

$\beta$ . *Bathymetrical range*: 100 to 140 fathoms. The genus is thus confined to the Littoral zone.

$\gamma$ . *Nature of the Sea-bottom*: *Pholidaster squamatus* is found on Green mud; *Pholidaster distinctus* on Blue mud.

*Chorological Synopsis of the Species.*

	Ocean.	Range in Fathoms.	Nature of the Sea-bottom.
<i>Pholidaster distinctus</i>	Eastern Archipelago.	140	Blue mud.
<i>Pholidaster squamatus</i>	Eastern Archipelago.	100	Green mud.

1. *Pholidaster squamatus*, n. sp. (Pl. LXVII. figs. 5 and 6; Pl. LXVIII. figs. 5 and 6).

Rays five.  $R = 75$  mm.;  $r = 8$  mm.  $R < 9.5 r$ . Breadth of a ray near the base, 8 to 8.5 mm.

Rays elongate, semicylindrical, rounded abactinally, flattened actinally, tapering from the base to the extremity. Interbrachial arcs acute. Disk very slightly higher than the base of the rays, faintly convex.

All the plates on the abactinal surface, excepting the median radial series and some of the primary apical plates on the disk are masked by large skin-covered scales, each distinct and appressed to the ray, looking at first sight more like well-defined plates than scales. The centre of the disk is occupied by a circular dorso-central plate, the surface of which is smooth and covered with thin skin, and the margin surrounded with a compact ring of skin-covered scales. External to this may be seen in some examples five small under-basal plates, which are circular, smooth, and surrounded by a ring of scales like the dorso-central plate. In other examples, however, the under-basal plates are masked and the space between the dorso-central and the primary radials is occupied by scales, as in Pl. LXVII. fig. 5, which look like polygonal close-fitting plates. The primary radial plates are large, irregularly oval transversely, smooth, and surrounded by a ring of scales. The succeeding median radial plates are all broader than long and are separated from one another by a straight row of five subquadrangular scales, the outer one at each end of the series being rather larger than the three central ones, attached to the outer margin of the plate, the free end of the scale being directed outward. The breadth of the median radial series of plates is one third of the breadth of the ray. On each side of the median radial series is a series of small plates, which bear a single large scale, but sometimes a large one and a small one are present, by which they are entirely masked. External to these is a series of large marginal plates, much broader than long, which bear two sub-