

The cœnenchyma is thin, and is densely packed with an outer layer of spiny or warty spindles; some of these spicules lose the elongated spindle shape, becoming almost orbicular. Under this layer and extending up into the verrucæ, smaller spiny spindles are met with, some of which show a tendency to assume the double spindle form, which is so characteristic of the other species of this genus. The eight-rayed edges of the verrucæ contain also small narrow spiny spindles. A collar of smooth and spiny acerate spicules surrounds the bases of the tentacles, and a few minute spicules are to be found on the outer portion of each tentacle, which on the withdrawal of the polyp form an opercular covering.

The colour of the colony in spirits is a yellowish-brown.

The spicules measure as follows:—The larger warty spindles 0·4–0·12; 0·4–0·1; 0·4–0·06; 0·38–0·1; 0·28–0·1; 0·26–0·1 mm. The smaller spindles 0·2–0·06; 0·18–0·06; 0·12–0·04; 0·1–0·02 mm; those of the tentacles 0·2–0·02; 0·1–0·02 mm.

This species has the largest and most prominent polyps of any of the known species.

*Habitat*.—Along with *Suberogorgia verriculata* (Esper) at Station 232, *Hyalonema*-ground, off Japan; depth, 345 fathoms; bottom, green mud.

#### Genus *Keroeides*, n. gen.

*Axis sclerogorgic*, i.e., consisting of a central core which is made up of bundles of long, narrow, smooth, spindle-shaped spicules, agglutinated and partially intercalated with one another; the nutrient canals surround this central core; the cœnenchyma being moderate and friable.

The colony consists of a much branched stem; the polyps are placed on either side of the stem and branches, on slightly prominent verrucæ, which from their bilateral arrangement give a somewhat flattened appearance to the branches; the space free of polyps forms a well-marked groove running down the centre of the stem and its branches.

The cœnenchyma consists of large, massive spicules, mostly of warty spindles, which appear covered with a somewhat dense spiculiferous capsule. The verruciform prominences contain smaller warty spindles; while minute spiny acerate spicules are to be found in the tentacles of the polyps.

The polyps are retractile, the edges of the verrucæ folding in over them forming an oval eight-rayed star.

Duchassaing and Michelotti describe under the name of *Acis nutans*, n. sp., a form taken at Santa Cruz, which judging from their description and still more from the apparently well executed figures, cannot belong to the genus *Acis*. While the type specimen of *Acis guadalupensis*, Duchassaing and Michelotti, still exists, very unfortunately there is no trace of their *Acis nutans*.