A. reticulata* (Brook), 1892. Minicoy.
- A. spicifera* (Dana), 1846. Krusadai Island, Ceylon (Brook).
- A. conferta* (Quelch), 1886. Minicoy.
- A. assimilis* (Brook), 1893. Andamans.
- A. indica* (Brook), 1893. Manauli Island, Rameswaram; Minicoy.
- A. squamosa* (Brook, 1892. Mandapam (Palk Bay), Ceylon; Andamans.
- A. hebes* (Dana), 1846. Andamans; Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).
- A. exigua* (Dana), 1846. Mandapam (Palk Bay).
- A. cribripora* (Dana), 1846. Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).
- A. paxilligera* (Dana), 1846. Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).
- A. selago* (Studer), 1878. Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889).
- Acropora* sp. Andamans. (Pillai unpublished).
- A. humilis* (Dana), 1846. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Minicoy; Andamans; Maldives; Ceylon.
- A. seriata* (Ehrenberg), 1834. Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889); Mergui Archipelago (Brook).
- A. hystrix* (Dana), 1846. Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

- A. plantagenea* (Lamarck), 1816. Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889).
A. secale (Studer), 1878. Ceylon (Brook, 1893).
A. elegantula (Ortmann), 1889. Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889).
A. africana (Brook), 1893. Ceylon (Brook).
A. effusa (Dana), 1846. Ceylon (Milne Edwards and Haime, 1860).
A. valida (Dana), 1846. Hare Island, Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).
A. diversa (Brook), 1891. Krusadai Island, Andamans.
A. digitifera (Dana), 1846. Mandapam (Palk Bay).
A. erythraea (Klunzinger), 1879. Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Maldives.
A. variabilis (Klunzinger), 1879. Andamans.
A. forskali (Ehrenberg), 1834. Minicoy; Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
A. squarrosa (Ehrenberg), 1834. Minicoy, Maldives (Wells and Davies).
A. eurystoma (Klunzinger), 1879. Maldives (Brook, 1893).
A. ceylonica (Ortmann), 1889. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar); Ceylon.
A. polymorpha (Brook), 1891. Mandapam (Palk Bay).
A. syringodes (Brook), 1892. Andaman Islands; Maldives.
A. echinata (Dana), 1846. Minicoy.
A. procumbens (Brook), 1892. Andamans.
A. rambleri (Basset-Smith), 1890. Minicoy.

Genus MONTIPORA

- Montipora subtilis* Bernard, 1897. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar).
M. granulosa Bernard, 1897. Manauli Island.
M. explanata Brüggemann, 1879. Mandapam (Palk Bay), Krusadai Island.
Montipora exserta Quelch, 1886. Mandapam (Palk Bay); Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889).
M. digitata (Dana), 1846. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam: Tuticorin; Andamans.
M. divaricata Brüggemann, 1879. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam.
M. turgescens Bernard, 1897. Manauli Island.
M. manauliensis Pillai, 1969. Manauli Island.
M. spongiosa (Ehrenberg), 1834. Krusadai Island, Shingle Island. (Gravely, 1927).
M. elschneri Vaughan, 1918. Hare Island.
M. monasteriata (Forskål), 1775. Mandapam. (Gulf of Mannar).
M. venosa (Ehrenberg), 1834. Krusadai Island.
M. spumosa (Lamarck), 1816. Manauli Island.

- **M. alveopora* Bernard, 1897. Mandapam.
M. pulcherrima Bernard, 1897. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
M. tuberculosa (Lamarck), 1916. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar).
M. sinensis Bernard, 1897. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
M. verrucosa (Lamarck), 1816. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar).
M. danae Milne Edwards and Haime, 1851. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
M. verrilli Vaughan, 1907. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam.
M. informis Bernard, 1897. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam.
M. composita Crossland, 1952. Mandapam (Palk Bay).
M. foliosa (Pallas), 1766. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Andamans; Addu Atoll (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus ASTREOPORA

- Astreopora myriophthalma* (Lamarck), 1816. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
A. incrustans Bernard, 1896. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
A. listeri Bernard, 1896. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
A. sp. cf. gracilis Bernard, 1896. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
A. ocellata Bernard, 1896. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Suborder FUNGIINA

