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ESCALAS DE VARIACIÓN ESPACIAL EN LA DIVERSIDAD DE ESPONJAS ARRECIFALES DEL SUR DEL GOLFO DE MÉXICO Y MAR CARIBE

TESIS

QUE PARA OPTAR POR EL GRADO DE:

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RESUMEN

El objetivo de la ecología se centra en analizar y comprender cómo las comunidades se organizan a través de la distribución de organismos en relación con su entorno, lo que resulta en patrones específicos. Sin embargo, para describir los patrones de diversidad de las especies se requiere identificar los procesos físicos y biológicos que los mantienen y que actúan a diferentes escalas espaciales y temporales y afectan la distribución de las especies. Este trabajo cuantificó por primera vez las escalas espaciales de variación en la diversidad de especies de esponjas en los arrecifes mexicanos, jerarquizando los procesos en cuatro escalas espaciales, la escala Ecorregión, Subregión, arrecifes y finalmente la escala local dentro de cada arrecife. Para esto se recogieron datos de riqueza y abundancia en 11 arrecifes de coral del Sur del Golfo de México y Mar Caribe, en un total de 60 localidades. Se identificaron un total de 160 especies de esponjas en la costa Atlántica de México, pertenecientes a 18 órdenes, 49 familias, y 77 géneros de esponjas de las clases Desmospongiae, Calcarea y Homoscleromorpha. Lo cual contribuye con 25 especies que resultaron nuevos registros para México, por lo que actualmente se reconocen 176 especies de esponjas para la costa Atlántica. Se registró una alta diversidad gamma y alfa de especies en los arrecifes coralinos de la subregión WCAR que decrece hasta los arrecifes del SGM. Sin embargo, la diversidad beta estuvo dominada por el recambio de especies y no por la pérdida de especies, lo que sugiere que el filtrado ambiental a escala local tiene un poderoso efecto en el establecimiento y desarrollo de la comunidad de esponjas. Además, los resultados de diversidad taxonómica sugieren que las ecorregiones geográficas de NGM, SGM y FLO presentan una similitud del 80% en cuanto a su estructura taxonómica de especies de esponjas. Esta alta afinidad taxonómica entre las especies de la ecorregión NGOM y el resto de las ecorregiones de la provincia TNWA, lo cual supone que la ecorregión del NGOM podría ser reclasificada a la provincia Templada del Atlántico. Los resultados de este trabajo destacan que procesos no estocásticos (interacciones biológicas) y factores ambientales que operan a escalas espaciales locales (hidrodinámica local y geomorfología) son más críticas para mantener los conjuntos de especies de esponjas en la actualidad, en comparación con los procesos que operan en escalas espaciales más grandes (dispersión de larvas, corrientes oceanográficas e historia geológica).

SUMMARY

Ecology focuses on analyzing and understanding how communities are organized through the distribution of organisms in relation to their environment, resulting in specific patterns. However, describing patterns of species diversity requires identifying the physical and biological processes that maintain them and that act at different spatial and temporal scales and affect species distributions. This work quantified for the first time the spatial scales of variation in sponge species diversity on Mexican reefs, ranking the processes at four spatial scales: Subregion, reef, and finally, the local scale within each reef. For this purpose, richness and abundance data were collected at 11 coral reefs in the Southern Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea at 60 locations. A total of 160 sponge species were identified on the Atlantic coast of Mexico, belonging to 18 orders, 49 families, and 77 genera of sponges from the classes Desmospongiae, Calcarea, and Homoscleromorpha. This contributes to 25 species that are new records for Mexico, so 176 sponge species are now recognized for the Atlantic coast. High gamma and alpha species diversity was recorded for the coral reefs of the WCAR subregion, decreasing to the SGM reefs. However, beta diversity was dominated by species turnover rather than species loss, suggesting that local-scale environmental filtering has a powerful effect on sponge community establishment and development. Furthermore, taxonomic diversity results indicate that the NGM, SGM, and FLO geographic ecoregions are 80% similar in their taxonomic structure of sponge species. This high taxonomic affinity between the species of the NGOM ecoregion and the rest of the TNWA ecoregions implies that the NGOM ecoregion could be reclassified to the Temperate Atlantic province. The results of this work highlight that non-stochastic processes (biological interactions) and environmental factors operating at local spatial scales (local hydrodynamics and geomorphology) are more critical for maintaining sponge species assemblages today, compared to processes running at larger spatial scales (larval dispersal, oceanographic currents, and geological history).

CAPÍTULO 1 GENERALIDADES

INTRODUCCIÓN GENERAL

Uno de los objetivos centrales de la ecología es analizar y comprender la forma en que se organizan las comunidades a través de identificar, describir y explicar la distribución de organismos en relación a sus interacciones con el entorno, dando como resultado una estructura particular, a lo que se le reconoce como patrón (Chase *et al.*, 2018; Hutchinson, 1953). Los patrones describen la variación de las comunidades a través del espacio y tiempo, no obstante, para describir dichas variaciones se requiere establecer una escala en la cual será observado y descrito ese patrón. Esto es fundamental debido a que la escala en la cual se haga la observación, influirá en la descripción de estos (Levin, 1992). No obstante, describir los patrones no es suficiente pues se requiere de identificar los procesos relevantes que los mantienen. Sin embargo, cada uno de estos procesos actúa a diferentes escalas espaciales y temporales, con menor o mayor efecto sobre la distribución y abundancia de cada especie (Legendre *et al.*, 2005; Underwood *et al.*, 2000).

La descripción de los patrones de distribución de especies a escalas temporales o espaciales ha sido el precursor para la generación de teorías ecológicas, tales como los modelos nulos (que engloban las interacciones biológicas), los modelos neutros (centrados en la historia de la dispersión) y los modelos ambientales (presencia controlada por el ambiente) (Legendre et *al.*, 2005). No obstante, el análisis de patrones no es suficiente para discernir sobre modelos. Para progresar en la comprensión de los ecosistemas y poder predecir las consecuencias del cambio climático y los efectos del desarrollo socioeconómico de la humanidad, es necesario identificar los procesos; o la combinación de ellos; que mantienen los patrones de diversidad que se observan en la naturaleza (Legendre *et al.*, 2005; Underwood, 1995). En este sentido, desde hace décadas ha existido una discusión sobre la importancia de considerar en los diseños el factor de espacial con la premisa de medir la diversidad y describir los patrones de distribución de forma jerárquica en escalas regionales y locales. A partir de esto se ha reconocido que los procesos que ocurren a escala local son tan importantes como los procesos a gran escala para generar patrones regionales. Por lo que la variación espacial a pequeña escala no debe considerarse como ruido estadístico, sino como una señal biológica (Chase *et al.*, 2018; Levin, 1992).

Este tipo de enfoque, de explorar y de entender los procesos que mantienen la diversidad de especies a diferentes escalas, permite de una forma más integral identificar las posibles

nuevas áreas de conservación, y como consecuencia que la beta diversidad de especies entre localidades no se vea afectada.

Este trabajo pretende cuantificar por primera vez las escalas espaciales de variación en la diversidad de especies de esponjas en los arrecifes mexicanos, así como jerarquizar los procesos y las escalas a los cuales son observados, y que mantiene los patrones actuales de distribución y diversidad de esponjas los arrecifes del Golfo de México y mar Caribe mexicano. Entender dichos patrones de diversidad permitirá generar mejores planes de manejo y zonificación de áreas naturales favoreciendo la conservación en la diversidad de otros organismos arrecifales, ya que dichos procesos podrían repercutir de igual forma en la distribución de otros organismos bentónicos.

OBJETIVOS

OBJETIVO GENERAL

Analizar las escalas espaciales de variación en la diversidad de especies de esponjas arrecifales de la costa atlántica de México.

OBJETIVOS PARTICULARES

- Actualizar los inventarios de riqueza de especies de esponjas en los arrecifes de coral del Atlántico mexicano.
- Estimar la diversidad de especies de esponjas arrecifales en sus componentes Alfa (α), Beta (β) y Gamma (γ) en el Sistema Arrecifal Veracruzano, Arrecifes del Banco de Campeche y el Sistema Arrecifal Mesoamericano (costas del estado de Quintana Roo).
- Descomponer la variación en la diversidad de esponjas arrecifales considerando cinco escalas espaciales: (1) Ecoregiones, (2) zonas en cada región (separadas por decenas de kilómetros), (3) arrecifes costeros e insulares, (4) parches locales y (5) transectos en cada parche.
- Jerarquizar los procesos responsables de mantener los patrones de variación en la diversidad de esponjas del área de estudio.
- Analizar la diversidad taxonómica de las esponjas en las ecorregiones del Norte y Sur del Golfo de México, Florida y Caribe Occidental.

CAPÍTULO 2

ACTUALIZACIÓN DEL INVENTARIO DE ESPONJAS DEL ATLÁNTICO MEXICANO

Anexo I Artículo publicado en Zootaxa: Ugalde D; Fernandez C.C.J; Goméz P; Lôbo-Hajdu G. & Simões N. *An update on marine sponge diversity in the Southern Gulf of Mexico coral reef*. Zootaxa: 5031 (1): 001–112).

Artículo en preparación: Ugalde D; Gómez P & Simões N. *Diversity of sponges from coral reefs in the Mexican Western Caribbean*.

INTRODUCCIÓN

La fauna de esponjas en el Golfo de México (GoM) ha sido estudiada desde el siglo XIX, con el trabajo de naturalistas europeos (Schmidt - alemán, Carter - británico, Topsent - francés) y americanos (Hyatt, de Laubenfels & Hartman) que tomaron parte o recibieron material biológico de expediciones marinas y estudios que utilizaron el dragado y otros métodos de pesca (ver revisión histórica en Rützler *et al.* (2009)) para la obtención de muestras. Sin embargo, la parte norte del GoM, que comprende la costa de Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi y Texas, ha sido históricamente mejor estudiada que la región Sur del Golfo de México (SGoM), definida aquí como la Zona Económica Exclusiva de México dentro del Golfo de México. Aunque la mayor parte del siglo XX el conocimiento de la fauna de esponjas se concentró en el trabajo con esponjas comerciales en Florida (Smith, 1954), con el desarrollo del buceo SCUBA (Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus), así como el desarrollo de herramientas de fotografía submarina, la taxonomía tuvo un impulso de crecimiento. El surgimiento de una nueva generación de espongólogos nativos del Caribe trajo contribuciones inestimables al estudio de las esponjas, por ejemplo, Pedro Alcolado (Alcolado, 1984, 1976; Alcolado and Gotera, 1986) registró las esponjas en Cuba correspondiente a la parte noroeste del Golfo de México.

Una de las revisiones bibliográficas sobre el conocimiento de las esponjas en el GoM, fue la de Rützler *et al.* (2009), quienes integraron la primera lista de verificación completa de esponjas del Golfo de México, basada en información de literatura publicada previamente e incluyendo especies tanto de hábitats someros como profundos, que sumaba 339 especies pertenecientes a las cuatro clases. Aunque esta revisión tiene algunos problemas relacionados con la inclusión de especies que no se registraron inicialmente en el GoM, el trabajo de Rützler sigue siendo el indiscutible punto de partida para la recopilación de conocimiento sobre la riqueza y distribución de la fauna de esponjas marinas del GoM. Sin embargo, aun actualmente persisten algunas lagunas en el conocimiento de la diversidad del phylum Porifera, particularmente en el sur del Golfo de México (SGoM) donde ha habido un menor esfuerzo de muestreo, y donde también ha habido un menor número de investigadores dirigidos al estudio del grupo.

Para la región del SGoM, fue solo a mediados de la década delo 70s que el Dr. Gerardo Green Macías, inició un estudio detallado, sobre la diversidad de esponjas marinas de la región, en el Sistema Arrecifal Veracruzano (SAV), más precisamente en el arrecife La Blanquilla (Green, 1977; Green *et al.*, 1986). En el SAV, los sitios de recolección de Green se convirtieron en el lugar más importante para la investigación de esponjas debido a la proximidad de los arrecifes a la costa. En consecuencia, se realizaron muchos otros censos en estos arrecifes, como los de Patricia Gómez (Gómez, 2014, 2011, 2007, 2002). Mas recientemente, otros trabajos describieron la riqueza de esponjas en el Sistema Arrecifal de Tuxpan en el norte del Estado de Veracruz: González-Gándara *et al.* (2009), y recientemente De la Cruz-Francisco & Gónzalez-Gónzalez (2016) y De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez (2016).

En contraste, en el Banco de Campeche que se ubica en la porción suroeste del SGM y que se caracteriza por tener una extensa plataforma continental en la cual hay decenas de arrecifes emergidos y sumergidos que se encuentran dispersos por la plataforma y los cuales están alejados de la costa entre los 30 y 160 km de distancia. Este factor de lejanía con la costa ha generado una falta de exploración sobre la diversidad de esta región, incluyendo a las esponjas. Algunas publicaciones sobre el estudio de poríferos de la región incluyen la investigaciones de Patricia Gómez, tales como la primera lista de verificación de especies para el sur del Golfo de México y el Caribe (Gómez, 2002); donde se incluyen arrecifes del Banco de Campeche; seguida por la publicación donde se describe un nuevo género; *Yucatania* y especies *Yucatania clavus* (Gómez, 2006), y la revisión del género *Clathria* Schmidt, 1862 (Gómez, 2014). Ugalde *et al.* (2015) describieron siete nuevos registros de esponjas para el Golfo de México presentes el arrecife Alacranes y los bajos de Sisal, ambos en el Banco de Campeche.

