

Ceratosoma, Adams and Reeve.

Ceratosoma, A. Adams, Voyage of the "Samarang," Mollusca, 1848, p. 67.

„ Bergh, Malacolog. Untersuch. (*in* Semper, Reisen im Archip. d. Philipp. Th. II. Bd. ii.), Heft x., 1876, pp. 391-410; Supplementheft i., 1880, pp. 28-31.

Corpus subcompressum, postice gradatim altius; nothaeum postice trilobatum, lobi laterales breviores et rotundati, posterior linguiformis; rhinophoria retractilia, clavo perfoliato; tentacula brevia; podarium sat angustum, cauda elongata.

Armatura labialis fortior, e hamulis minutissimis formata. Radula rhachide nuda, pleuris multidentatis; dentes hamati.—Penis inermis.

This genus was established by (Gray¹) Adams and Reeve, in 1848; the definition given, however, was only superficial and entirely useless.² Alder and Hancock³ corrected several of the mistakes made by these last-mentioned authors. The next contribution to the literature of the genus was a small memoir published by myself in 1876.

Ceratosoma is at once distinguishable by its peculiar form. The head is rather flat, with a short frontal margin prominent at the edges; the club of the retractile rhinophoria is provided with the usual leaves. The tentacles, as those of *Chromodoris*, can be quasi-invaginated. The body is higher behind than in front; on either side of the hindermost portion of the flattened dorsal surface is a rounded lobe, behind the back ends in a tongue-shaped process; in front of this is the circular opening for the retractile branchia. The foot is narrow and small, but the tail strong and long. The armature of the labial disk rather strong and composed of a number of closely-set minute hooks. The radula has a bare rhachis, numerous hook-shaped lateral teeth on either side. The penis is unarmed.

The genus is apparently confined to the tropics, and lives, according to Adams, crawling upon the surface of Madrepores.

Only a few species are properly known, but a number of new forms have been published by Fischer and by Abraham.⁴

¹ Alder and Hancock, Woodward, and other authors regard Gray as having the priority. The name *Ceratosoma* is to be found in vol. iv. of his Figures of Molluscos Animals (pp. 13, 42, 105: "back produced behind"), which appeared in 1850. The Malacological part of the Voyage of the "Samarang" bears on its title page the date 1848, and in this volume the genus *Ceratosoma* is described and marked "nov. gen.;" according to the chief title, the Voyage of the "Samarang" did not appear until 1850. The question of priority, therefore, is difficult to settle. Perhaps Adams's drawing actually passed through the hands of Gray (*cf.* *Journ. des Muséum Godeffroy*, Heft vi., 1874, p. 95, *Bornella*), or possibly the latter formed the genus on the species *Doris trilobata*, figured by him in 1842.

² The English authors mention the rhinophoria as not being retractile, and their description of dorsal processes is rather confused, *cf.* Woodward, Manual of the Mollusca, vol. ii., 1854, p. 192.

³ Alder and Hancock, Monogr. Brit. Nudibr. Moll., pt. vii., 1855, App. xix.

⁴ MM. Crosse and Fischer, like Mr. Abraham, have been recently studying the Nudibranchiata. The former authors have increased the genus by one new species, but they regard *Ceratosoma* as closely allied ("très voisin") to *Thecacera*, *Polycera*, *Aegirus*, &c. (!), and are unable to distinguish *Goniodoris* from *Chromodoris*, and *Doriopsis* from *Doris*.