Superfamily AGARICHAEE

Family AGARICIIDAE

Genus PAVONA

- Pavona explanulata* (Lamarck), 1816. Andamans; Ceylon (Ridley, 1883).
P. gardineri Horst, 1922. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
P. maldivensis (Gardiner), 1905. Krusadai Island, Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar); Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner).
P. duerdeni Vaughan, 1907. Kavaratti Atoll (Laccadives); Maldives; Ceylon (Ortmann 1889).
P. varians Verrill, 1864. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Chetlat Island; Minicoy (Laccadives); Maldives (Gardiner, 1905); Ceylon (Ridley, 1883).
P. decussata (Dana), 1846. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar).
P. lata (Dana), 1846. Mergui Archipelago; Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).

* This is a new record to Indian Ocean.

- P. crassa* (Dana), 1846. Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
P. praetorta (Dana), 1846. Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).
P. divaricata (Lamarck), 1816. Krusadai Island (Gulf of Mannar); Tuticorin;
 Ceylon.

Genus PACHYSERIS

- Pachyseris rugosa* (Lamarck), 1801. Manauli Island.
P. speciosa (Dana), 1846. Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889, Matthai, 1924a); Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
P. valenciennesi Milne Edwards and Haime, 1851. Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966) Ceylon (Ortmann).
P. laevicollis (Dana), 1846. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

Genus LEPTOSERIS

- Leptoseris fragilis* Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Maldives (Gardiner); Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).
L. papyracea (Dana), 1846. Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).
L. gardineri Horst, 1921. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).
L. hawaiiensis Vaughan, 1907. Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).
L. incrustans (Quelch), 1886. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

Family SIDERASTREIDAE

Genus SIDERASTREA

- Siderastrea lilacea* Klunzinger 1879. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Mergui Archipelago.
S. savignyana (Milne Edwards and Haime), 1850. Mandapam (Palk Bay); Manauli Island; Tuticorin; Quilon (Arabian Sea); Andamans.

Genus COSCINARAEA

- Coscinaraea monile* (Forskål), 1775. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Maldives (Gardiner, 1905); Mergui Archipelago.

Superfamily FUNGIICAE

Family FUNGIDAE

Genus CYCLOSERIS

- Cycloseris cyclolites* (Lamarck), 1816. Tuticorin; Ceylon (Bourne, 1905)
C. cooperi (Gardiner), 1909. Maldives (Gardiner, 1909).
C. sinensis Milne Edwards and Haime, 1860. Maldives (Gardiner).
C. mycoides Alcock, 1893. Andamans Sea (Alcock, 1893).
C. fragilis (Alcock), 1893. Andaman Sea (Alcock).

- C. distorta* (Michelin), 1843. Maldives (Gardiner); Ceylon, Andamans (Alcock, 1893).
C. hexagonalis Milne Edwards and Haime, 1849. Andamans (Alcock, 1893); Ceylon (Bourne, 1905).
C. somervillei (Gardiner), 1909. Minicoy; Andamans, Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
C. costulata (Ortmann), 1889. Ceylon (Ortmann 1889); Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

Genus FUNGIA

- Fungia (Pleuractis) scutaria* Lamarck, 1801. Chetlat Island, Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner, 1905); Ceylon (Bourne, 1905).
F. (Pleuractis) paumotensis Stütchbery, 1833. Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).
F. (Ctenactis) echinata (Pallas), 1766. Andaman Islands: Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889); Mergui Archipelago. (Duncan, 1889).
F. (Verrillofungia) repanda Dana, 1846. Ceylon (Ridley, 1883).
F. (Verrillofungia) concinna Verrill, 1864. Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).
F. (Danafungia) danai Milne Edwards and Haime, 1851. Minicoy (Gardiner, 1905); Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889); Andamans, Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
F. (Danafungia) corona Döderlein, 1901. Andamans, Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
F. (Danafungia) horrida Dana, 1846. Andamans.
F. (Danofungia) subrepanda Döderlein, 1901. Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).
F. (Fungia) fungites (Linnaeus), 1758. Chetlat Island; Minicoy; Andamans.