Otros trabajos situados en el SGoM, son los trabajos desarrollados en la Laguna de Términos, como los publicados recientemente sobre esponjas presentes en zonas de manglar realizada por Castellanos-Pérez *et al* (2020), donde se han descrito cinco especies nuevos registros para el Golfo de México, y 14 especies nuevos registros para el SGoM. Y el trabajo de Ávila *el al* (2022), quienes analizaron las esponjas de arribazón en la Isla de Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche, y registraron 10 especies nuevos registros para el estado.

En los trabajos antes mencionados sobre la riqueza de especies de esponjas presentes en el SGoM se enlistan por lo menos 147 especies. En contraste, para la región del Caribe Occidental (WCAR), que se caracteriza por presentar arrecifes cercanos a la costa de fácil acceso, sólo se han registrado 78 especies en cuatro publicaciones principalmente: Gómez y Green (1984), quienes describen las esponjas de arrecifes en Puerto Morelos; Lehnert (1993), quien describe las esponjas presentes en la Isla de Cozumel; Gómez (2002), que hace una revisión de las esponjas en Puerto Morelos, Cozumel y Mahahual; y finalmente Maas-Vargas (2004), quien analiza las esponjas de 13 localidades a lo largo de la Costa de Quintana Roo, y que quizás es hasta ahora el trabajo más completo de la región del Caribe Occidental mexicano, con registro de 50 especies. Sin embargo, esas 78 especies registradas por los trabajos previamente descritos se encuentra muy por debajo de la riqueza que se estima para la región del Caribe Occidental mexicano, la cual es de por lo menos 111 especies (Carballo *et al.*, 2014). Es evidente que esta "baja diversidad", es más bien el resultado de la combinación de la falta de esfuerzos de muestreo y falta de taxónomos especialistas en el grupo para la región.

El objetivo de este capítulo será integrar una lista actualizada de especies de esponjas de la costa Atlántica de México, que constará del análisis general de las especies en la región, así como el análisis particular de la riqueza de especies presentes los arrecifes del SGoM y el WCAR. Estas listas serán generadas a partir de la revisión bibliográfica de la región, así como el análisis de especímenes recolectados en la costa Atlántica de México. Esto permitirá tener un panorama más actualizado sobre el conocimiento de las esponjas en la costa Atlántica de México.

MATERIAL Y MÉTODOS

ÁREA DE ESTUDIO

En la región atlántica de México, existen diferentes arrecifes de coral principalmente en dos ecorregiones: Sur del Golfo de México (SGoM) y Caribe Occidental (WCAR). Las características geomorfológicas de los arrecifes de estas dos ecorregiones son diferentes y se describen a continuación.

Los arrecifes de la ecorregión Sur del Golfo de México, pueden ser divididos en dos subregiones la zona Nerítica veracruzana (VN) y zona nerítica interior y exterior de la costa de Campeche/Yucatán (NCY) (Jordán-Dahlgren and Rodríguez-Martínez, 2003; Wilkinson *et al.*, 2009). En la subregión VN, frente a las costas de Veracruz se destacan diferentes sistemas arrecifales como el Sistema Arrecifal Veracruzano con más de 50 formaciones arrecifales y el sistema arrecifal Lobos-Tuxpan (Gil-Agudelo *et al.*, 2020; Liaño-carrera *et al.*, 2019). Los arrecifes de esta región son de tipo plataforma y costeros, donde se pueden distinguir una zona de sotavento y otra de barlovento con una cresta arrecifal (Jordán-Dahlgren and Rodríguez-Martínez, 2003). Estos arrecifes se ven directamente afectados por la descarga de grandes ríos cargados de sedimentos, particularmente intensos durante la temporada de lluvias de junio a septiembre (Avendaño *et al.*, 2019).

Por otro lado, los arrecifes de la región NCY se encuentra en una extensa plataforma de carbonato de calcio que no tiene influencia de escorrentías terrestres, donde existen cerca de 20 formaciones arrecifales que también son de tipo plataforma, algunos de estos arrecifes emergen hacia la superficie formando Islas. La mayoría de los arrecifes en esta región se encuentran alejados de la costa entre 20 y 130 km (Jordán-Dahlgren and Rodríguez-Martínez, 2003). En esta región se encuentra el arrecife más grande en el Golfo de México, Arrecife Alacranes, el cual cubre un área de aproximadamente 650 km². Arrecife Alacranes que también es un arrecife tipo plataforma, destaca de otros arrecifes del Banco de Campeche por poseer una laguna profunda y forma de atolón (Tunnell *et al.*, 2007).

A diferencia de los arrecifes del Sur del Golfo de México, los arrecifes de la región WCAR se caracterizan por ser arrecifes costeros que siguen la línea de costa y se extienden a lo largo de la península de Yucatán. Estos arrecifes presentan dos zonas geomorfológicas principalmente, la zona de arrecife posterior la cual está protegida y la zona del arrecife frontal que está separada por la línea de cresta donde rompen las olas. Estas estructuras de rompeolas se limitan a aguas poco profundas (<10 m de profundidad) y se desarrollan sobre y adyacentes a una terraza de lecho rocoso que está revestida por fondos de coral (Medina-Valmaseda *et al.*, 2022).

Los arrecifes de la costa Atlántica de México están influenciados por la corriente de Yucatán la cual asciende por la península de Yucatán y que después de cruzar por el canal de Yucatán se conoce como la corriente de Lazo. La corriente de Lazo se caracteriza por girar en el sentido de las agujas del reloj como resultado de la forma semicerrada de la cuenca del Golfo de México (GoM) y la fuerza de la corriente que ingresa desde el Canal de Yucatán con una velocidad de hasta 2 m/s (Carrillo *et al.*, 2015). A medida que la corriente de Lazo pasa a través del Canal de Yucatán hacia el GoM, se extiende hacia el norte y gira para desembocar a través del estrecho de Florida, donde se convierte en la Corriente del Golfo que viaja a lo largo del Océano Atlántico noroccidental. Durante este proceso, la corriente de Lazo genera remolinos de manera irregular, que son giros anticiclónicos que se desplazan hacia el oeste e influyen en todo el GoM (Meza-Padilla *et al.*, 2019; Oey *et al.*, 2005).

MATERIAL EXAMINADO

Para este capítulo se revisaron especímenes de las tres regiones antes descritas. Para las regiones del Sureste del Golfo de México y Banco de Campeche, los especímenes examinados correspondieron principalmente a ejemplares recolectados durante los muestreos del área de estudio entre el año 2018 y 2020. También se incluyeron ejemplares que estaban resguardados en la Colección Nacional del Phylum Porifera "Gerardo Green" (CNPGG) en el Instituto de Ciencias del Mar y Limnología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, los cuales habían sido recolectados en campañas entre los años 2005 y 2019 de principalmente los arrecifes de Veracruz y el Banco de Campeche. En total se revisaron 250 especímenes recolectados en 16 arrecifes y la laguna costera de Chelem en Yucatán (Figura 2.1). Para los arrecifes del Caribe mexicano se revisaron un total de 142 especímenes recolectados en 4 arrecifes: Mahahual, Puerto Morelos, Akumal y Cozumel (Figura 2.2). Además, para complementar los listados de especies se revisó la literatura previamente publicada de las tres regiones.



Figura 2.1. Mapa de los arrecifes donde fueron recolectados los especímenes de esponjas incluidas en la revisión para el Sur del Golfo de México.



Figura 2.2. Mapa de los arrecifes muestreados con la finalidad de registrar la riqueza de esponjas de la región del Caribe mexicano.

Para la identificación de los especímenes se siguieron los métodos convencionales de observación de espículas y esqueletos, para lo cual se llevó a cabo la limpieza de espículas de cada uno de los especímenes examinados, mediante la digestión de la materia orgánica con ácido nítrico y el corte de los esqueletos (Hajdu *et al.*2011). Las espículas fueron montadas en portaobjetos con resina Bálsamo de Canadá, y los esqueletos fueron montados en portaobjetos con resina sintética de Entellan[™]. Las preparaciones de esqueletos y espículas fueron analizadas con un microscopio óptico estándar. Estas preparaciones fueron etiquetadas con el código de la colección que correspondía al ejemplar evaluado y depositadas en el CNPGG. Para la identificación de los ejemplares se utilizó diferente literatura especializada de la región (Cook de and Bergquist, 2002; Desqueyroux-Faúndez and Valentine, 2002; Gómez, 2002; Rützler, 1974; Rützler *et al.*, 2014; Ugalde *et al.*, 2015; van Soest, 2017; van Soest *et al.*, 1983; Weerdt de *et al.*,

1991). La clasificación utilizada en los listados de especies sigue la convención del World Porifera Database (WPD) (de Voogd *et al.*, 2022).

Como parte de la actualización de los inventarios de especies de la costa Atlántica mexicana, se hizo una revisión de la literatura publicada para la validación de las especies, descartando aquellas que fuesen sinonimias. Como resultado de esta revisión se generó un listado de las especies con su referencia por autor (Anexol).

RESULTADOS

Se registraron un total de 160 especies de esponjas para la costa Atlántica de México, pertenecientes a 18 órdenes, 49 familias, y 77 géneros de esponjas de las clases Desmospongiae, Calcarea y Homoscleromorpha (Tabla 2.1). Cabe destacar que 40 especies sólo pudieron ser identificadas a nivel de género y se tiene la sospecha de que algunas podrían ser nuevas especies. De esta forma el total de especies actualmente registradas en la costa Atlántica de México pasó de 176 a 202 especies (Anexo II), siendo 25 especies nuevos registros para México. En los siguientes párrafos, sólo se analizarán las 160 especies registradas por el actual trabajo.

Para la ecorregión Sur del Golfo de México se identificaron 131 especies pertenecientes a las clases Demospongia, Homoscleromorpha y Calcarea, 18 Ordenes, 47 familias y 71 géneros. De las 131 especies registradas, 24 especies resultaron nuevos registros para el Golfo de México y 34 especies nuevos registros para la región. Esta revisión representó un incremento del 23% en la riqueza de esponjas del Sur del Golfo de México, pasando de 147 a 181 el número de especies registradas en esta área (Anexo (Ugalde *et al.*, 2021a, 2021b). En particular para la subregión VN se identificaron 72 especies de las clases Demospongia y Homoscleromorpha, pertenecientes a 13 Ordenes, 35 familias y 47 géneros. Y para la subregión NCY se registraron 101 especies de las clases Demospongia, Homoscleromorpha y Calcarea, pertenecientes a 18 Ordenes, 49 familias y 77 géneros.

Para la ecorregión del Caribe Occidental mexicano se registraron 103 especies, pertenecientes a las clases Demospongiae, Calcarea y Homoscleromorpha, 17 Ordenes, 40 familias y 57 géneros. De estas 103 especies 52 son nuevos registros para la región, que sumadas a las 78 especies que se habían registrado en los trabajos previos (Gómez & Green 1984; Lehnert 1993; Gómez 2002; Maas-Vargas 2004) suman una riqueza total de 130 especies en los arrecifes del Caribe mexicano, lo cual representa un incremento del 42% en el conocimiento de las esponjas de la región. El número de especies compartidas entre las dos ecorregiones fueron 68 especies, mientras que 63 especies fueron exclusivas del Sur del Golfo de México, y 29 especies fueron exclusivas del Caribe mexicano. De las 60 especies exclusivas del Sur del Golfo de México, 32 especies se registraron en la subregión NCY y 28 fueron exclusivas de la subregión VN.

