

ID: W2524720347

TITLE: Three new species of glass sponges Pheronematidae (Porifera: Hexactinellida) from the deep-sea of the northwestern Pacific Ocean

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ABSTRACT:

Three new glass sponge species of the family Pheronematidae are described in this study. Specimens were sampled in the northwestern Pacific Ocean during cruise DY125-35I expedition (July-August, 2014) conducted by the China Ocean Mineral Resources R&D Association. All samples were collected by the Chinese manned submersible Jiaolong HOV at a depth of 1627-2897 m. The three species belonging to three genera of the same family were observed, i.e., *Platylistrum subviridum* sp. nov. *Poliopogon canaliculatus* sp. nov. and *Semperella retrospinella* sp. nov. An unique form of the pinular ray of pinular pentactins with reclined spines is described for *S. retrospinella* sp. nov. This is also the first record of *Platylistrum* in the Pacific Ocean.

SOURCE: Zootaxa

PDF URL: None

CITED BY COUNT: 3

PUBLICATION YEAR: 2016

TYPE: article

CONCEPTS: ['Biology', 'Pacific ocean', 'Oceanography', 'Deep sea', 'Sponge', 'China', 'Paleontology', 'Fishery', 'Archaeology', 'Geology', 'Geography']