Genus FUNGIACYATHUS

- Fungiacyathus symmetrica* (Pourtales), 1871. Coromandal Coast (Bay of Bengal); Andaman Sea; Arabian Sea (Alcock, 1898).
F. stephana (Alcock), 1893. Bay of Bengal; Ceylon (Alcock).
F. sarsi Gardiner and Waugh, 1938. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1938).

Genus HALOMITRA

- Halomitra philippinensis* Studer, 1901. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

Genus HERPOLITHA

- Herpolitha limax* (Esper), 1797. Andamans; Mergui Archipelago; Ceylon (Matthai, 1924a).
H. simplex (Gardiner), 1905. Maldives (Gardiner: Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).

Genus POLYPHYLLIA

Polyphyllia talpina (Lamarck), 1801. Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a);
Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

**P. novae-hiberniae* (Lesson), 1833. Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).

Genus PODABACIA

Podabacia crustacea (Pallas), 1766. Minicoy; Ceylon (Milne Edwards and Haime), Maldives.

Family MICRABACIIDAE

Genus STEPHANOPHYLLIA

Stephanophyllia fungulus Alcock, 1902. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

S. complicata Moseley, 1876. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

Superfamily PORITICAE

Family PORITIDAE

Genus GONIOPORA

Goniopora stokesi Milne Edwards and Haime, 1851. Mandapam (Palk Bay);
Minicoy; Maldives (Bernard, 1903).

G. djiboutiensis Vaughan, 1907. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar).

G. duofaciata Thiel, 1932. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam;
Maldives.

G. columna Dana, 1846. Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).

G. lobata Milne Edwards and Haime, 1851. Mergui Archipelago (Duncan,
1889); Rameswaram; Maldives.

G. minor Crossland, 1952. Minicoy; Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

G. nigra Pillai, 1969. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam (Pillai,
1969a).

Genus PORITES

Porites solida (Forsk.)^o, 1775. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam;
Minicoy; Tuticorin; Andamans.

P. fragosa Dana, 1846. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar); Ceylon.

P. mannarensis Pillai, 1969. Gulf of Mannar near Mandapam (Pillai, 1969a).

P. lutea Milne Edwards and Haime, 1851. Mandapam (Palk Bay); Maldives
(Wells and Davies, 1966).

P. somaliensis Gravier, 1910. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam:
Minicoy; Tuticorin.

* Matthai's identification is doubtful. The specimen in Indian Museum, Calcutta,
is only *P. talpina*.

- P. gaimardi* Milne Edwards and Haime (Ridley). 1883. Ceylon (Ridley).
P. alveolata Milne Edwards and Haime, 1860. Manauli Island; Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
P. cribripora Dana, 1846. Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889).
P. punctata (Klunzinger), 1879. Ceylon (Ridley, 1883).
P. echinulata Klunzinger, 1879. Ceylon (Ridley, 1883).
P. lichen Dana, 1846. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
P. exserta Pillai, 1969. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar) (Pillai, 1969a).
P. compressa Dana, 1846. Krusadai Island.
P. andrewsi Vaughan, 1918. Minicoy.
P. minicoiensis Pillai, 1969. Minicoy (Pillai, 1969a).
P. nodifera Klunzinger, 1879. Pamban (Palk Bay) (Sewell, 1935).
P. palmata Dana, 1846. Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner, 1903).
P. (Synaraea) convexa Verrill, 1864. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar); Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889).
P. (Synaraea) monticulosa Dana, 1846. Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus ALVEOPORA

- Alveopora viridis* Quoy and Gaimard, 1830. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966); Ceylon (Ortmann 1888).

Suborder FAVIINA

Superfamily FAVICAE

Family FAVIIDAE

Subfamily FAVIINAE

Genus CAULASTREA

- Caulastrea furcata* Dana, 1846. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
C. tumida Matthai, 1928. Addu Atoll — Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus PLESIASTREA

- Plesiastrea versipora* (Lamarck), 1816. Pamban (Palk Bay); Krusadai Island (Gulf of Mannar).