Tabla 2.1. Listado taxonómico de las especies registradas por este trabajo en las dos ecorregiones de la costa Atlántica mexicana, Sur del Golfo de México y Caribe Mexicano. Se señala en cuál de las tres subregiones se registró las especies: zona Nerítica veracruzana (VN) y zona nerítica interior y exterior de la costa de Campeche/Yucatán (NCY) y Caribe Occidental mexicano (WCAR).

| Clase | Orden | Familia | Género | Especie | NCY | VN | WCAR |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|--|-----|----|------|
| | | | | Agelas citrina Gotera & Alcolado, 1987 | | | x |
| | | | | Agelas clathrodes (Schmidt, 1870) | x | x | x |
| | | | | Agelas dispar Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | x | x | x |
| | | | | Agelas sceptrum (Lamarck, 1815) | | | x |
| | Agelasida | Agelasiuae | Agelas | Agelas schmidtii Wilson, 1902 | x | x | |
| | | | | Agelas sventres Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 | x | x | x |
| | | | | Agelas tubulata Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 | x | | x |
| | | | | Agelas wiedenmayeri Alcolado, 1984 | x | | x |
| | | Hymerhabdiidae | Prosuberites | Prosuberites carriebowensis Rützler, Piantoni, van Soest & Díaz, 2014 | x | x | |
| | Axinellida | Axinellidae | Axinella | Axinella polycapella de Laubenfels, 1953 | x | | |
| | | | | Axinella sp1 Schmidt, 1862 | x | | |
| | | | | Axinella sp2 Schmidt, 1862 | x | | |
| Demospongiae | | | Dragmacidon | Dragmacidon lunaecharta (Ridley & Dendy, 1886) | x | | х |
| | | | | Dragmacidon reticulatum (Ridley & Dendy, 1886) | | x | |
| | | | | Ptilocaulis sp.1 Carter, 1883 | x | | x |
| | | | Ptilocaulis | Ptilocaulis walpersii (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | | |
| | | Raspailiidae | Ectyoplasia | Ectyoplasia ferox (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | x | x |
| | | Heteroxyidae | Myrmekioderma | Myrmekioderma sp.1 Ehlers, 1870 | | | х |
| | | Tieteroxyluae | Wyrmexioderma | Myrmekioderma rea (de Laubenfels, 1934) | | x | х |
| | | | Biemna | Biemna Gray, 1867 | | | x |
| | Biemnida | Biemnidae | Neofibularia | Neofibularia nolitangere (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | | x |
| | Chondrillida | Chondrillidae | Chondrilla | Chondrilla caribensis Rützler, Duran & Piantoni, 2007 | x | x | x |
| | | Halisarcidae | Halisarca | Halisarca caerulea Vacelet & Donadey, 1987 | x | | |

| Clase | Orden | Familia | Género | Especie | NCY | VN | WCAR |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---|-----|----|------|
| Chondrosiida | Chondrosiida | Chondrosiidae | Chondrosia | Chondrosia collectrix (Schmidt, 1870) | x | | |
| | | | | Cliona Grant, 1826 | х | | |
| | | | | Cliona caribbaea Carter, 1882 | | | x |
| | | | | Cliona celata Grant, 1826 | х | | |
| | | Clionaidae | Cliona | Cliona flavifodina Rützler, 1974 | х | x | x |
| | | | | Cliona varians (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | х | | x |
| | | | | Cliona vermifera Hancock, 1867 | х | | |
| | Clionaida | | Cliothosa | Cliothosa delitrix (Pang, 1973) | x | x | x |
| | | | | Placospongia ruetzleri Van Soest, 2017 | x | x | x |
| | | Placospongiidae | Placospongia | Placospongia sp1 Gray, 1867 | х | | |
| | | | | Placospongia sp2 Gray, 1867 | | x | |
| | | Spirastrellidae | Spirastrella | Spirastrella coccinea (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | x | x |
| | | | | Spirastrella mollis Verrill, 1907 | х | x | x |
| | | | Chalananhusilla | Chelonaplysilla sp. 1 de Laubenfels, 1948 | х | | |
| | | Darwinellidae | Chelonaplysilla | Chelonaplysilla americana Van Soest, 2017 | | x | |
| | Dendroceratida | | Dendrilla | Dendrilla sp.1 Lendenfeld, 1883 | х | | x |
| | | Dictyodendrillidae | Igernella | Igernella notabilis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | | x |
| | | | Dysidea | Dysidea Johnston, 1842 | x | | x |
| | | Dysideidae | | Dysidea etheria de Laubenfels, 1936 | x | x | x |
| | | | | Dysidea variabilis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | | |
| | Dictyoceratida | Spongiidae | Hyattella | Hyattella cavernosa (Pallas, 1766) | х | | x |
| | | Thorectidae | Hyrtios | Hyrtios proteus Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | x |
| | | Incipiidae | Ircinia | Ircinia felix (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | х | x | x |
| | | nciniidae | Ircinia | Ircinia strobilina (Lamarck, 1816) | x | x | x |
| | | Spongiidae | Spongia | Spongia (Spongia) obscura Hyatt, 1877 | | x | |
| | Haplosclerida | Callyspongiidae | Callyspongia | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) fallax Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | x | | |

| Clase | Orden | Familia | Género | Especie | NCY | VN | WCAR |
|-------|-------|-------------|--|--|-----|----|------|
| | | | | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) aculeata (Linnaeus, 1759) | x | | x |
| | | | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armigera (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | x | x | |
| | | | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) plicifera (Lamarck, 1814) | x | | x | |
| | | | | Callyspongia (Toxochalina) multiformis (Pulitzer- Finali, 1986) | | | x |
| | | | Chalinula | Chalinula sp.1 Schmidt, 1868 | х | | x |
| | | | Chalinula | Chalinula zeae de Weerdt, 2000 | | | x |
| | | | | Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla Bispo, Correia & Hajdu, 2016 | x | | |
| | | Chalinidae | | Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea (Hechtel, 1965) | х | | x |
| | | | Haliclona | Haliclona (Soestella) melana Muricy & Ribeiro, 1999 | x | | |
| | | | Haliclona (Soestella) sp1 de Weerdt, 2000 | | x | | |
| | | | | Haliclona (Soestella) sp2 de Weerdt, 2000 | | | х |
| | | | Amphimedon compressa Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | x | x | x | |
| | | | Amphimedon | Amphimedon erina (de Laubenfels, 1936) | x | x | |
| | | | | Amphimedon viridis Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | x | x | |
| | | | Cribrochalina | Cribochalina sp.1 Schmidt, 1870 | x | x | x |
| | | | | Cribrochalina dura (Wilson, 1902) | | | x |
| | | Ninhatidaa | Gelliodes | Gelliodes Ridley, 1884 | x | x | |
| | | Nipilatidae | Hemigellius | Hemigellius sp.1 Burton, 1932 | | | x |
| | | | | Niphates alba van Soest, 1980 | | | x |
| | | | Niphates amorpha Van Soest, 1980 | x | x | x | |
| | | Ninhates | Niphates digitalis (Lamarck, 1814) | x | | x | |
| | | inipliates | Niphates erecta Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | x | x | x | |
| | | | | Niphates sp1 Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | x | x | x |
| | | | | Niphates sp2 Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | х |

| Clase | Orden | Familia | Género | Especie | NCY | VN | WCAR |
|-------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|---|-----|----|------|
| | | | | Niphates sp3 Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | x |
| | | | Noopotrosia | Neopetrosia de Laubenfels, 1949 | | x | |
| | | Detresiides | Neopetrosia | Neopetrosia subtriangularis (Duchassaing, 1850) | | x | |
| | | Petroslidae | Petrosia | Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi van Soest, 1980 | x | x | x |
| | | | Xestospongia | Xestospongia muta (Schmidt, 1870) | x | | x |
| | | | 0 | Oceanapia sp. 1 Norman, 1869 | x | | |
| | | Dhia a a di atuida a | Oceanapia | Oceanapia bartschi (de Laubenfels, 1934) | x | | x |
| | | Philoeodictyidae | Cinhanadictuan | Siphonodictyon coralliphagum Rützler, 1971 | | x | x |
| | | | Siphonodictyon | Siphonodictyon xamaycaense Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 | x | x | x |
| | | Acarnidae | Acarnus | Acarnus innominatus Gray, 1867 | | x | |
| | | Chondropsidae | Batzella | Batzella rosea van Soest, 1984 | x | | |
| | | Coelosphaeridae | Coelosphaera | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) sp. 1 Thomson, 1873 | | | x |
| | | | Forcepia | Forcepia (Forcepia) sp. 1 Carter, 1874 | | x | x |
| | | | Lissodendoryx | Lissodendoryx (Anomodoryx) sigmata (de Laubenfels, 1949) | | x | |
| | | Crambeidae | Monanchora | Monanchora arbuscula (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | x | x |
| | | Desmacididae | Desmapsamma | Desmapsamma anchorata (Carter, 1882) | x | x | x |
| | | Desmoxyidae | Desmoxya | Desmoxya Hallmann, 1917 | x | | |
| | Poecilosclerida | | | Clathria (Axosuberites) Topsent, 1893 | | | х |
| | | | | Clathria (Axosuberites) sp2 Topsent, 1893 | x | | x |
| | | | | Clathria (Clathria) carteri Topsent, 1889 | x | | |
| | | | | Clathria (Clathria) gomezae Van Soest, 2017 | x | x | x |
| | | Microcionidae | Clathria | Clathria (Microciona) calla (de Laubenfels, 1934) | | | x |
| | | | | Clathria (Microciona) echinata (Alcolado, 1984) | | | x |
| | | | | Clathria (Microciona) spinosa (Wilson, 1902) | x | | |
| | | | | Clathria (Thalysias) Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | x | x |
| | | | | Clathria (Thalysias) curacaoensis Arndt, 1927 | | x | |

| Clase | Orden | Familia | Género | Especie | NCY | VN | WCAR |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|---|-----|----|------|
| | | | | Clathria (Thalysias) sp2 Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | x | |
| | | | | Clathria (Thalysias) venosa (Alcolado, 1984) | | x | |
| | | | Echinochalina | Echinochalina (Echinochalina) Thiele, 1903 | х | | x |
| | | lotrochotidae | lotrochota | lotrochota arenosa Rützler, Maldonado, Piantoni & Riesgo, 2007 | | x | x |
| | | | | lotrochota birotulata (Higgin, 1877) | x | x | x |
| | | | | Mycale Gray, 1867 | | x | |
| | | | | Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | x | x |
| | | Mycalidae | Mycale | Mycale (Mycale) laevis (Carter, 1882) | x | x | x |
| | | | | Mycale (Naviculina) Gray, 1867 | x | | |
| | | | | Mycale (Naviculina) diversisigmata (van Soest, 1984) | | x | |
| | | Hymedesmiidae | Phorbas | Phorbas amaranthus Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | x | x |
| | | Tedaniidae | Tedania | Tedania (Tedania) ignis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | x | | x |
| | Polymastiida | Polymastiidae | Polymastia | Polymastia tenax Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 | x | | x |
| | Scopalinida | | Scopalina | Scopalina ruetzleri (Wiedenmayer, 1977) | x | x | x |
| | Scopalinida | | Stylissa | Stylissa sp1 Hallmann, 1914 | x | | x |
| | Scopalinida | | | Stylissa sp2 Hallmann, 1914 | | | x |
| | Scopalinida | Scopalinidae | | Svenzea cristinae Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 2002 | x | | x |
| | Scopalinida | | Svenzea | Svenzea flava (Lehnert & van Soest, 1999) | x | | x |
| | Scopalinida | | | Svenzea tubulosa (Alcolado & Gotera, 1986) | x | | x |
| | Scopalinida | | | Svenzea zeai (Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 1998) | | | x |
| | | | Halichondria | Halichondria (Halichondria) sp Fleming, 1828 | x | | |
| | | | | Hymeniacidon sp. 1 Bowerbank, 1858 | x | | |
| | Suberitida | Halichondriidae | Hymeniacidon | Hymeniacidon caerulea Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 | | x | |
| | | | | Hymeniacidon heliophila (Wilson, 1911) | | | x |
| | | | Topsentia | Topsentia ophiraphidites (de Laubenfels, 1934) | x | x | x |

| Clase | Orden | Familia | Género | Especie | NCY | VN | WCAR |
|-------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|--|-----|----|------|
| | | Suberitidae | Protosuberites | Protosuberites sp.1 Swartschewsky, 1905 | | x | x |
| | | | Suberites | Suberites aurantiacus (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | x | |
| | | Tethyidae | Tectitethya | Tectitethya crypta (de Laubenfels, 1949) | x | | x |
| | Tethyida | Timeidae | Times | Timea sp1 Gray, 1867 | x | | |
| | | Timeluae | Timea | Timea sp2 Gray, 1867 | | | x |
| | | | Jaspis | Jaspis Gray, 1867 | | x | |
| | | Ancorinidae | Stellettinopsis | Stellettinopsis megastylifera (Wintermann-Kilian & Kilian, 1984) | | x | |
| | | | Erylus | Erylus formosus Sollas, 1886 | x | | x |
| | | Goodiidaa | Goodia | Geodia neptuni (Sollas, 1886) | x | x | x |
| | Tetractinellida | Geouliuae | Geodia | Geodia papyracea Hechtel, 1965 | | | x |
| | | | Melophlus | Melophlus sp. 1 Thiele, 1899 | | | x |
| | | Tetillidae | | Cinachyrella sp. 1 Wilson, 1925 | | | x |
| | | | Cinachyrella | Cinachyrella apion (Uliczka, 1929) | x | | x |
| | | | | Cinachyrella kuekenthali (Uliczka, 1929) | | x | x |
| | | lanthellidae | Vansoestia | Vansoestia caribensis Díaz, Thacker, Redmond, Pérez & Collins, 2015 | | x | |
| | | | Aiolochroia | Aiolochroia crassa (Hyatt, 1875) | x | x | x |
| | | | | Aplysina alcicornis Pinheiro, Hajdu & Custódio, 2007 | x | | |
| | | | | Aplysina archeri (Higgin, 1875) | x | x | |
| | | | Aplysina | Aplysina cauliformis (Carter, 1882) | x | | x |
| | Verongiida | Aplysinidae | | Aplysina fistularis (Pallas, 1766) | x | x | x |
| | | | | Aplysina fulva (Pallas, 1766) | x | x | x |
| | | | | Aplysina lacunosa (Lamarck, 1814) | x | | |
| | | | | Verongula gigantea (Hyatt, 1875) | x | | |
| | | | Verongula | Verongula reiswigi Alcolado, 1984 | x | | x |
| | | | | Verongula rigida (Esper, 1794) | x | x | x |
| | | Aplysinellidae | Suberea | Suberea flavolivescens (Hofman & Kielman, 1992) | x | | x |

| Clase | Orden | Familia | Género | Especie | NCY | VN | WCAR |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|---|-----|----|------|
| Calcarea C | Clatherinida | Clathrinidae | Clathrina | Clathrina sp. 1 Gray, 1867 | х | | |
| | Clathrinida | Leucettidae | Leucetta | Leucetta floridana (Haeckel, 1872) | | | x |
| | | | | Plakinastrella onkodes Uliczka, 1929 | x | | |
| | | | Plakinastrella | Plakinastrella sp1 Schulze, 1880 | x | | |
| | Homosclerophorida | Plakinidae | | Plakinastrella sp2 Schulze, 1880 | x | | |
| | | | Plakortis | Plakortis angulospiculatus (Carter, 1879) | | | x |
| Homoscleromorpha | | | | Plakortis dariae Ereskovsky, Lavrov & Willenz, 2014 | x | | |
| | | | | Plakortis halichondrioides (Wilson, 1902) | | | x |
| | | | | Plakortis sp Schulze, 1880 | | x | x |
| | | | | Plakortis zyggompha (de Laubenfels, 1934) | | | x |

