

## Subfamily 2. PYTHONASTERINÆ, Sladen, 1888.

Pterasteridæ having a stellate form, with greatly produced attenuate and cylindrical rays. Supradorsal membrane absent. No actino-lateral spines, and no segmental apertures. Abactinal spines short, in sheathed fascicules, not forming pedicellate paxillæ.

Genus 1. *Pythonaster*, Sladen.

For a Synopsis of the Subfamilies and Genera included in the Family Pterasteridæ, see p. 469.

Family VI. ECHINASTERIDÆ, Verrill, 1871 (1867), *emend.*

Cryptozonte Asterids with a reticulate abactinal skeleton, often irregular, formed of small imbricating plates, bearing isolated or grouped spines. Disk sometimes large but usually small, with the rays elongate and often subcylindrical. With single interbranchial septa. Actinostomial margin defined by adambulacral plates. Ambulacral tube-feet biserial. Pedicellariæ rarely present (only known in two genera); monomorphic; never forcipiform.

## Subfamily 1. ACANTHASTERINÆ, Sladen, 1888.

Echinasteridæ with a large disk and numerous rays. Armed with large isolated spines covered with membrane beset with calcareous granules. Numerous madreporiform bodies. Forciform pedicellariæ present.

Genus 1. *Acanthaster*, Gervais.

## Subfamily 2. MITHRODIAINÆ, Viguier, 1878.

Echinasteridæ with a small disk and usually five elongate rays. Armed with large spines beset with scales or asperities. One madreporiform body. No pedicellariæ present. No interbranchial partitions.

Genus 1. *Mithrodia*, Gray.

## Subfamily 3. ECHINASTERINÆ, Viguier, 1878.

Echinasteridæ with a small or medium-sized disk and five or six rays. Spinulation small and simple; spinelets isolated or grouped. No pedicellariæ present.

Genus 1. *Cribrella* (Agassiz), Forbes.Genus 2. *Perknaster*, n. gen.Genus 3. *Echinaster*, Müller and Troschel.Genus 4. *Plectaster*, n. gen.