Genus FAVIA

- Favia stelligera* (Dana), 1846. Manauli Island, Rameswarm.
F. fava (Forsk.), 1775. Mandapam (Palk Bay); Minicoy; Andamans; Maldives; Ceylon.
F. speciosa (Dana), 1846. Mandapam; Krusadai Island (Gravelly, 1927); Minicoy; Maldives; Ceylon; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).

- F. pallida* (Dana), 1846. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Minicoy; Chetlat Island; Maldives; Andamans (Matthai, 1924).
F. danai Verrill, 1872. Ceylon (Gravelly, 1927).
F. valenciennesii (Milne Edwards and Haime), 1848. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Ceylon; Andamans; Mergui Archipelago.
F. rotumana (Gardiner), 1899. Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus FAVITES

- Favites abdita* (Ellis and Solander), 1786. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Minicoy; Ceylon; Maldives; Andamans; Mergui Archipelago.
F. complanata (Ehrenberg), 1834. Pamban (Palk Bay); Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
F. flexuosa (Dana), 1846. Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).
F. virens (Dana), 1846. Mandapam (Palk Bay).
F. halicora (Ehrenberg), 1834. Mandapam: Minicoy; Maldives (Matthai, 1924a); Ceylon; Andamans.
F. pentagona (Esper), 1794. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar); Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904); Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
F. melicerum (Ehrenberg), 1834. Mandapam (Gulf of Mannar); Minicoy; Maldives (Matthai, 1914); Ceylon; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
F. ehrenbergi Klunzinger, 1879. Minicoy (Gardiner, 1904); Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus GONIASTREA

- Goniastrea retiformis* (Lamarck), 1816. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Minicoy; Maldives; Ceylon; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
 **G. hombroni* (Rousseau), 1854. Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).
G. incrustans Duncan, 1889. Manauli Island, Pamban; Mergui Archipelago.
G. pectinata (Ehrenberg), 1834. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Tuticorin; Andamans; and Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus PLATYGYRA

- Platygyra lamellina* (Ehrenberg), 1834. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Minicoy; Chetlat Island (Laccadives); Andamans; Ceylon; Maldives and Mergui Archipelago.

* The specific status is doubtful.

Genus LEPTORIA

Leptoria phrygia (Ellis and Solander), 1786. Krusadai Island (Gulf of Mannar); Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904); Ceylon (Matthai, 1914).

Genus OULOPHYLLIA

Oulophyllia crispa (Lamarck), 1816. Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).

Genus HYDNOPHORA

Hydnophora exesa (Pallas), 1766. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Maldives; Ceylon; Tuticorin; Andamans.

H. microconos (Lamarck), 1816. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Laccadives; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904); Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).

H. grandis Gardiner, 1904. Mandapam; Maldives.

H. tenella Quelch, 1886. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

Subfamily MONTASTREINAE

Genus DIPLOASTREA

Diploastrea heliopora (Lamarck), 1816. Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner).

Genus OULASTREA

Oulastrea crispata (Lamarck), 1816. Andamans.

Genus LEPTASTREA

Leptastrea purpurea (Dana), 1846. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Minicoy; Maldives (Matthai, 1914).

L. transversa Klunzinger, 1879. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Ceylon; Tuticorin; Minicoy; Maldives; Mergui Archipelago.

L. bottae (Milne Edwards and Haime), 1849. Maldives; Minicoy (Gardiner, 1904).

Genus CYPHASTREA

Cyphastrea serailia (Forskål), 1775. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Ceylon; Maldives.

C. chalcidicum (Forskål), 1775. Mandapam; Ceylon (Matthai, 1924a); Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).

C. suvadivae Gardiner, 1904. Maldives (Gardiner).

C. microphthalma (Lamarck), 1816. Mandapam; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).

Genus ECHINOPORA

Echinopora lamellosa (Esper), 1797. Gulf of Mannar; Laccadives; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904); Ceylon (Ortmann, 1889); Andamans (Matthai, 1924a).

- E. gemmacea* (Lamarck), 1816. Krusadai Island (Gulf of Mannar).
E. hirsutissima Milne Edwards and Haime, 1850. Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).