Los Ordenes que registraron la mayor diversidad de especies en la costa Atlántica de México fueron Orden Haplosclerida con 34 especies, Orden Poecilosclerida con 29 especies, Ordenes Verongiida y Clionaida ambos con 12 especies. Como era de esperarse este patrón se mantuvo en las tres subregiones (Tabla 2.3).

| Orden | Total especies | VN | NCY | WCAR |
|-------------------|----------------|----|-----|------|
| Agelasida | 9 | 5 | 7 | 7 |
| Axinellida | 10 | 3 | 7 | 9 |
| Biemnida | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Chondrillida | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Chondrosiida | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Clathrinida | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Clionaida | 12 | 6 | 10 | 11 |
| Dendroceratida | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Dictyoceratida | 8 | 4 | 6 | 7 |
| Haplosclerida | 34 | 18 | 20 | 26 |
| Homosclerophorida | 8 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Poecilosclerida | 29 | 17 | 15 | 25 |
| Polymastiida | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Scopalinida | 7 | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Suberitida | 7 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| Tethyida | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Tetractinellida | 9 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| Verongiida | 12 | 6 | 11 | 12 |
| Total general | 160 | 72 | 101 | 131 |

Tabla 2.2. Diversidad de especies de esponjas por Orden taxonómico. Se muestra el total general de especies por cada uno de los 18 Ordenes de Porífera registrados. También se muestra el total de especies por Orden y subregión.

Por otro lado, las familias más diversas en el Atlántico mexicano fueron: Niphatidae con 14 especies y cinco géneros, siendo *Niphates* el género más común; la familia Microcionidae con 12 especies y dos géneros, siendo *Clathria* el género más común; y finalmente la familia Aplysinidae con 10 especies y tres géneros, siendo el género *Aplysina* el más común. Este patrón de diversidad de las familias fue similar en las tres subregiones (Tabla 2.4).

| Familia | Total de | VN | NCY | WCAR |
|--------------------|----------|----|-----|------|
| | especies | | | |
| Acarnidae | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Agelasidae | 8 | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| Ancorinidae | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Aplysinellidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Aplysinidae | 10 | 5 | 10 | 10 |
| Axinellidae | 7 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| Biemnidae | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Callyspongiidae | 5 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Chalinidae | 7 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| Chondrillidae | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Chondropsidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Chondrosiidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Clathrinidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Clionaidae | 7 | 2 | 6 | 6 |
| Coelosphaeridae | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Crambeidae | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Darwinellidae | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Desmacididae | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Desmoxyidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Dictyodendrillidae | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Dysideidae | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Geodiidae | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Halichondriidae | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Halisarcidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Heteroxyidae | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Hymedesmiidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Hymerhabdiidae | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Ianthellidae | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Iotrochotidae | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Irciniidae | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Leucettidae | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Microcionidae | 12 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| Mycalidae | 5 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| Niphatidae | 14 | 8 | 9 | 9 |
| Petrosiidae | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Phloeodictyidae | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Placospongiidae | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Plakinidae | 8 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | |

Tabla 2.3. Diversidad de especies por Familias taxonómicas. Se muestran el número de especies por familia en total, así como los totales de especies por subregión.
| Familia | Total de especies | VN | NCY | WCAR |
|-----------------|----------------------|----|-----|------|
| Polymastiidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Raspailiidae | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Scopalinidae | 7 | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Spirastrellidae | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Spongiidae | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Suberitidae | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Tedaniidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Tethyidae | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Tetillidae | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Thorectidae | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Timeidae | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total general | 160 | 72 | 101 | 131 |

DISCUSIÓN

La costa Atlántica de México se encuentra entre dos ecorregiones biogeográficas, el Sur del Golfo de México y el Caribe Occidental (Spalding *et al.*, 2007), ambas ecorregiones presentan un gran número de hábitats donde las esponjas abundan, como arrecifes de coral, lagunas costeras y zonas de manglar, sin embargo aún existen huecos de información sobre la riqueza de esponjas de la región principalmente por la complejidad del grupo para poder ser identificadas, y la falta de taxónomos especialistas en el grupo.

Hasta el año 2014 se estimaban 148 especies de esponjas para el Sur del Golfo de México (Carballo *et al.*, 2014), aunque formalmente se habían registrado 127 especies en diferentes trabajos que en su mayoría se habían centrado en describir las esponjas presentes en los arrecifes de coral cercanos a la costa de Veracruz (Carballo *et al.*, 2014; De la Cruz-Francisco and Gónzalez-Gónzalez, 2016; Gómez, 2011, 2007, 2002; González-Gándara *et al.*, 2009; Green, 1977; Ugalde *et al.*, 2021a). Algunos otros trabajos analizaron la riqueza de especies de esponjas presentes en arrecifes del banco de Campeche (Ávila *et al.*, 2022; Gómez, 2014, 2006; Topsent, 1889; Ugalde *et al.*, 2015), y otros hábitats tales como la laguna costera de Términos (Castellanos-Pérez *et al.*, 2020). Por otro lado, para el Caribe Occidental mexicano se estimaban hasta 111 especies (Carballo *et al.*, 2014), aunque formalmente sólo hay 78 especies registradas en los trabajos de la región (Gómez and Calderón-Gutiérrez, 2020; Gómez and Green, 1984; Lehnert, 1993; Maas-Vargas, 2004).

Sin embargo, hasta el momento no hay un trabajo donde se haya analizado de manera global la diversidad de esponjas de la costa Atlántica de México. Los resultados de la revisión de la bibliografía publicada desde los años 1889 hasta el año 2022, indican que en la costa Atlántica de México había 176 especies registradas, y que sumadas a las 25 especies nuevos registros para México que emergen de este trabajo, nos da un total de 202 especies de esponjas para toda la región Atlántica de México (Anexo 1). Siendo 181 especies distribuidas en el Sur del Golfo de México (Ugalde *et al.*, 2021a), y 130 especies para el Caribe Occidental mexicano (Ugalde *et al.*, in progres). Si se comparan estos resultados con una de las publicaciones más relevantes sobre el estado del conocimiento de las esponjas a nivel mundia— *Global diversity of sponges* (van Soest *et al.*, 2012)— publicada hace ya 10 años, se puede observar el evidente incremento en los números de especies registrados para el Sur del Golfo de México (de 21 a 181 especies) y el Caribe Occidental (de 95 a 130 especies). Lo cual cambiaria el estatus de clasificación que se

analiza en van Soest *et al* (2012), sobre las estimaciones de registros de especies, de un nivel bajo (0-100 especies) a un nivel moderado (100-200 especies) de especies registradas (Figura 2.3). Cabe mencionar que el análisis de Van Soest *et al* (2012), analiza sólo las especies que se habían registrado en el World Porifera Database a partir de diferentes publicaciones hasta el año 2012 por lo que no representa un registro geográfico completo de muchas de las subregiones, como el caso del Atlántico mexicano, donde las publicaciones existentes no han sido registrada en su totalidad en esta base de datos mundial.



Figura 2.3. Número de especies de esponjas registradas en cada una de las 232 ecorregiones marinas del mundo extraídas del World Porifera Database (WPD) en el año 2012 (tomado de Van Soest *et al,* 2012). Para la ecorregión Sur del Golfo de México había 21 especies registradas

Como se ha mencionado anteriormente, en la porción Sur del Golfo de México hay un mayor número de estudios en los cuales se ha descrito la riqueza de la región, en comparación con el Caribe Occidental mexicano, donde hay sólo cuatro publicaciones donde se describe la riqueza de especies de esponjas. Este trabajo recogió información en 4 arrecifes (Figura 2.2), los cuales ya tenían registros previos de especies de esponjas; excepto por arrecife Akumal; resultando en un incremento significativo del 42% al conocimiento de la riqueza de esponjas del Caribe Occidental mexicano, con 52 nuevos registros de especies. Estos resultados denotan los huecos de conocimiento que aún existen en la región del Caribe sobre la riqueza de especies de

esponjas, pasando de 78 especies a 130. Es muy probable que al incrementar el esfuerzo de muestreo este número de especies siga incrementándose.

Este estudio proporciona un análisis y actualización de la riqueza de especies de esponjas de la costa Atlántica de México, proporcionando una lista revisada de especies registrada en trabajos previos. Este análisis representó un incremento en el conocimiento de las especies de esponjas de la costa Atlántica de México en un 14% pasando de 176 especies a 202, pero también representó un incremento de especies registradas para cada una de las subregiones analizadas. Sin embargo, es potencialmente factible que la diversidad de esponjas del Atlántico mexicano pueda ser mucho mayor si en los siguientes trabajos se exploran otros ecosistemas como hábitats crípticos en los arrecifes de coral tales como, oquedades entre los corales, roca coralina; u otros ecosistemas como lo son los sistemas lagunares, manglares, pastos marinos y costas rocosas donde generalmente se encuentra una gran diversidad de especies de esponjas incrustantes. Se ha demostrado que los hábitats crípticos contienen una gran diversidad de invertebrados sésiles, incluidas las esponjas (Meesters *et al.*, 1991; Pearman *et al.*, 2018). Este tipo de comunidades han sido poco consideradas en los estudios de diversidad tradicionales y podría proporcionar nuevos conocimientos sobre la diversidad de esponjas del Atlántico mexicano.

CAPÍTULO 3

ESCALAS DE VARIACIÓN ESPACIAL: DIVERSIDAD ALFA, BETA Y GAMMA DE ESPONJAS EN LOS ARRECIFES DE CORAL DEL SUR DEL GOLFO DE MÉXICO Y EL CARIBE MEXICANO.

Artículo sometido: Ugalde D; Guerra-Castro E. & Simões N. *Partitioning sponge diversity in the Southern Gulf of Mexico and the Mexican Caribbean coral reefs*. **Sometido a Ecography.**

INTRODUCCIÓN

En las últimas décadas, los arrecifes de coral al rededor del mundo se encuentran amenazados debido a diferentes factores como el aumento de la temperatura del agua, la contaminación y la acidificación de los océanos. En el Atlántico Occidental Tropical, esto ha promovido un cambio en las tasas de acreción y erosión en los arrecifes de coral, lo que ha dado como resultado un paisaje estructuralmente menos complejo, cambiando la composición de la comunidad hacia una dominada por algas y esponjas (Chaves-Fonnegra et al. 2007, Bell et al. 2013). En este contexto, se ha demostrado cómo las esponjas ayudan a mitigar la pérdida de complejidad estructural, manteniendo la tridimensionalidad en los arrecifes de coral (Bell et al., 2018; Carballo and Bell, 2017). A pesar de esto, los programas de monitoreo de arrecifes de coral más importantes en el Atlántico occidental (es decir, US NCRMP, AGRRA) no contemplan medir la identidad taxonómica y la abundancia de las esponjas de arrecife con la misma precisión que las especies de coral. Entonces, los protocolos de diagnóstico de la salud de los arrecifes de coral ignoran los patrones de diversidad de uno de los grupos taxonómicos que sostienen diferentes funciones en los ecosistemas de arrecifes de coral en el Atlántico occidental (Diaz and Rutzler, 2001; Pawlik and Mcmurray, 2020). Por lo tanto, estos protocolos no tienen la resolución requerida para medir patrones regionales de diversidad de esponjas.

