

**RECORD OF THE EUPSAMMID CORAL,
DENDROPHYLLIA MINUSCULA BOURNE FROM THE ANDAMANS**

DURING an examination of the coral collections of the Zoological Survey of India, one small and slightly worn-out colony of *Dendrophyllia minuscula* Bourne was recognised and the following is a short account of the species. After its original description from Ceylon (Bourne, 1905) it was recorded from the East Indies (Van der Horst, 1922) and the Maldives (Gardiner and Waugh, 1939). The present record extends the distributional range of the species to the Andamans.

***Dendrophyllia minuscula* Bourne**

Material : One colony—8 cm. in height with a branch of 1.5 cm; South point, Port Blair; Dr. K. K. Tiwari, 6-3-1959. Zoological Survey of India, Reg. No. P. 1832/1.

Description : Corallum dendroid with a small branch. The corallites are irregularly distributed in alternate as well as opposite pairs. The corallites are 2 to 4 mm. long and they do not increase from the base to the calicular margin. The diameter of the calicle varied from 2.5 to 3.5 mm. The costae which are fairly prominent are visible all over the stem and are covered with irregularly scattered granulations. Intercostal furrows rather narrow with small perforations.

There are three cycles of septa in all the systems and a fourth is being developed in a few. 4 cycles are seen only in the top calicles. The primary septa are slightly exsert. All the septa are thin, have an entire edge and have a few granulations on the sides.

The depth of the calicles varied from 1.0 mm to 1.5 mm. The columella is fairly prominent and is formed of a few calcareous trabeculae.

Distribution : The East Indies, Andamans, Ceylon and the Arabian Sea.

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