Scyllæa, Linné.

Scyllæa, Linné, Syst. Nat., ed. x., 1758, vol i. pp. 644, 656.

- " Cuvier, Ann. du Mus., t. vi., 1805, p. 416, pl. xix.
- " Bergh, Malacolog. Untersuch. (in Semper, Reisen im Archip. d. Philipp., Th. II. Bd. ii.), Heft viii. 1875, pp. 315-343.
- " Bergh, Beitr. z. Kenntn. d. Moll. des Sargassomeeres, Verhandl. d. k. k. zool.-bot. Gesellsch. Wien, Bd. xxi., 1871, pp. 1288-1293.
- " Bergh, Beitr. z. Kenntn. d. japan. Nudibr. I., loc. cit., Bd. xxx., 1880, pp. 166-172.

Corpus oblongum, compressum. Tentacula propria nulla; rhinophoria compressa, auriformia, supra calyculata cum clavo parvo perfoliato. Dorsum angustum; utrinque papillis duabus foliaceis ut plurimum repandis, pagina interna arbusculis branchialibus præditis; postice cum crista (caudali) elevata, utroque latere arbusculis branchialibus instructa. Podarium angustum, antice rotundatum.

Mandibulæ applanatæ, processu masticatorio magno margine minute tuberculato. Lingua lata; rhachide dente utrinque denticulato; pleuris multidentatis, dentibus utrinque sed inæqualiter denticulatis. Ventriculus lamellis masticatoriis armatus. Glandulæ hermaphrodisiacæ (1–3) discretæ. Penis inermis.

These animals have been known from the time of Seba (1734) and Linné, but these two authors described them erroneously, mistaking the upper for the under side. Although this error was corrected by Osbeck (1757), and by Forskål (1775), the nature and systematic position of the genus was doubtful until the time of Cuvier (1798, 1805). Recently the genus has become better known through my three Memoirs just cited (1871–1880).

The external appearance of Scyllæa is remarkable, and it is at once distinguishable from any other known genus by the character of the rhinophoria and of the large dorsal foliaceous papillæ, and by the caudal crest covered like the inside of the papillæ with branchial tufts.—The structure of the mandibles and radula is also peculiar; a masticatory stomach is present. The hermaphrodite gland is divided into three distinct lobes; the penis, as in allied genera, is unarmed.

Scyllæa inhabits the tropical and subtropical portions of the ocean; it feeds upon Hydroids (especially Campanulariaceæ), and is found creeping over the surface of Fucoids in search of its food; but it also swims about in the sea. The spawn of the typical form has been seen.

Several species have been described, or at least named, some of which will no doubt eventually prove to belong to one circumæquatorial species.

The following is a list of these species:-

 Scyllæa pelagica, Linné. Atlantic Ocean.