También, se ha demostrado como las esponjas ayudan a mitigar la pérdida de diversidad al albergar una compleja comunidad de especies externas y endosimbiontes las cuales contribuyen al paisaje sonoro del arrecife que son utilizadas como señales auditivas que promueven el asentamiento de larvas de diferentes taxones en los arrecifes, por lo que las esponjas también contribuyen en los procesos que mantienen la biodiversidad de los arrecifes(Butler *et al.*, 2016). Asimismo, las esponjas desempeñan diferentes servicios ecosistémicos de importancia para los arrecifes de coral que tienen el potencial de afectar procesos ecológicos bentónicos o pelágicos, tales como: intervenir en el ciclo de la materia orgánica disuelta a través de la vía "sponge-loop" (Goeij *et al.*, 2013); producción primaria a través de sus simbiontes microbianos (Bell, 2008; Wulff, 2006); resuspensión de carbonato de calcio y generación de sedimentos (Bell, 2008; Rützler, 2002); así como ayudar a unir los corales vivos al fondo arrecifal incrementando sus probabilidades de supervivencia (Wulff, 2001). El debate sobre los efectos positivos o adversos de las esponjas sobre las especies de corales formadores de arrecifes (Pawlik and Mcmurray, 2020; Wulff, 2017)revela la necesidad de una comprensión más profunda de la diversidad de esponjas de arrecifes. Pero para esto, se necesitan mejores datos, que comprendan una alta resolución taxonómica y estimaciones precisas de los patrones de variación espacial y temporal.

El análisis de la diversidad a diferentes escalas de observación permite identificar la jerarquía de los procesos ecológicos y ambientales que conducen a la generación y mantenimiento de la diversidad de especies y los patrones observables, permitiendo una mejor comprensión de los mecanismos que sustentan dicha diversidad (Arias-González *et al.*, 2008; Chase *et al.*, 2018). Procesos ecológicos y factores ambientales que operan a escala local, como la competencia espacial, la disponibilidad de alimento, la depredación, la exposición a las olas, la profundidad y la intensidad de la luz, se han asociado como promotores en los cambios de la estructura comunitaria y diversidad de esponjas arrecifales (Berman and Bell, 2016; Williams *et al.*, 2015; Wulff, 2017). Por otro lado, procesos ecológicos y los factores ambientales que operan a gran escala espacial, como las corrientes oceanográficas, la dispersión de larvas y los procesos geológicos se han asociado a la generación y mantenimiento de los patrones biogeográficos de las esponjas (van Soest, 1994).

En la región del Caribe Occidental, pocos estudios han abordado el análisis de los patrones la diversidad de esponjas, a diferentes escalas espaciales integrando el análisis de escalas locales (pocos metros) y regionales (cientos de kilómetros), con el objetivo de evaluar los procesos biológicos y ambientales que generan la variabilidad en los patrones de diversidad de esponjas. Uno de los primeros trabajos que utilizo un análisis jerárquico a diferentes escalas fue el de Guerra-Castro et al., (2011), quienes estimaron la variabilidad de la diversidad de esponjas asociada con las raíces de los manglares en el sur del Caribe. Encontrando que la diversidad beta fue mucho mayor en la escala local, es decir entre las raíces de los manglares vecinos (unos pocos metros), y en la escala regional de Parques Nacionales (cientos de km). Estos resultados destacaron la relevancia potencial de procesos ecológicos, como la diferencia en el comportamiento de las larvas durante el asentamiento, la supervivencia contrastante de los reclutas, la variación en la colonización y la sucesión. Estos procesos operan a escalas espaciales pequeñas, seguidos de procesos ambientales regionales como la exposición a tormentas, la productividad primaria, las tasas de sedimentación y las entradas de agua dulce. Otro trabajo que usa el mismo enfoque, pero en una comunidad de arrecifes es el trabajo de Williams et al., (2015), quienes evaluaron los patrones de diversidad de esponjas masivas, corales escleractinios y gorgonias en varios arrecifes del Mar Caribe, considerando cuatro escalas espaciales: transectos (metros), sitios (kilómetros), áreas (decenas de kilómetros) y ecorregiones (separadas por cientos de kilómetros). Descubrieron que más del 70% de la variabilidad de la composición de esponjas masivas corresponde a las escalas espaciales más pequeñas: metros y sitios; y sugieren que este patrón podría explicarse por los cambios en la exposición al oleaje y la rugosidad de los sitios específicos muestreados. Aunque estos estudios se centran en esponjas con historias de vida muy diferentes, el patrón emergente es uno de alta variabilidad en la composición de especies a la escala local.

La amplia gama de diferentes geomorfologías, los complejos sistemas de corrientes oceanográficas y la vibrante diversidad de esponjas en los arrecifes de coral en la costa Atlántica mexicana (Sur Golfo de México [SGM] y Caribe Mexicano [WCAR]) presentan un escenario ideal para evaluar qué factores contribuyen a explicar las diferencias en la diversidad de las comunidades de esponjas de los arrecifes de coral. En primer lugar, hay arrecifes de coral de diferentes geomorfologías en la región, como arrecifes tipo banco, costeros, de barrera y arrecifes similares a atolones. Todos ellos de diferentes dimensiones y profundidades (Jordán-Dahlgren and Rodríguez-Martínez, 2003). En segundo lugar, la particular circulación oceánica de la región que es generada por la Corriente del Caribe, y que al cruzar el estrecho de Yucatán da origen a la Corriente del Golfo caracterizada por sus particulares giros ciclónicos y anticiclónicos. Y tercero, la alta diversidad de esponjas que se ha registrado en la región de cerca de 150 especies en el MC (Carballo et *al.*, 2014) y hasta 161 especies registradas en el SGM (Ugalde *et al.*, 2021a).

Para la región del SGM y WCAR, se han propuesto varias hipótesis relacionadas con las limitaciones en la conectividad ecológica entre las comunidades bentónicas, así como los efectos locales de las presiones antropogénicas. Por ejemplo, la hipótesis de un patrón decreciente de diversidad de gorgonias desde el Caribe hasta el Golfo de México propuesta por Jordán-Dahlgren (2002), o la hipótesis sobre la contribución de los gradientes ambientales locales como clave para explicar las diferencias en los peces de los arrecifes de coral. entre arrecifes dentro del sistema arrecifal del Caribe Mexicano propuesto por Nuñez-Lara *et al* (2005).

Además, en las regiones de SGM y WCAR, diferentes presiones antropogénicas y naturales están afectando fuertemente la salud de los ecosistemas de arrecifes, incluida la eutrofización, los accidentes de la industria petrolera, la pesca ilegal, el varamiento masivo y la descomposición del sargazo pelágico (Rodríguez-Martínez *et al.*, 2019). Las nuevas enfermedades de los corales

también han afectado el ecosistema de los arrecifes de coral (Estrada-Saldívar *et al.*, 2021). Estas amenazas que sumadas al calentamiento global y la acidificación de los océanos proyectan una condición ecológica empobrecida de los arrecifes coralinos de la región. Por lo tanto, para desentrañar la relevancia de las esponjas para estas subregiones, se debe llenar la brecha entre los patrones espaciales de diversidad y abundancia de esponjas, pero lo más importante, los procesos que mantienen los patrones.

El análisis de la variación de la diversidad de especies utilizando un diseño jerárquico permitirá responder a las siguientes preguntas: 1) ¿Qué tan diferentes son los conjuntos de esponjas entre los arrecifes de coral en el SGM y WCAR? 2) ¿Las comunidades de esponjas en los arrecifes de coral del SGM son un subconjunto de la diversidad de esponjas de WCAR? 3) ¿En qué escala espacial se observa la variación más significativa en la diversidad de esponjas de estas ecorregiones? Atender estas preguntas nos permite identificar el papel y la contribución relativa de los procesos macroecológicos y locales en el mantenimiento de los patrones actuales de diversidad de esponjas en los arrecifes de coral y también medir el papel potencial de los procesos espaciales de pequeña escala que generalmente se subestiman.

MATERIAL Y MÉTODOS

ÁREA DE ESTUDIO

Se recogió información en trece arrecifes de coral (Figura. 3.1) perecientes a dos ecorregiones *sensu* Spalding (2007): Caribe Occidental (WCAR), que se ubica en la costa de México, Belice y Honduras; y el Sur del Golfo de México (SGM). También incluimos como subregión del SGM a la zona nerítica interior y exterior de la costa de Campeche/Yucatán (en adelante NCY) y la zona nerítica veracruzana (en adelante VN) *sensu* Wilkinson (2009) (Fig. 1).



Figura 3.1.Arrecifes de coral muestreados en las ecorregiones del Sur del Golfo de México (SGM) y el Caribe Occidental (WCar). El color de las viñetas representa las subregiones: Caribe occidental (verde), zona nerítica interior y exterior de la costa de Campeche/Yucatán -NCY (azul) y Zona nerítica Veracruzana -VN (rojo).

El Sistema de Corrientes del Caribe tiene influencia en las regiones WCAR y SGM; la corriente del Caribe que al pasar a través del Canal de Yucatán hacia el Golfo de México da origen a la Corriente de Lazo (Enriquez *et al.*, 2010; Sheng and Tang, 2003). La corriente de lazo fluye en

el sentido de las agujas del reloj hacia el Golfo con una penetración hacia el norte hasta la plataforma de Florida occidental (Appendini *et al.*, 2013; Oey *et al.*, 2005), generando remolinos anticiclónicos (giran en sentido de las agujas del reloj), que viajan hacia el oeste y finalmente se disipan cerca de la plataforma continental. Sumado a la descargas de agua continental y el estrés de los vientos estacionales, estos remolinos afectan todo el transporte de agua del Golfo de México, especialmente sobre las plataformas continentales (Enriquez *et al.*, 2010; Ruiz-Castillo *et al.*, 2016; Salas-Monreal *et al.*, 2009). En general, tanto WCAR como SGM se ven afectados por el oleaje generado por dos tipos de sistemas meteorológicos. El primero son los sistemas anticiclónicos que generan frentes fríos conocidos localmente como "Nortes" y que afectan principalmente la costa del SGM. El segundo fenómeno son los Ciclones Tropicales, los cuales son sistemas de baja presión (que incluyen depresiones tropicales, tormentas tropicales y huracanes), la mayoría de ellos afectando principalmente al área del Mar Caribe (Appendini *et al.*, 2013).

DISEÑO DE MUESTREO E HIPÓTESIS

El muestreo consistió en un diseño jerárquico multi escala de cinco niveles: 1) ecorregiones, 2) subregiones, 3) arrecifes coralinos, 4) localidades dentro de cada arrecife y 5) cuadrantes dentro de cada localidad. La última escala corresponde a la unidad de muestreo. Cada escala en la jerarquía representará los efectos potenciales de los procesos regionales y locales (Tabla 3.1).

Más allá de la segmentación jerárquica de la escala espacial, este diseño de muestreo también se usó para probar la siguiente hipótesis biogeográfica: 1) Se esperaba que las escalas espaciales de ecorregión y subregiones deberían de explicar el porcentaje más significativo de la variación total de los conjuntos de esponjas. 2) Con base en el ejemplo previo de baja conectividad entre SGM y WCAR (Jordán-Dahlgren, 2002), y asumiendo que el Mar Caribe es el centro de diversificación de esponjas en el Atlántico occidental (van Soest, 1994), se espera que la riqueza de esponjas será mayor en el WCAR y decrecerá hacia el oeste en el SGM con una riqueza progresivamente menor en NCY y VN. Tal patrón podría desarrollarse en cualquiera de estos dos sub-escenarios: (i) las especies de SGM son un subconjunto de las especies de WCAR (pérdida de especies), y (ii) las especies de SGM son diferentes de las especies en WCAR (cambio de especies). El primero reflejará los efectos de procesos aleatorios de pérdida de especies desde el WCAR hacia el SGM. Este último revelará los efectos potenciales de los gradientes ambientales

y las limitaciones espaciales o históricas en el SGM con respecto a la WCAR. 3) Asumiendo el patrón de diversidad decreciente (Jordán-Dahlgren, 2002), esperamos un bajo recambio en la composición de especies (diversidad beta) entre los arrecifes de coral dentro de las ecorregiones WCAR y SGM. La limitada dispersión, así como el filtrado ambiental, podrían explicar este patrón.

| Escala especial | Nivel | Procesos asociados |
|--------------------|-------|--|
| Ecorregiones | 2 | Historia geológica |
| | | Corrientes oceanicas |
| Subregiones | 3 | Corrientes oceánicas |
| | | Dispersión de larvas |
| | | Filtros ambientales |
| Arrecifes de coral | 11 | Geomorfología de arrecifes |
| | | Hidrodinámica local |
| | | Entradas de agua dulce |
| Localidades | 60 | Heterogeneidad del hábitat |
| | | Exposición a la luz |
| | | Disponibilidad de sustrato |
| | | Exposición a tormentas |
| | | Asentamiento de larvas |
| | | Éxito en el reclutamiento |
| | | Interacciones biológicas (depredación y competencia) |

Tabla 3.1 Escalas espaciales y procesos potenciales que influyen en los patrones de diversidad de esponjas en los arrecifes de coral del sur del Golfo de México y el Caribe mexicano.

