

- b. Armature of the adambulacral plates consisting of two spines. Inframarginal plates with oblique combs of three spines *triremis*.
- D. *Asterias ophidion* group: Abactinal plating forming a delicate, wide-meshed, quadrate network. Spinelets small, isolated, and few in number. Pedicellariæ isolated Sub-gen. HYDRASTERIAS.
- a. Diplacanthid: Armature of the adambulacral plates consisting of two spines *ophidion*.
- E. *Asterias mülleri* group: Abactinal spinelets small and isolated. Papulae isolated or very few together Sub-gen. LEPTASTERIAS.
- a. Rays rather short and broad. Abactinal spines irregularly distributed *mülleri*.
- b. Rays elongate and narrow. Abactinal spines subregularly arranged in longitudinal lines *compta*.
- F. *Asterias tenuispina* group: Abactinal spinelets usually definitely arranged; large and isolated, with thick wreaths of pedicellariæ Sub-gen. STOLASTERIAS.
- a. Heteractinid: With more than five rays.
- a. Monacanthid: Armature of the adambulacral plates consisting of one spine.
- a. Inframarginal plates with two spines. With one or more intermediate series of abactinal spines between the median radial and the marginal series.
- i. With two abactinal intermediate series of spines. Wreaths of pedicellariæ flat and wide, not raised. Large isolated forficiform pedicellariæ between. With eleven equal rays *gemmifera*.
- ii. With one abactinal intermediate series of spines. Wreaths of pedicellariæ, thick and bushy, raised. No forficiform pedicellariæ between. With seven to nine rays, usually unequal.
1. With long pointed spines, autacanthid (Bell) *tenuispina*.
2. With short conical spines, typacanthid (Bell) *calamaria*.
- β. Inframarginal plates with one spine. No intermediate series of abactinal spines between the median radial and the marginal series *volcellata*.
- b. Pentactinid: Having five rays.
- a. Diplacanthid: Armature of the adambulacral plates consisting of two spines.
- α. With two or three complete intermediate series of abactinal spines between the median radial and the marginal series. No intermediate spinelets between the inframarginal and the adambulacral spines *stichantha*.
- β. With one incomplete intermediate series of abactinal spines between the median radial and the marginal series. With an intermediate spinelet between the inframarginal and the adambulacral spines *eustyla*.
- b. Monacanthid: Armature of the adambulacral plates consisting of one spine.
- α. Rays with vertical lateral walls. Median line of abactinal spinelets straight. Intermediate spines few and large *glacialis*.