

Genus 71. *Rhizophysa*,<sup>1</sup> Péron et Lesueur, 1807.*Rhizophysa*, Péron et Lesueur, 14, Voyage aux terres australes.

*Definition.*—Rhizophysidæ with loose cormidia, the gonostyles being attached to the internodes of the stem, between the siphons. Tentacles branched; tentilla polymorphous, partly simple, partly branched.

The genus *Rhizophysa* is the oldest known form of Rhizophysidæ, its Mediterranean type having been described as early as 1775, by Forskål, under the name *Physophora filiformis* (11, p. 120, Tab. xxxiii. fig. F). Péron afterwards, in 1807, figured a similar form, observed in the Atlantic, under the name *Rhizophysa planostoma* (14, pl. xxix. fig. 3). Although this latter figure is very incomplete, it may be that it is identical with a similar *Rhizophysa*, a single specimen of which I captured in December 1866, in the Canary Island Lanzerote. The structure of this Atlantic species, for which I retain Péron's name, was very similar to that of the well-known Mediterranean form, the best description of which was published in 1854 by Gegenbaur (7, p. 324, Taf. xviii. figs. 5–11). The Atlantic *Rhizophysa planostoma* differed, however, in the peculiar coloration (the pneumatophore, the stem, and the tentacles being rose-coloured, the siphons violet), and in the special form of the tentilla; the majority of these were trifold, with an odd median club and two paired lateral horns (similar to those of *Cannophysa murrayana*), but scattered between them was a number of very large palmate tentilla, differing from those figured by Gegenbaur (*loc. cit.*, fig. 8) mainly by a large purple ocellus on the convex outside; the peculiar calcarate tentilla, which Gegenbaur compared with a bird's head in the Mediterranean *Rhizophysa filiformis* (*loc. cit.*, fig. 9), were absent. Compare also Fewkes (41, pl. ii.). A third species of the true *Rhizophysa*, different from the two former, is described by Brandt as *Epibulia mertensii* (25, p. 33). The excellent figure of it, drawn from nature by Mertens (but unfortunately not published), exhibits distinctly two different kinds of branched tentilla; the colour of the corm is yellowish-brown, the siphons rose. It was observed in the Northern Pacific in 1827.

## Family XXII. SALACIDÆ, Haeckel, 1888.

*Salacidæ*, Hkl., System der Siphonophoren, p. 45.

*Definition.*—Cystonectæ polygastricæ with a long tubular trunk of the siphosome, bearing in its ventral median line numerous polygastric cormidia, separated by free internodes. Each clustered cormidium composed of several siphons and several tentacles. Pneumatosaccus large, without radial septa and pericystic radial pouches, but with eight or more radial groups of hypocystic villi.

<sup>1</sup> *Rhizophysa* = Root-bladder, ρίζα, φύσα.