El cálculo del esfuerzo de muestreo se hizo a partir de los datos de un muestreo piloto en el arrecife Alacranes en 2017 (el arrecife de coral más grande de nuestra área de estudio). El número de localidades y muestras de cuadrantes en cada sitio se definió mediante la estabilización del error estándar multivariado simulado, utilizando el paquete SSP (Guerra-Castro *et al.*, 2021) en el software R (R Core Team, 2022). A partir de este resultado, extrapolamos el número de localidades hacia los otros arrecifes de coral considerando el tamaño de cada arrecife. Esto resultó en un diseño de muestreo desbalanceado sugerido por Montes *et al.* (2021) para caracterizar la riqueza de especies y la composición de las comunidades. En el presente estudio, el número de localidades en cada arrecife de coral osciló entre dos y nueve, mientras que el número de cuadrantes por localidad osciló entre 5 y 25.

La diversidad y abundancia (número de individuos) de esponjas se registró mediante cuadrantes de 1m² distribuidos cada 2 m a lo largo de un transecto lineal de 20 m. Teniendo en cuenta que cada arrecife de coral muestreado tiene diferentes geomorfologías (es decir, arrecife

de barrera y arrecifes tipo plataforma), todos los transectos fueron perpendiculares a la costa, dispuestos aleatoriamente en un rango de profundidad entre 6 y 18 metros. Las covariables asociadas a cada cuadrante fueron la profundidad y la inclinación del sustrato. En total, se muestrearon 624 cuadrantes en 60 localidades de trece arrecifes de coral (Figura 3.1, Tabla 3.5).

Las especies de esponjas fueron identificadas *in situ*. Además, para aquellos especímenes en los que no se pudo hacer una identificación clara, se recolectó una pequeña muestra de tejido para confirmar posteriormente su identidad en el laboratorio siguiendo los procedimientos estándar a través de la disociación de tejido y espículas observadas en el microscopio. (Hajdu *et al.*, 2011; Ugalde *et al.*, 2021a). El material muestreado fue depositado en la Colección Nacional de Poríferas "Gerardo Green" (CNPGG) de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

ANÁLISIS DE DATOS

JERARQUÍA DE ESCALAS ESPACIALES Y PATRONES DE DIVERSIDAD DE ESPONJAS

Los datos se organizaron en una matriz de N (cuadrantes) × P (especies), cuyas entradas eran la abundancia de cada especie. Los datos se transformaron a raíz cuarta para reducir la contribución de las especies abundantes. Se estimó una matriz de disimilitudes de Bray-Curtis entre cada par de muestras (Clarke, 1993). La relevancia de las escalas espaciales de variación se identificó dividiendo la variación multivariada en el espacio de Bray-Curtis utilizando un modelo anidado PERMANOVA jerárquico completo (Anderson, 2017). Las fuentes de variación del modelo fueron: ecorregiones (miles de km; factor fijo con dos niveles [WCAR y SGM]); subregiones (cientos de km; factor aleatorio anidado en ecorregiones con tres niveles [WCAR, NCY y VN]); arrecifes de coral (decenas de km; factor aleatorio anidado en la subregión con 13 niveles [Arrecifes: Tabla 3.5]); y localidades (cientos de metros; factor aleatorio anidado en arrecifes de coral con 60 niveles). La profundidad y la inclinación del sustrato se agregaron al modelo como covariables. Las hipótesis nulas se generaron utilizando 9999 permutaciones de residuales bajo el modelo reducido. La contribución de cada fuente de variación a la varianza total se estimó como la raíz cuadrada relativizada de cada componente de variación: ecorregión, subregión, arrecifes de coral, sitios, profundidad, inclinación del sustrato y residuales en el modelo. Los patrones de similitud entre los centroides de los arrecifes de coral de cada subregión se visualizaron mediante un análisis de escalamiento multidimensional no métrico (nMDS). Se utilizó un diagrama de sombras ordenado (Clarke et al., 2014) para visualizar los patrones de distribución y abundancia de especies entre los arrecifes de coral de cada subregión. En este gráfico, se muestran las 50 especies más importantes usando un análisis de conglomerados jerárquico de las especies basado en el Índice de Asociación de Whittaker. Estos análisis estadísticos se realizaron en PRIMER v7 y PERMANOVA + (Clarke et al., 2014).

ANÁLISIS BIOGEOGRÁFICO DE LA DIVERSIDAD DE ESPECIES

Para evaluar las predicciones antes planteadas sobre los procesos biogeográficos, se utilizaron los componentes de la diversidad de especies definidos por Whittaker (Whittaker, 1960). Específicamente, la diversidad alfa fue considerada como el número de especies de esponjas observadas por localidad. La diversidad gamma se definió inicialmente como el número de especies de esponjas dentro de cada ecorregión, pero se redujo a subregiones después del análisis estadístico. La diversidad alfa y gamma se estimó utilizando el estimador no paramétrico basado en la incidencia Chao2 y la interpolación-extrapolación de los números de Hills de orden q = 0 (Chao and Jost, 2012; Colwell *et al.*, 2012). Se estimó la cobertura de muestreo (Chao *et al.*, 2020) para cada arrecife de coral, proporcionando información sobre la cobertura del esfuerzo de muestreo, lo que permite comparar la riqueza obtenida con diferentes esfuerzos de muestreo. Usamos 0.9 como un valor aceptable para la cobertura del muestreo (Chao *et al.*, 2020). Ambos análisis se realizaron con el paquete iNEXT (Hsieh *et al.*, 2016) del software estadístico R (R Core Team, 2022). La diversidad beta, definida como la variación en la composición de especies entre localidades (Anderson *et al.*, 2011), se estimó utilizando el coeficiente de similitud de Jaccard.

Para probar la primera hipótesis sobre una mayor diversidad en los conjuntos de especies de esponjas en la escala más grande, comparamos los valores de diversidad Gamma entre subregiones de acuerdo con el gradiente geográfico desde el Caribe occidental hasta el suroeste del Golfo de México. Para la segunda hipótesis acerca de la existencia de un bajo recambio de especies entre subregiones se evaluó mediante la contribución de los componentes de diversidad beta, recambio de especies (BJTU) y anidamiento (BJNE) a la disimilitud de Jaccard (Baselga, 2010; Baselga and Orme, 2012). La diversidad beta se particionó utilizando el paquete en R BETAPART (Baselga and Orme, 2012). Finalmente, para probar la hipótesis de diferencias en diversidad beta entre subregiones, se compararon las dispersiones multivariadas (Anderson et *al.*, 2006) entre los arrecifes de coral de cada subregión. Este análisis se realizó utilizando los centroides de cada arrecife en el espacio multivariado definido por el coeficiente de Jaccard y la rutina PERMDISP en PRIMER v7 & PERMANOVA+ (Clarke *et al.*, 2014).

RESULTADOS

En el área de estudio se registraron un total de 137 especies de esponjas pertenecientes a 17 órdenes, 47 familias y 71 géneros. La lista completa de especies y su distribución espacial y abundancia está disponible como un conjunto de datos en OBIS.

JERARQUÍA DE ESCALAS ESPACIALES PARA GENERAR PATRONES DE DIVERSIDAD

DE ESPONJAS

La composición de especies y la abundancia de esponjas variaron significativamente entre las diferentes escalas espaciales evaluadas (Tabla 3.2). Los resultados muestran que las principales fuentes de variación en los conjuntos de esponjas se encuentran en las escalas más pequeñas (localidades y arrecifes de coral), las cuales explican el 40.77% de la variación total. La escala de localidad (cientos de metros) explica el 21.99% de la variación total (Pseudo-F = 3.72, p-value = 0.001), seguida de la escala de arrecifes (decenas de kilómetros), la cual explicó el 18.87% de la variación total (Pseudo-F = 3.28, valor p = 0.001). Mientras que fuente de variación asociada a las subregiones (cientos de kilómetros) ayudó a explicar el 13.31% de la variación total (Pseudo-F = 2.20, valor p = 0.0085). Por otro lado, la escala espacial de ecorregión (miles de kilómetros) no contribuyó significativamente para explicar la variabilidad total (Tabla 3.2). Los residuales fueron la mayor fuente de variación (42.11% del total), lo que implica que la mayor variabilidad se observó entre cuadrantes vecinos. En cuanto al efecto de las covariables, la profundidad explica cerca del cinco por ciento de la variación total; la inclinación del sustrato parece irrelevante para explicar la variabilidad de la composición de especies (Tabla 3.2). Además, el gráfico nMDS (Figura. 3.2) muestra la mayor dispersión en la composición de especies dentro de los arrecifes de coral en la subregión NCY y VN; sin embargo, no se detectó un gradiente direccional claro.

Tabla 3.2. Evaluación de la relevancia jerárquica de las escalas espaciales y factores ambientales mediante el Análisis Permutacional Multivariado de Varianzas (PERMANOVA). Las fuentes de variación en el modelo fueron: Ecorregiones (EC), un factor fijo con dos niveles; Subregiones (SB), un factor aleatorio anidado en EC; Arrecifes de coral (CR), un factor aleatorio anidado en SB con 13 niveles; Localidades (LC) un factor aleatorio anidado en CR con 60 niveles. La profundidad (DP) y la inclinación del sustrato (SI) se introdujeron en el modelo como covariables. La raíz cuadrada de los componentes de variación (CV) y su importancia relativa se presentan como porcentajes (CV%).

| Fuente de variación | df | SS | MS | Pseudo-F | P(perm) | CV | CV % |
|------------------------------|-----|----------|--------|----------|---------|-------|-------|
| Profundidad | 1 | 36757 | 36757 | 1.71 | 0.0414 | 5.03 | 4.02 |
| Inclinación del substrato | 1 | 17067 | 17067 | 1.11 | 0.3038 | 1.86 | 1.48 |
| Ecorregión | 1 | 94006 | 94006 | 0.9 | 0.5203 | -2.23 | -1.78 |
| Subregión | 1 | 93500 | 93500 | 2.20 | 0.0085 | 16.68 | 13.31 |
| Arrecife | 10 | 3.40E+05 | 34047 | 3.28 | 0.0001 | 23.65 | 18.87 |
| Localidades | 48 | 4.98E+05 | 10369 | 3.72 | 0.0001 | 27.55 | 21.99 |
| Residuales | 561 | 1.56E+06 | 2785.4 | | | 52.77 | 42.11 |
| Total | 623 | 2.64E+06 | | | | | |



Figura 3.2. Análisis de escalamiento multidimensional no métrico (nMDS) para visualizar los patrones de similitud de los conjuntos de especies de esponjas entre los centroides de los arrecifes de coral de cada subregión en el área de estudio. Se observa como la mayor dispersión en la composición de especies se encuentra entre los arrecifes de coral de la subregión NCY. Sin embargo, no se observa un gradiente direccional claro. Caribe occidental (WCAR), zona nerítica interior y exterior de la costa de Campeche/Yucatán (NCY) y zona Nerítica Veracruzana (VN).

PATRONES DE DIVERSIDAD ALFA Y GAMMA

Se detectó un gradiente de diversidad alfa y gamma que decrece desde el WCAR hacia el interior del SGM como se había planteado en la primera hipótesis. El mayor valor de diversidad gamma se registró en la subregión WCAR (95 especies), seguida de la subregión CNY (84 especies) y, finalmente la subregión VN (63 especies). Un total de 58 especies fueron compartidas entre WCAR/NCY, 41 especies fueron compartidas entre WCAR/VN y 40 especies fueron compartidas entre CNY/VN (Tabla 3.3).

Tabla 3.3. Diversidad gamma de cada subregión (diagonal) y el número de especies compartidas (por debajo de la diagonal), así como las especies no compartidas (por encima de la diagonal) entre las subregiones. Caribe occidental (WCAR), zona nerítica interior y exterior de la costa de Campeche/Yucatán (NCY) y zona Nerítica Veracruzana (VN).

| | WCAR | NCY | VN |
|------|------|-----|----|
| WCAR | 95 | 26 | 22 |
| NCY | 58 | 84 | 23 |
| VN | 41 | 40 | 63 |

La mayor abundancia de esponjas se registró en la subregión VN con 2217 individuos, seguida por 2122 individuos en CNY y 1730 individuos en WCAR. Las especies más abundantes fueron diferentes dentro de cada subregión (Tabla 3.4). Por ejemplo, en la subregión WCAR, las tres especies más abundantes fueron *Mycale (Mycale) laevis* (148 individuos), *Spirastrella coccinea* (100 individuos) e *lotrochota birotulata* (86 individuos). Por su parte, en la subregión CNY, las tres especies más abundantes fueron *Scopalina rutzleri* (205 individuos), *Ampimedon compressa* (196 individuos) y *Aiolocrhoia crassa* (143 individuos). Además de en la subregión VN, las tres especies más abundantes también fueron *A. compresa* (416 individuos, *Desmapsama anchorata* (255 individuos) y *M. (Mycale) laevis* (113 individuos).

