

end of the bracts, similar to that which is found in some *Athorula* larvæ of Agalmidæ (Pl. XXI. figs. 7, 10, 12). Another similar form, but with more numerous and slender bracts, was found in a preparation in the Challenger collection (*Athoria bractealis*). It was insufficiently preserved. Possibly these small and delicate Physonects have already been seen by former observers, but regarded as mere larvæ.

The entire corm of these monogastric Athoridæ represents a single cormidium, and may be regarded as a medusome, the umbrella of which is the pneumatophore, and the manubrium the central siphon. From the proximal base of the latter is produced by budding a corona of secondary medusomes; each of these is again composed of a modified umbrella (the bract) and a manubrium (the palpon); the palpacle, which is attached to the base of each palpon, is the persistent tentacle. The gonophores, which are developed beyond the palpons, represent a second corona of medusomes, which become sexually mature. The small nectosac which occupies the distal end of the bracts in *Athoria* is of special interest, since it demonstrates that the bracts are modified umbrellæ.

Synopsis of the Genera of Athoridæ.

Bracts with a rudimentary nectosac on the distal end.	Corms monœcious.	Tentilla without involucreum,	37. <i>Athoria</i> .
Bracts without rudimentary nectosac.	Corms diœcious.	Tentilla with an involucreate cnidoband,	38. <i>Athoralia</i> .

Genus 37. *Athoria*,¹ Hæckel, 1888.

Athoria, Hkl., System der Siphonophoren, p. 39.

Definition.—Athoridæ with a rudimentary nectosac at the distal end of the bracts. Tentilla with a naked spiral cnidoband, without involucreum. Corms monœcious.

The genus *Athoria* is remarkable for the possession of a rudimentary subumbrella, a small campanulate nectosac at the distal end of the bracts; its mouth is armed with four groups of cnidocysts which may be regarded as small rudiments of tentacles. They agree in this character with the genus *Rhodophysa* among the Anthophysidæ (Genus 58) and with the *Athorula* larvæ mentioned above (p. 200). The tentilla are similar to those of *Halistemma* and *Forskalia*, with a naked spiral cnidoband. *Athoria larvalis* (Pl. XXI. figs. 5-8) was observed living by me in Ceylon. A similar species, but larger, with more numerous and slender bracts, was found in a mounting of the Challenger collection (from Station 288, South Pacific). It was not well enough preserved to be described and figured.

¹ *Athoria*, name of an Oceanid, 'Αθήρεια.