

spine are a number of small forcipiform pedicellariæ, which form an ill-defined wreath, and on the boss are distributed a number of isolated, small forcipiform pedicellariæ. In the interspaces or meshes of the network are numerous thin, pointed papulæ, and a few small forcipiform pedicellariæ are interspersed. A regular longitudinal row of plates form the margin of the abactinal area, which I consider to be the representatives of supero-marginal plates. Each bears a single short, robust, truncate spinelet, which is distinctly channelled or gauge-shaped, and at the base, on the abactinal side, is a moderately thick half-wreath of forcipiform pedicellariæ. There are seldom any of these found on the actinal side, but several forcipiform pedicellariæ may be there instead. In some examples two spines placed diagonally, or even three spines, may be present on a greater or less number of the plates, usually only here and there, and never continuous throughout the ray or sufficient to form the crowded margin characteristic of *Asterias amurensis*.

The actinal area of the ray, which extends from the supero-marginal plates above described to the adambulacral plates, is broad and bears midway one double longitudinal series of spines, composed of spines standing in oblique, well-spaced pairs. The spines are equal, robust, truncate, often channelled, and are accompanied on their outer side by a little tuft of forcipiform pedicellariæ. In the wide space on each side of this median series of spinelets are numerous papulæ and a few isolated forcipiform pedicellariæ.

The armature of the adambulacral plates consists of one spine and two spines alternately, so arranged that at first sight there appears to be a single series only; the single spine and the outer spine of the pairs standing erect and forming a straight regular series, whilst the inner spine of the pairs is placed high in the furrow, and directed horizontally between adjacent tube-feet, and is in consequence generally hidden. The inner spine of the pairs is more delicate than its companion. The outer spine and the solitary spine are equal in size, slightly compressed, truncate at the tip, and sometimes channelled, at least near the mouth; on the outer part of the ray they are more tapering. Three or four small, elongate, forcipiform pedicellariæ are attached near the tip on the outer side of all these spinelets.

The ambulacral tube-feet are quadriserially arranged.

The madreporiform body is circular, and is placed rather nearer the margin than the centre of the disk. Its surface is slightly convex, and is marked with very fine striations which radiate centrifugally with considerable regularity. There are no spinelets round the periphery of the organ, but two or three isolated forcipiform pedicellariæ may be present.

Colour in alcohol, a bleached yellowish white on the actinal surface; on the abactinal surface the spinelets and an area round their base occupied by the slightly convex boss are a bleached yellowish white, but the interspaces are a uniform dark chocolate brown, the sharply defined colouration giving a very striking character to the species. In one example the whole abactinal surface, excepting only the tips of the spinelets, is a uniform rich dark