Tabla 3.4. Se muestran las 10 especies más abundantes por subregión, destacando en negritas las tres especies más abundantes. Se puede observar que hay especies que fueron abundantes en sólo una subregión y otras compartidas.

| ESPECIE | WCAR | CNY | VN |
|------------------------------|------|-----|-----|
| Agelas sventres | 55 | | |
| Aiolochroia crassa | | 143 | 77 |
| Amphimedon compressa | | 196 | 416 |
| Amphimedon viridis | | | 87 |
| Aplysina alcicornis | | 83 | |
| Aplysina cauliformis | 65 | 83 | |
| Aplysina fulva | | 65 | |
| Cliothosa delitrix | | | 78 |
| Desmapsamma anchorata | | | 255 |
| Dysidea etheria | | | 104 |
| lotrochota arenosa | | | 105 |
| lotrochota birotulata | 86 | 135 | 66 |
| Ircinia felix | 60 | | |
| Monanchora arbuscula | 46 | 111 | 100 |
| Mycale (Mycale) laevis | 148 | | 113 |
| Niphates amorpha | 55 | | |
| Niphates erecta | | 57 | |
| Scopalina ruetzleri | 63 | 205 | |
| Siphonodictyon coralliphagum | 47 | | |
| Spirastrella coccinea | 100 | | |
| Verongula rigida | | 103 | |

Al igual que la diversidad gamma, la diversidad alfa *también* presentó un patrón decreciente de diversidad, el cual disminuye desde la subregión WCAR hacía la subregión VN. Los arrecifes de coral de la subregión VN presentaron los valores más bajos de diversidad alfa, registrándose entre 26 y 41 especies (Tabla 3.5, Figura. 3.3). Los arrecifes de coral de la subregión NCY presentaron valores de diversidad alfa ente 33 y 47 especies (Tabla 3.5, Figura. 3.3). Mientras que los valores más altos de diversidad alfa se registraron en los arrecifes de coral de Puerto Morelos y Cozumel en la subregión WCAR, con valores entre las 61 y 51 especies de esponjas (Tabla 3.5, Figura. 3.3). En general en la mayoría de los arrecifes el número de especies observadas estuvo cercano a la riqueza estimada, y se aprecia que las curvas de riqueza están cercanas a la asíntota (Fig. 3.3 a). De la misma forma, las estimaciones de cobertura de muestreo presentaron valores entre 84 y 98%, lo cual demuestra que el esfuerzo de muestreo fue bueno (Tabla 3.5, Figs. 3.3 b,c).

Tabla 3.5. Riqueza observada y estimada, diversidad de Simpson (D) y cobertura de muestreo (CS) expresada en porcentaje. El SC se calculó *sensu* Chao & Jost (2012) y Colwell *et al.* (2012) para cada arrecife de coral (ver la Figura 3.3 para más detalles). LC (número de localidades por arrecife).

| Subregión | Arrecifes | LC | Riqueza observada | Riqueza estimada | Diversidad de Simpson | SC |
|---|-----------------|----|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | Puerto Morelos | 5 | 61 | 68.9 | 0.96 | 97 |
| Cariba Ossidantal (M(CAR) | Cozumel | 6 | 51 | 65.2 | 0.96 | 95.95 |
| Caribe Occidental (WCAR) | Mahahual | 6 | 46 | 59.8 | 0.95 | 92.6 |
| | Akumal | 3 | 39 | 58.2 | 0.95 | 84 |
| Zona Norítica Interior y | Cayo arcas | 9 | 47 | 52.7 | 0.94 | 97.8 |
| Exterior Campeche/Costa de Yucatán (NCY) | Bajos del norte | 4 | 44 | 62.6 | 0.95 | 95.8 |
| | Alacranes | 6 | 37 | 40 | 0.94 | 98.3 |
| | Sisal | 4 | 33 | 38.9 | 0.93 | 96.6 |
| Zona Nerítica Veracruzana (VN) | Isla verde | 6 | 41 | 57 | 0.94 | 94.5 |
| | Isla de Enmedio | 2 | 35 | 37.8 | 0.95 | 96.8 |
| | Blanquilla | 2 | 33 | 36.9 | 0.94 | 96.3 |
| | Cabezo | 4 | 28 | 29.7 | 0.92 | 96.4 |
| | Hornos | 3 | 26 | 36 | 0.93 | 91.4 |



Figura 3.3. Análisis de cobertura de muestra e Interpolación y extrapolación de valores de riqueza con base en la incidencia de especies para cada localidad, los colores indican la subregión: Caribe Occidental (verde), Zona Nerítica Interior y Exterior de la costa de Campeche/Yucatán (azul) y Zona nerítica Veracruzana (roja). (A) Curva de acumulación de especies (B) Curva de acumulación de cobertura de muestra (C) Curvas de cobertura de muestra basadas en rarefacción (línea continua) y extrapolación (línea punteada) para la riqueza de especies (Chao & Jost, 2012; Hsieh *et al.*, 2016).

DIVERSIDAD BETA LOCAL Y REGIONAL

A pesar de la aparente baja conectividad entre WCAR y SGM debido al gradiente de diversidad alfa y gamma descrito anteriormente, se esperaba registrar un patrón de diversidad beta con un mayor componente de anidamiento y un bajo reemplazo de especies entre las subregiones. Sin embargo, la diversidad beta estuvo dominada por el componente de remplazo o rotación de especies (B_{JTU} = 0.59) y no por el componente de anidación de especies (B_{JNE} = 0.10). Por lo que los conjuntos de especies de las comunidades de esponjas que se encuentra entre las subregiones WCAR, CNY y VN presenta una baja perdida de especies entre los arrecifes de coral. Este patrón se muestra en el diagrama de sombras de especies de esponjas versus arrecifes de coral en cada subregión (Figura 3.4), donde se puede observar que varias especies fueron específicas de un área geográfica particular (Tabla 3.3), y también como la abundancia de las especies es diferente por subregión. Además, encontramos que el efecto de rotación es mayor en los arrecifes de coral en el NCY en comparación con los arrecifes de las subregiones WCAR o VN (Fig. 3.5 a,b). Por lo tanto, el recambio de especies fue el componente dominante en la composición comunitaria de las esponjas en los arrecifes muestreados. Esto que indica que las especies de esponjas que se encuentran en los arrecifes de coral con baja diversidad no son un subconjunto de las especies de esponjas que se encuentran en los arrecifes de coral con mayor diversidad. Por otro lado, nuestra tercera hipótesis sobre la igualdad de la diversidad beta entre las subregiones fue rechazada luego de encontrar diferencias significativas en las dispersiones multivariadas entre las subregiones WCAR, NCY y VN (F= 4.5294, p < 0.05). La comparación por pares detectó que los arrecifes de coral en las porciones WCAR/NCY (t = 2.21, p < 0.06) y NCY/VN ((t = 0.22, p < 0.83) subregiones no son significativamente diferentes. Sin embargo, la comparación por pares entre WCAR y VN (t = 3.97, p < 0.005) fue significativamente diferente. Por lo tanto, la mayor dispersión en la composición de especies se encuentra entre las subregiones WCAR y VN, mismas que son las subregiones más alejadas geográficamente.



Figura 3.4. Diagrama de sombras de abundancia y presencia-ausencia de las 50 especies de esponjas más importantes en las subregiones: Caribe Occidental (WCAR), zona nerítica interior y exterior de la costa de Campeche/Yucatán (NCY) y zona Nerítica Veracruzana (VN). La ordenación de las especies se mostró mediante un análisis de conglomerados jerárquico de las especies basado en el Índice de asociación de Whittaker. Se observa la presencia de especies compartidas entre todas las subregiones y especies que son exclusivas de una de dos de las subregiones.



Figura 3.5. Descomposición de la beta diversidad en sus componentes remplazo o rotación de especies (BJTU) y anidamiento especies de (BJNE). a) Comparación por pares de los componentes de diversidad beta entre las subregiones b) Diversidad beta de cada subregión. Se aprecia que el componente de remplazo o especies rotación de es predominante todas las en subregiones, incluso la en comparación por pares.

DISCUSIÓN

JERARQUÍA DE ESCALAS ESPACIALES Y PATRONES DE DIVERSIDAD DE ESPONJAS

En este estudio se analizamos por primera vez cómo los procesos y factores que operan en diferentes escalas espaciales interactúan con la comunidad de esponjas generando patrones de diversidad en dos ecorregiones del Atlántico Occidental Tropical. Nuestros resultados destacan que procesos no estocásticos (interacciones biológicas) y factores ambientales que operan a escalas espaciales locales (hidrodinámica local y geomorfología) son más críticas para estructurar los conjuntos de especies de esponjas, en comparación con los procesos que operan en escalas espaciales más grandes (dispersión de larvas, corrientes oceanográficas e historia geológica). Por lo tanto, los factores y procesos ambientales que actúan a escala local y que influyen en la biología de las esponjas, *también* influyen en la estructura del conjunto de especies de cada comunidad.

En el modelo jerárquico que se utilizó para evaluar la contribución de los procesos que operan a diferentes escalas también se incluyó la profundidad y la inclinación del sustrato como covariables. Ambas covariables se han asociado con cambios en la variación espacial de las comunidades de esponjas, también se han correlacionado con la estructura, abundancia y diversidad de las comunidades de esponjas en otras investigaciones (Barnes and Bell, 2002; Bell, 2007; González-Murcia et al., 2022). Sin embargo, en nuestros resultados, solo la profundidad fue significativa (con una contribución baja: 4.6%) para explicar la variación espacial de los conjuntos de esponjas. Este estudio cubre un amplio espectro de diferentes escalas espaciales; por lo tanto, los patrones de variación en la estructura observada de las comunidades de esponjas deben ser el resultado de procesos y factores ambientales distintos del efecto de la inclinación y la profundidad del sustrato por sí solos. Sin embargo, algunos factores ambientales varían con la profundidad, como son: la energía de las olas, las corrientes, la sedimentación, la luz y la disponibilidad de alimentos; los cuales son filtros ambientales que impulsan cambios en la estructura de los conjuntos de especies de esponjas (Bell and Carballo, 2008; Pawlik et al., 2018; Schönberg, 2016). En los siguientes párrafos se discutirán estos factores ambientales y procesos ecológicos que ayudan a entender los patrones de diversidad que observamos.

DIVERSIDAD ALFA, BETA Y GAMMA

Se detectaron dos patrones principales de diversidad de la comunidad de esponjas. Como se había planteado en las hipótesis, el primer patrón fue un gradiente de diversidad gamma y alfa que disminuye desde el WCAR hacia los arrecifes de la subregión VN. Los arrecifes de coral en la subregión WCAR albergaron una mayor riqueza de especies de esponjas que los arrecifes de coral en las subregiones NCY y VN. Los procesos asociados con la proximidad a la fuente de especies y el tamaño de los arrecifes de coral operan a escala regional, lo que puede explicar los patrones de diversidad gamma; por ejemplo, las áreas aisladas remotas y pequeñas son menos diversas (MacArthur and Wilson, 1967). En este contexto, el Mar Caribe se reconoce como un área de alta diversidad de esponjas (Alcolado, 1990; van Soest, 1994; van Soest et al., 2012) y, por lo tanto, se puede considerar como una fuente de especies de esponjas para otras regiones cercanas. Sin embargo, también se ha reconocido en diferentes estudios un sesgo de esfuerzo de muestreo en la evaluación de la diversidad de esponjas en diferentes regiones alrededor del mundo (Miloslavich et al., 2010; van Soest et al., 2012). Un buen ejemplo de regiones con sesgo en el esfuerzo de muestreo es el sur del Golfo de México, donde el conocimiento de la diversidad de esponjas ha aumentado alrededor de un 30% en la última década (Castellanos-Pérez et al., 2020; De la Cruz-Francisco and Bandala-Pérez, 2016; De la Cruz-Francisco and Gónzalez-Gónzalez, 2016; Ugalde et al., 2021a, 2015). Además, si el efecto de la proximidad a la fuente de las especies es el principal impulsor de las diferencias en la composición de las esponjas y la estructura de la comunidad entre las subregiones, el componente de anidamiento de la diversidad beta habrías sido sería dominante en el patrón. Sin embargo, el segundo patrón que encontramos fue un alto remplazo de especies (o rotación de especies) en la diversidad beta. Por lo que, nuestra hipótesis de baja conectividad entre los arrecifes de coral de WCAR hacia NCY y VN no se cumplió. El patrón de remplazo o rotación de especies también sugiere que los filtros ambientales a escala local tienen un efecto fuerte para el establecimiento y desarrollo de la comunidad de esponjas. Se han encontraron resultados similares en otros estudios que analizan comunidades bénticas a diferentes escalas espaciales (Guerra-Castro et al., 2016; Miyazawa et al., 2020; Williams et al., 2015), lo que sugiere que las diferencias ambientales locales promueven la variación en las estructuras de los conjuntos de especies y en consecuencia la generación de patrones de diversidad particulares, anulando la contribución de otros factores que operan a escalas espaciales y temporales más grandes.

