

and forming a semicircular scoop-like fan. (2.) An obliquely placed flat comb of four spinelets, similar in size and character to those on the actinal intermediate plates and appressed to the ray.

Mouth-plates very large, with a prominent superficial actinal keel. Marginal armature forming three fans: an inner or buccal one common to the two plates, and a lateral one on each plate. On the median keel is a short lineal series of small conical spines on each plate.

Madreporiform body small, suboval, situated near the margin, marked with numerous very fine striæ.

Anal aperture excentric, inconspicuous.

No pedicellariæ of any kind are present.

Ambulacral tube-feet with a fleshy terminal disk, centrally invaginated, forming two regular series.

Remarks.—This large and well-marked form resembles *Crossaster* very closely when seen from above. It may be distinguished, however, at once by the structure of the actinal surface, the armature of the adambulacral plates, the presence and armature of the actinal intermediate plates, the character of the armature of the marginal plates, and the structure of the mouth-plates: a congeries of characters which furnish the generic features of *Rhipidaster*.

Chorology of the Genus Rhipidaster

a. Geographical distribution:—

EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO: One species between the parallels of 5° and 15° S.

Rhipidaster vannipes, in the Arafura Sea, between Cape York and Frederick Henry Island.

β. Bathymetrical range: 28 fathoms.

γ. Nature of the Sea-bottom: Green mud.

Chorological Synopsis of the Species.

	Ocean.	Range in Fathoms.	Nature of the Sea-bottom.
<i>Rhipidaster vannipes</i>	Eastern Archipelago.	28	Green mud.

1. *Rhipidaster vannipes*, n. sp. (Pl. LXIX. figs. 1-4).

Rays eight. $R = 85$ to 88 mm.; $r = 27$ mm. $R < 3r$. Breadth of a ray at the base, about 18 mm.

Disk large, the general habit resembling that of *Crossaster papposus*. Rays rather