

RECORD OF A LAMELLIBRANCH *CTENOIDES FERESCABRA* IREDALE
FROM THE GULF OF KUTCH

ABSTRACT

Ctenoides ferescabra Iredale is reported here for the first time from India.

WHILE studying the coral boring bivalves from the Gulf of Kutch, the author found numerous alive pelecypods in shallow burrows of corals from Gugar Island which on identifications were found to belong to *Ctenoides ferescabra* Iredale. A review of the literature so far (Annandale and Kemp, 1916; Appukuttan, 1972, 1974; Gravely, 1927, 1941; Kundu, 1965; Preston, 1916 a, b; Ray, 1949, Satyamurti, 1956) indicates that this is the first report of its occurrence from the Indian Coast.

Ctenoides ferescabra Iredale (1939)**Material**

Five specimens (Mean length 13 mm, height 20 mm and depth 3 mm) were collected from Gugar Island (Lat. 22°23' 48" N, Long. 69° 12' 15" E), Gulf of Kutch and deposited in the Museum of Marine Biological Research Station, Port Okha.

Description

Shell almost thin, scabrous, slightly oblique, equivalve, subequilateral and compressed. Ears

short and unequal; hinge line and ligament short, the latter with triangular area; anterior margin thickened, leaving a gap; radial sculptures are fine and provided with small, distinct prickles. Colouration of the shell brownish white.

Distribution

Previously known from Low Isles, Great Barrier Reef, Australia.

Remarks

According to Iredale (1939), this species appears to be a free-swimming, but the author came across live forms in the superficial layers of *Favia* sp. and *Goniopora nigra* Pillai. The burrows are like the shells, without internal calcareous linings. The nature of burrows and strong radial ribs with prominent prickles suggest that they may be mechanical borers.

The author is thankful to Shri Moosa Raza, Fisheries Commissioner for the facilities provided and for permitting to publish this note, and to Shri M. Bhaskaran, Research Officer, for encouragements.

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