

The most conspicuous external character of this genus consists in the *armlike lateral prolongations* of the anterior part of the body, which are especially developed in *Glaucilla*. Of these arms there are two pairs, the anterior being much stronger than the posterior. Sometimes the rudiment of a third pair is visible in a small cushion-shaped prominence. On the outer part of these arms are situated the papillæ, generally in a single series, but sometimes (*Glaucilla*) in several series. In addition to these three groups of papillæ there is, at any rate in large specimens, a fourth series. This is probably to be found in all the species of *Glaucus*, though only three groups have been described by several authors. The papillæ are long and conical in shape, and become easily detached from the body. The body terminates in a long thin tail. The rhinophoria, which have a simple conical shape, are but slightly developed; the conical tentacles are small. The foot is rather narrow; the anterior extremity is truncated and rounded with very slightly prominent edges.¹ The genital aperture is situated behind the first arm, and the anus behind the second, slightly anterior is the opening of the renal organ.

The colour of these animals is remarkable. The under side of the body as well as of the papillæ is a fine ultramarine blue; the upper surface is greyish but with a more or less strongly marked silver tint, which is also visible on the under surface. According to the observations of Reinhardt, made during the "Galathea" Expedition, this silver colour disappears when the animals are removed from the influence of sunlight.²

In the form of its jaws *Glaucus* differs from all other *Æolidiadae*; they show a double convexity, and at the upper part are continuous with a horizontal plate. The radula only contains a single series of teeth, which are of the usual form with a prominent point, and on either side a series of strong denticles.

Unlike what is found in most other *Æolidiadae* (*pleuroproctæ*), the common bile duct (the prolongation of stomach) lies beneath instead of above the hermaphrodite gland, as also in the *Tethydae*, *Dendronotidae*, *Dotidae*, and *Proctonotidae*. The papillæ dorsales are always provided with an urticating apparatus. The *penis* is always very strong and curved, and in the proper *Glauci*, armed with a strong curved hook.

These animals inhabit the warmer parts of all the open seas, extending as far as 35° or 36° on either side of the equator, but rarely beyond.³

According to the observations of several naturalists (Chamisso, Eisenhardt, d'Orbigny,⁴ Reinhardt⁵), their movements are but slow, hence the old name of "*Lacertæ marinæ*" would appear to be somewhat inappropriate. Bennett, however (Proc. Zool. Soc., iv., 1836,

¹ The foot, therefore, is rather well developed, and it is not easy to understand how Lesson (Voy. de la Coquille, Zool., t. ii. p. 286) could have written—"Le pied est nul à moins qu' on ne prenne pas pour rudiment de pied la ligne moyenne argentée qui suit toute la longueur du ventre."

² Bergh, K. Dansk. Vidensk. Selsk. Skrif. R. 5, Bd. vii., 1864, pp. 247-248. Bennett (Proc. Zool. Soc., vol. iv., 1836, p. 117) mentions the rapidity with which these animals change their colours when dying.

³ Bergh, *loc. cit.*, pp. 249, 254.

⁴ Voy. aux îles Canaries, p. 42.

⁵ Bergh, *loc. cit.*, p. 249.