

Chorological Synopsis of the Species.

	Ocean.	Range in Fathoms.	Nature of the Sea-bottom.
<i>Perknaster densus</i> . . .	Southern.	127	Volcanic mud.
<i>Perknaster fuscus</i> . . .	Southern.	25 to 75	Volcanic mud.

1. *Perknaster fuscus*, n. sp. (Pl. XCVII. figs. 3 and 4).

Rays five. $R = 45$ mm.; $r = 14$ mm. $R > 3r$. Breadth of a ray near the base, 14 mm.; breadth about midway between the disk and the extremity, 5 mm.

Disk large and inflated. Rays short, rounded, broad at the base, then rapidly decreasing in breadth and tapering slightly to the extremity, which is thick and obtuse. Interbranchial arcs wide and open, rounded, or with a faint trace of angularity at the summit. On the disk, in the median interradial lines, are more or less sharply defined depressions or sulci extending from the margin midway to the centre. The actinal surface round the mouth is slightly depressed.

The whole abactinal and lateral surfaces extending up to the adambulacral plates are covered with undistinguishable plates which bear small tufts or groups of short, robust, equal spinelets, thickly covered with skin and not particularly compactly placed; the whole forming a papillate and more or less irregularly grouped surface. No order of arrangement is discernible and there is no approach to a reticulate character. Between the plates numerous papulæ are interspersed.

On the interradial areas of the actinal surface a certain amount of regularity may be traced, the plates there falling into more or less distinct longitudinal and transverse series; there are not more than two or three spinelets borne on these plates, and the groups consequently have a rather more distinct and isolated appearance. Indistinct traces of what are perhaps the representatives of a series of infero-marginal plates may be made out at the junction of the actinal interradial and lateral areas.

The armature of the adambulacral plates consists of a transverse series of three robust and very thickly skin-covered spinelets, followed on the outer part of the plate by a pair of much smaller spinelets. The innermost or furrow spine is longer and larger than the others, and with its membranous investment nearly as thick as the length of the plate. There is no small inner spinelet within the furrow.

The madreporiform body, which is large and distinctly defined, is situated about midway between the centre of the disk and the margin, or may be rather nearer the former. Its surface is grooved with numerous fine and convoluted striations and has a strikingly coral-like appearance.