Subfamily TRACHYPHYLLINAE

Genus TRACHYPHYLLIA

- Trachyphyllia geoffroyi* (Audouin), 1826. Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).

Family RHIZANGIIDAE

Genus CULICIA

- Culicia rubeola* (Quoy and Gaimard), 1833. Gulf of Mannar near Mandapam.
C. smithii (Milne Edwards and Haime), 1850. Chilka Lake (Matthai, 1924b).
C. tenella Dana, 1846. Arabian Sea (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

Genus CLADANGIA

- Cladangia exusta* Lütken, 1873. Off Cochin.

Family OCULINIDAE

Subfamily GALAXEINAE

Genus GALAXEA

- Galaxea fascicularis* (Linnaeus), 1758. Gulf of Mannar; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904); Andamans; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
G. clavus (Dana), 1846. Mandapam; Andamans; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904); Ceylon (Ridley, 1883); Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).
G. lamarcki Milne Edwards and Haime, 1851. Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).
G. hexagonalis (Milne Edwards and Haime), 1848. Minicoy. (Gardiner, 1904).

Subfamily OCULININAE

Genus CYATHHELIA

- Cyathelia axillaris* (Ellis and Solander), 1786. Bay of Bengal; Arabian Sea (Alcock, 1898).

Genus MADREPORA

- Madrepora investigatoris* (Alcock), 1898. Off Travancore (Alcock, 1898).
M. moresbyi (Alcock), 1898. Exact locality not known.
M. ramea (Muller) (Duncan), 1873. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

Genus SCLERHELIA

- Sclerhelia formosa* (Alcock), 1898. Off Maldives (Alcock, 1898).

Family MERULINIDAE

Genus MERULINA

- Merulina ampliata* (Ellis and Solander), 1786. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar

around Mandapam; Minicoy; Maldives; Andamans; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1928).

Family MUSSIDAE

Genus ACANTHASTREA

Acanthastrea echinata (Dana), 1846. Minicoy; Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).

Genus SYMPHYLLIA

Symphyllia recta (Dana), 1846. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Tuticorin; Minicoy; Andamans; Maldives; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).

S. radians Milne Edwards and Haime, 1849. Rameswaram; Mandapam; Ceylon; Minicoy; Maldives; Mergui Archipelago.

S. agaricia Milne Edwards and Haime, 1846. Ceylon (Matthai, 1928); Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).

S. valenciennesii Milne Edwards and Haime, 1849. Maldives (Wells and Davies); Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).

Genus LOBOPHYLLIA

Lobophyllia corymbosa (Forsk.), 1775. Minicoy; Maldives; Ceylon; Andamans; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1928).

L. costata (Dana), 1846. Maldives (Matthai); Mergui Archipelago.

L. hemprichii (Ehrenberg), 1834. Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus CYNARIA

Cynarea lacrymalis (Milne Edwards and Haime), 1848. Ceylon (Bourne, 1905); Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Family PECTINIDAE

Genus MYCEDIUM

Mycedium tubifex (Dana), 1846. Mandapam; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1928), Maldives.

Genus TRIDACOPHYLLIA

Tridacophyllia lactuca (Pallas), 1766. Maldives (Gardiner, 1904); Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1924a).

T. alvicornis Saville Kent, 1871. Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Genus ECHINOPHYLLIA

Echinophyllia aspera (Ellis and Solander), 1786. Maldives; Mergui Archipelago.

Genus OXYPORA

Oxypora lacera (Verrill), 1864. Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).

Suborder CARYOPHYLLICAE
 Family CARYOPHYLLIIDAE
 Subfamily CARYOPHYLLIINAE
 Genus CARYOPHYLLIA

- Caryophyllia clavus* Scacchi, 1835. Maldives: Laccadives, Arabian Sea; Andamans (Alcock, 1898).
C. grandis Gardiner and Waugh, 1938. Maldives.
C. arcuata (Milne Edwards and Haime), 1848, Laccadives; Madras coast (Alcock, 1898).
C. paradoxus Alcock, 1898. Off Kerala (Alcock).
C. cinctulatus (Alcock), 1898. Off Maldives; Alcock, 1898); Andaman Sea (Horst, 1931).
C. mabahithi Gardiner and Waugh, 1938. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1938).
C. (Acanthocyathus) grayi Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Andamans (Alcock, 1898).

