

or six, in the largest forty to fifty or more. The pedicles of the nectophores are usually small, and easily detached from the axial trunk.

*Pneumatophore*.—The aëriferous float in all Agalmidæ is small, often very small in comparison to the nectophores. It is placed at the top of the trunk, the uppermost part of which is sometimes prolonged, so as to form a contractile pedicle to the float; in this case it is able either to pass forward over the uppermost nectophores, or at other times to be retracted between them. Usually the float is ovate, spindle-shaped or pyriform. Its top seems to be closed, without a constant opening; it is often coloured by a small red or brown pigment-spot, and sometimes this forms a regular octoradial star, the centre of which is colourless, like an ocellus. The lower half of the pneumatophore often exhibits a number of equidistant longitudinal ribs, the insertions of the radial vertical septa which connect the outer with the inner wall, and divide the cavity of the pneumatophore into radial pouches; the number is usually eight, sometimes variable (seven or nine), at other times four, six or twelve; the upper portion of the septa passes over into the circular muscular ring, which surrounds the pylorus infundibuli like a sphincter or diaphragm.

*Nectophores*.—Although the form of the nectocalyces in the numerous Agalmidæ is very manifold, it is always developed from the same original type, and represents only variations of a single type, which is defined by their alternately pinnate arrangement on the axial trunk of the biserial nectosome. The quadriradial umbrella of the nectophores is always bilateral, with a complete symmetry of both its halves. It is more or less depressed in the sagittal direction, from the convex dorsal to the concave ventral side, so that the frontal or transverse axis is longer than the sagittal. The principal axis is sometimes longer, at other times shorter than the frontal; it is directed towards the axial trunk more or less obliquely, and intersects it at a variable angle; but the apical pole (with the pedicle) is always situated more highly than the basal pole (with the ostium); the narrower ostium is directed outwards and downwards. The pedicle of the nectophore, which arises in the median line of its lower or ventral side, is a short triangular lamella; its proximal apex is inserted on the ventral median line of the axial trunk. This latter is constantly embraced by a pair of large auricles, apical wings or frontal horns, which arise from the dilated lateral parts of the nectophore. The sharp proximal edges of the wedge-shaped horns fit so one over another between the two opposite nectophores, that the axial part of the nectosome in the lateral view exhibits a very characteristic zigzag shape.

*Nectosac*.—The subumbrella occupies sometimes scarcely the distal half of the nectophore, at other times its greater part. It exhibits constantly the same bilateral form, with a complete symmetry of both lateral halves, and is depressed in sagittal, dilated in frontal direction. Usually it is divided into three parts, an odd median part with the basal ostium, and two paired lateral parts which correspond to the two frontal horns. The distal ostium is usually small. The four radial canals of the nectosac are