

In respect to disk scales and radial shields the arrangement resembles that of *Ophiopholis* (especially in *Ophiactis asperula*), though other species (e.g., *Ophiactis cuspidata*) have much larger and stouter scales. There is a resemblance likewise in the peristomial plate which is wanting (*Ophiactis kröyeri*), or is a mere thin crust (*Ophiactis savignyi*), or is small and linear (*Ophiactis asperula*). The genital plate is usually very stout, though long, slender, and cylindrical in *Ophiactis kröyeri*, and has attached to it a considerably shorter genital scale. The arm bones are discoid and delicate, with thin wings.

TABLE OF SPECIES OF *Ophiactis*.

- 1st Type. The number of mouth papillæ increase with age.
- Six to seven short, thick, blunt rough arm spines. Young usually with six arms; adult often with only five. Commonly two mouth papillæ on each side; rarely more. Upper arm plates microscopically tuberculous, swollen, usually with a faint lobe on the outer edge. Radial shields large, scarcely diverging, nearly or quite touching. Side mouth shields nearly or quite meeting at their outer ends. Numerous disk spines, } *Ophiactis savignyi*.
 - Radial shields narrow, oval, and separated. Upper arm plates wider than long, with lateral sides re-enteringly curved. Under arm plates broader than long, and cleanly curved without, } *Ophiactis affinis*.
 - The adult (var. *quinqueradia*) has five arms; upper arm plates transverse oval, and not thickened; three or even four mouth papillæ on a side. The young is like *Savignyi* (six arms), but has no lobe on upper arm plate, . . . } *Ophiactis mülleri*.
 - Skin thick and much obscuring the scaling and mouth shields. Radial shields narrow and small. Five short, thick, blunt, flattened arm spines, } *Ophiactis resiliens*.
- 2nd Type. The number of mouth papillæ seems never to vary.
- Small radial shields, just touching without, widely diverging inward, four stout and blunt, but cylindrical and tapering, arm spines. Disk scales curved and regularly imbricated. Upper arm plates fan-shaped and symmetrical. A few disk spines. One mouth papilla, } *Ophiactis balli*.
 - Differs from preceding in disk scales less overlapping; two mouth papillæ on each side, and side mouth shields not meeting without, } *Ophiactis asperula*.
 - Six arms; two mouth papillæ on each side. Radial shields proportionately larger than in *Ophiactis balli*, upper and under arm plates longer, and disk scales less regular. Side mouth shields not meeting without (young?) . . . } *Ophiactis loricata*.
 - Differs from *Ophiactis balli* in under arm plates, from *loricata* in fan shaped upper arm plates, } *Ophiactis lymani*.
 - Near *Ophiactis balli*, but only three arm spines; no disk spines. Teeth lobed. Side mouth shields not meeting without, } *Ophiactis plana*.
 - Disk scales distinct and naked, without spines. Three stout, blunt, tapering, cylindrical arm spines. One large flat mouth papilla on each side. Teeth lobed. Five arms, } *Ophiactis flexuosa*.
 - Differs from *Ophiactis balli* in arched disk with radial shields not well distinguished from other scales; and in transverse oval upper arm plates, . . . } *Ophiactis virens*.