Genus DELTOCYATHUS

- D. andamanicus* Alcock, 1898. Andaman Sea (Alcock).
D. rotulus (Alcock), 1898. Maldives; Ceylon (Alcock).

Genus PARACYATHUS

- Paracyathus stokesi* Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Mangalore (Western coast of Kerala); Ceylon (Bourne, 1905).
P. indicus Duncan, 1889. Mergui Archipelgo; Bombay; Andaman Sea (Horst, 1931).
P. andersoni Duncan, 1889. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Tuticorin; Mergui Archipelago.
P. caeruleus Duncan, 1889. Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).
P. merguiensis Duncan, 1889. Mergui Archipelago.
P. lifuensis Gardiner, 1899. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).
P. gardineri Vaughan, 1907. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1938).
P. conceptus Gardiner and Waugh, 1938. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh 1938).
P. striatus Philippi, 1842. Ceylon (Bourne, 1905).
 **P. parvulus* Gardiner, 1899. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

Genus POLYCYATHUS Duncan, 1876.

- P. verrilli* Duncan 1889. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Mergui Archipelago.

* Probably only solitary forms of *Polycyathus verrilli* Duncan.

P. andamanensis Alcock, 1893. Andaman Sea (Alcock).

Genus HETEROCYATHUS

Heterocyathus aequicostatus Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Tuticorin; Ceylon (Bourne, 1905); Maldives (Gardiner, 1905); Andamans (Alcock, 1893).

H. wood-masoni Alcock, 1893. Andaman Sea.

Genus STEPHANOCYATHUS

Stephanocyathus nobilis (Moseley), 1881. Off Goa coast; Laccadives; Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1938).

Genus DISCOTROCHUS

Discotrochus dentatus Alcock, 1902. Off Bombay; Maldives.

Subfamily TURBINOLIINAE

Genus TROPIDOCYATHUS

Tropidocyathus cooperi Gardiner, 1905. Maldives (Gardiner, 1905).

T. herdmani (Bourne), 1905. Ceylon (Bourne).

Subfamily DESMOPHYLLINAE

Genus DESMOPHYLLIUM

Desmophyllum vitreum Alcock, 1893.

Subfamily PARASMILIINAE

Genus SOLENOSMILIA

Solenosmilia jeffreyi Alcock, 1898. Off Kerala coast (Alcock).

Subfamily EUSMILIINAE

Genus EUPHYLLIA

Euphyllia glabrescens (Chamisso and Eysenhardt), 1821. Laccadives; Ceylon; Maldives; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1928).

E. turgida Dana, 1846. Maldives (Gardiner, 1904).

E. fimbriata (Spengler), 1799. Maldives; Mergui Archipelago (Matthai, 1928).

Genus PLEROGYRA

Plerogyra sinuosa (Dana), 1846. Maldives (Wells and Davies, 1966).

Superfamily FLABELLICAE

Family FLABELLIDAE

Genus FLABELLUM

Flabellum deludens Marenzeller, 1904. Indian Seas (Alcock, 1898).

- F. japonicum* Moseley, 1881. Bay of Bengal (Alcock, 1898).
F. crateriformis (Alcock), 1893. Coromandal Coast — Bay of Bengal (Alcock, 1893).
F. Pavonium var *paripavonium* Alcock, 1898. Laccadiv Sea (Alcock, 1898); Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1938).
F. stokesi Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Ceylon (Bourne, 1905); Bay of Bengal (Alcock, 1898).
F. multifore Gardiner, 1904. Maldives (Gardiner).

Genus PLACOTROCHUS

- Placotrochus laevis* Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Ceylon (Bourne, 1905).

Suborder DENDROPHYLLIINA

Family DENDROPHYLLIIDAE

Genus BALANOPHYLLIA

- Balanophyllia imperialis* Kent, 1871. Ceylon (Bourne, 1905); Mergui Archipelago (Harrison and Poole, 1909).
B. affinis (Semper), 1872. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar); Ceylon (Bourne, 1905); Andaman Sea (Alcock, 1893); Maldives (Horst, 1926); Mergui Archipelago.
B. italica (Michelin), 1841. Maldives (Horst, 1926).
B. parallela (Semper), 1872. Andaman Sea (Alcock, 1893); Ceylon (Bourne, Op. cit).
B. ponderosa Horst, 1926. Maldives (Horst).
B. biardiana Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Puri Beach (Bay of Bengal), (Horst, 1931).
B. scabra Alcock, 1893. Andaman Sea (Alcock, 1893).
B. tabrobanae Bourne, 1905. Ceylon (Bourne).
B. cumingii Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Ceylon (Bourne, 1905).
B. merguiensis Duncan, 1889. Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).
B. diffusu Harrison and Poole, 1909. Mergui Archipelago; Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).
B. profundacella Gardiner, 1899. Mergui Archipelago (Harrison and Poole, 1909).
B. cornua Moseley, 1881. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).
B. diomedea Vaughan, 1907. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

Genus ENDOPSAMMIA

- Endopsammia philippinensis* Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Manauli Island; Maldives (Horst, 1926).

Genus ENDOPACHYS

Endopachys grayi Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Northern Arabian Sea (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

? Genus PSAMMOSERIS

?*Psammoseris sulcata* Verrill, 1866. Ceylon (Verrill).

Genus HETEROPSAMMIA

Heteropsammia michelinii Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Tuticorin; Ceylon (Bourne, 1905); Maldives (Horst, 1926).

H. cochlea (Spengler), 1871. Ceylon; Ganjam coast; Gulf of Mannar.

H. geminata Verrill, 1870. Andaman Sea (Alcock, 1893).

Genus TUBASTREA

Tubastrea aurea (Quoy and Gaimard), 1833. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Maldives (Horst, 1926); Ceylon (Ridley, 1883); Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).

Genus DENDROPHYLLIA

Dendrophyllia robusta (Bourne), 1905. Hare Island (Gulf of Mannar); Ceylon (Bourne); Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939); Mergui Archipelago (Harrison and Poole).

D. serpentina Vaughan, 1907. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

D. fistula (Alcock), 1902. Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

D. gracilis Milne Edwards and Haime, 1848. Ceylon (Bourne, 1905); Mergui Archipelago (Harrison and Poole).

D. minuscula Bourne, 1905. Ceylon (Bourne, 1905); Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939).

D. horsti Gardiner and Waugh, 1939. Off Maldives.

D. cornigera (Lamarck), 1816. Maldives (Horst, 1926).

D. micranthus (Ehrenberg), 1834. Maldives (Horst, 1926).

D. indica Pillai, 1969. Tuticorin (Pillai, 1969b).

Genus TURBINARIA

Turbinaria crater (Pallas), 1766. Gulf of Mannar; Mergui Archipelago (Duncan, 1889).

**T. quincuncialis* Ortmann, 1889. Tuticorin; Ceylon (Ortmann).

T. frondens (Dana), 1846. Krusadai Island (Gulf of Mannar) (Graveley, 1927).

* This species is probably only *T. crater*.

- T. mesenterina* (Lamarck), 1816. Manauli Island (Gulf of Mannar).
T. peltata (Esper), 1779. Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar around Mandapam; Ceylon.

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* See *Atoll Res. Bull.*: No. 141, pp. 1-12 (1971) Ed:

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DISCUSSION

- SERENE : I understand that your review is referring only to the compilation of the authors. I wish to know if your paper will include a check list of the species or only number of genera and species for each area.
- PILLAI : Yes. A checklist of species with their occurrence around India is provided.
- JONES (*Comment*) : The monograph on corals under preparation will give all details, while the present account will not cover the description of all the species.
- McCLOSKEY : Have you included any species from the Gulf of Kutch and Okha?
- PILLAI : No. I have not collected any.
- McCLOSKEY : Have you any knowledge of earlier references to coral species of this region?
- PILLAI : Not to my knowledge.