La alta rotación de especies encontradas en la subregión NCY denota la importancia de los arrecifes de esa subregión como zona de transición de especies de esponjas entre la subregión WCAR y las aguas más templadas de la subregión VN. En este contexto, las diferencias observadas y significativas entre la composición de especies de las subregiones WCAR y VN, así como la ausencia de diferencias en la beta diversidad de NCY/VN y NCY/WCAR confirman que la subregión NCY es una zona de transición para los conjuntos de especies de esponjas entre el WCAR y el SGM. Otros autores han sugerido que la península de Yucatán (NCY en este trabajo) debe agregarse como una ecorregión dada su afinidad con las ecorregiones tropicales de la provincia del Caribe en lugar de la provincia de Carolina (Paz-Ríos *et al.*, 2021).

FACTORES AMBIENTALES Y PROCESOS ASOCIADOS CON LOS PATRONES DE

DIVERSIDAD

El predominio de una morfología particular de crecimiento de esponjas en una comunidad puede brindar información sobre cómo las esponjas responden a las condiciones ambientales que las seleccionan (Schönberg, 2021). Por ejemplo, las esponjas incrustantes se han caracterizado como habitantes comunes de áreas con alta energía hidrodinámica, flujo turbulento y tamaño de sedimento intermedio (González-Murcia et al., 2022; Schönberg, 2021). En consecuencia, un entorno de alta energía podría filtrar especies con morfología ramificada o masiva debido a la incapacidad de estas formas para sujetarse y resistir las fuerzas de arrastre producidas por fuertes corrientes (Bell and Smith, 2004). Se observó una tendencia de especies con morfologías incrustantes (eg Desmapsamma anchorata, Amphimedon compressa, lotrochota arenosa, Clathria (Thalysias) venosa, Neopetrosia subtriangularis) que fueron más abundantes y comunes en los arrecifes coralinos de la subregión VN, contrastando con las especies masivas o ramosas que fueron comunes en las subregiones NCY y WCAR (Aplysina alcicornis, lotrochota birotulata, Callyspongia (Cladochalina) aculeata, Xestospongia muta). Aunque los arrecifes de coral en las subregiones NCY y VN están expuestos a frentes fríos estacionales, las condiciones geológicas particulares de la plataforma estrecha en la subregión VN tienen un efecto en la hidrodinámica a escala local la cual esta influenciada por fuerzas tales como mareas, vientos y remolinos locales, provocando cambios en la dirección e intensidad de las corrientes locales(Allende-Arandía et al., 2016; Salas-Monreal et al., 2009), y en consecuencia filtrando así especies con morfologías incrustantes o masivas.

Además, la escorrentía de los ríos afecta fuertemente los arrecifes de coral en la subregión VN (Avendaño *et al.* 2019), lo que aumenta los sedimentos en la columna de agua y, en consecuencia, disminuye la irradiación de luz. Los efectos adversos de los sedimentos en las esponjas incluyen la abrasión del tejido, la obstrucción y el alto costo de mantenimiento de energía debido a la sombra (Schönberg, 2016). Por lo tanto, el efecto combinado de un sistema de alta energía y alta sedimentación puede filtrar especies de esponjas que son más tolerantes a estas condiciones en la subregión VN, lo que podría explicar la baja riqueza de especies observada en la subregión.

La geomorfología de los arrecifes de coral también afecta el flujo de agua, la exposición a las olas y la sedimentación, que son factores ambientales que controlan las poblaciones locales de esponjas en las regiones templadas y tropicales (Bell and Carballo, 2008; Bell and Smith, 2004). En nuestro estudio, las características geomorfológicas variaron considerablemente desde arrecifes en forma de barrera en la subregión WCAR hasta arrecifes de banco y costeros en las subregiones NCY y VN (Arias-González et al., 2008; Jordán-Dahlgren and Rodríguez-Martínez, 2003). Las características particulares de la geomorfología de los arrecifes coralinos; continuidad y proximidad a la costa los arrecifes de barrera en la subregión WCAR, y el patrón regional de corrientes en la ecorregión WCAR, con un marcado gradiente de velocidad de norte a sur del Sistema Arrecifal Mesoamericano (Carrillo et al., 2015); de un orden de magnitud más fuerte en el norte que las velocidades al sur; han impulsado una aparente conectividad entre los arrecifes de coral de la región, generando un conjunto homogéneo de esponjas (Figura 3.2). Esta homogeneidad podría explicarse por la proximidad entre los arrecifes de coral en la subregión WCAR que ayudan a la dispersión de las larvas o fragmentos de esponja a otros arrecifes de coral cercanos en la región. En contraste, los arrecifes de coral en CNY y VN que resultaron ser menos similares en los conjuntos de esponjas, puede deberse a que, en estas subregiones, los arrecifes de coral son principalmente de tipo banco y están más alejados entre sí principalmente en la subregión de CNY, lo cual puede afectar el transporte de larvas o fragmentos. Las larvas de esponja son lecitotróficas, con una vida planctónica relativamente corta, lo que disminuye la oportunidad de dispersión y de encontrar sitios apropiados para su asentamiento muy lejos del origen (Maldonado, 2006). La fragmentación también es un método importante de reproducción y dispersión de las esponjas porque los fragmentos pueden sustentar larvas viables, lo que permite la dispersión a larga distancia (DeBiasse et al., 2010).

A pesar de que la mayor diversidad de especies se registró en la subregión WCAR, la abundancia de esponjas fue la más baja en comparación con las subregiones CNY y VN. Estas diferencias en la abundancia de esponjas podrían estar relacionadas con la combinación de procesos tipo "top-down" (depredadores) o "bottom-up" (disponibilidad de alimento). Primero, los arrecifes de coral en la subregión WCAR está caracterizada por aguas oligotróficas con gran transparencia, lo que representaría una baja disponibilidad de alimento para organismos filtradores como las esponjas. Aunque, se ha reconocido que las esponjas también pueden absorber carbono orgánico disuelto de la columna de agua (DOC) (Goeij et al., 2013; Loh et al., 2015), por lo que el alimento podría no ser el factor limitante. Sin embargo, en esta subregión se reconoce una buena estructura de peces, los cuales son unos de los principales depredadores de las esponjas (Aguilar-Medrano and Arias-González, 2018). Por lo tanto, la abundancia de esponjas en esta subregión podría estar controlada por el efecto combinado de los procesos de depredación más la posible limitación de alimento. En contraste, los arrecifes de coral en la subregión CNY se ven favorecidos por los afloramientos que ocurren en la península de Yucatán, mejorando la productividad y los hábitats de la región, incluidos los arrecifes de coral (Enriquez et al., 2010). Análogamente, los arrecifes de coral en la subregión VN están influenciados por la escorrentía de los ríos, lo que también aumenta la carga de nutrientes en la región. Sin embargo, la subregión VN también es reconocida como una región con sobrepesca (Gil-Agudelo et al., 2020), lo cual repercute en la disminución de peces depredadores de esponjas. La alta disponibilidad de nutrientes en VN y la sobrepesca deben ser los factores que promueven la alta abundancia de esponjas en la subregión.

Las esponjas son un componente importante en la comunidad de arrecifes de coral, y su evaluación en estudios ecológicos podría proporcionar información importante sobre el estado de conservación de las áreas marinas protegidas y no protegidas. La diversidad de esponjas y la estructura comunitaria están impulsadas principalmente por factores ambientales y procesos que ocurren a escala local. Por lo tanto, los cambios en las condiciones locales pueden afectar la estructura de la comunidad afectando su diversidad y abundancia. Por lo que, se puede preservar una alta diversidad de especies cuando se mantiene la heterogeneidad ambiental a escala local. Nuestro resultado destaca la importancia de los procesos locales para generar y mantener patrones regionales con una alta diversidad gamma. La diversidad de esponjas no es el resultado de hotspots regionales sino de la alta heterogeneidad ambiental de la escala local.

CAPÍTULO 4

BIOGEOGRAFÍA DE LAS ESPONJAS MARINAS DEL ATLÁNTICO OCCIDENTAL TROPICAL Y TEMPLADO

INTRODUCCIÓN

Las esponjas marinas son uno de los grupos taxonómicos más importante en las comunidades bentónicas, debido a los diferentes servicios ecosistémicos que desempeñan, los cuales tienen el potencial de afectar procesos ecológicos bentónicos o pelágicos (Van Soest, 2007), en parte por su alta capacidad de filtración, pero también por la transformación de nutrientes a través de sus procesos metabólicos y la de sus endosimbiontes (Diaz, 2012; Goeij et *al.*, 2013). En la actualidad, se reconocen 9,248 especies de esponjas marinas (de Voogd *et al.*, 2022), distribuidas en todos los ambientes desde costas rocosas, pastos marinos, manglares, arrecifes de coral, o incluso en hábitats profundos (Wulff, 2012). En la última década, se ha reconocido la importancia de las esponjas no sólo en los roles que desempeñan en los ecosistemas, sino también el potencial que tienen para la extracción productos naturales con diferentes aplicaciones en la industria farmacéutica, desde antibióticos hasta antitumorales (Han *et al.*, 2019). Así como la importancia de su estudio para comprender la evolución de los metazoarios (Erpenbeck and Wörheide, 2007). A pesar de los roles importantes que desempeñan las esponjas en los ecosistemas aún se sabe poco sobre aspectos fundamentales de su reproducción, distribución y afinidades biogeográficas.

La biogeografía busca comprender cómo las especies se distribuyen geográficamente, además de analizar los patrones de diversidad, distribución y evolución de las especies, con respecto a las condiciones ambientales e históricas que contribuyen a estos patrones (Lomolino *et al.*, 2017). El estudio de los patrones de diversidad marina a escala global ha generado diferentes clasificaciones biogeográficas las cuales han proporcionado las bases para el desarrollo de áreas protegidas que representen ecológicamente a los ecosistemas, con la intención de proteger no sólo la gama de diversidad biológica sino los patrones evolutivos y los procesos ecológicos que la sustentan (Briggs, 1974; Miloslavich *et al.*, 2010; Robertson and Cramer, 2014; Spalding *et al.*, 2007). Sin embargo, estas regionalizaciones se han generado a partir de los patrones de distribución y afinidades taxonómicas principalmente de crustáceos, moluscos o peces (Paz-Ríos *et al.*, 2021; Robertson and Cramer, 2014), por lo que muy probablemente el patrón biogeográfico de grupos taxonómicos sésiles, como en el caso de las esponjas, no se acople al patrón biogeográfico de peces o crustáceos.

A escala global, se reconocen algunas provincias biogeográficas con una alta riqueza de esponjas como el Atlántico Occidental Tropical (TNWA), Atlántico Nororiental y el Indo-Pacifico

Occidental (van Soest *et al.*, 2012). Sin embargo, aunque el trabajo de van Soest *et al.* (2012) es una descripción sobre el conocimiento global de la riqueza de esponjas, basado principalmente en los registros de especie por provincias biogeográficas, no se ha realizado ningún análisis donde se describa la afinidad en relación a la diversidad taxonómica entre las ecorregiones marinas, lo cual permitiría una comprensión más detallada sobre la biogeografía de las esponjas a escala regional, así como comprender los posibles impulsores de los patrones de diversidad, como los filtros ambientales o procesos históricos.

Particularmente para la costa Atlántica de México, se han descrito 202 especies de esponjas de ecosistemas someros como arrecifes de coral, lagunas costeras o pastos marinos (subbmited Ugalde *et al.*, 2022). También se reconoce que los conjuntos de especies de los arrecifes el Sur del Golfo de México, no son un subconjunto de las especies de las esponjas presentes en el Caribe mexicano, ya que existe un alto recambio de especies longitudinal, generado principalmente por el gradiente ambiental de la región y los procesos ambientales y ecológicos a escala local (subbmited Ugalde *et al.*, 2022).Si bien la descripción de dichos patrones denota el alto recambio de especies de esponjas entre el Sur del Golfo de México y el Caribe mexicano, aún existen preguntas que no se han resuelto, como ¿qué tan similares taxonómicamente son los conjuntos de especies entra las ecorregiones cercanas? ¿las especies de esponjas de la región se encuentran acopladas a las provincias y ecorregiones descritas? ¿qué tan similares son los conjuntos de especies de la costa Atlántica de México a nivel taxonómico?

La costa Atlántica de México representa un modelo de análisis geográfico interesante debido a que se encuentra en una zona de convergencia de dos provincias biogeográficas; el Atlántico Occidental Tropical (TNWA) y Atlántico Occidental Templado (WTNA) (Robertson and Cramer, 2014; Spalding *et al.*, 2007). Esta zona de convergencia se encuentra en el Golfo de México (GoM), que es considerado un mar semi cerrado y cuya circulación se encuentra dominada por la corriente de Lazo originada en el estrecho de Yucatán y cuya particularidad son los giros de mesoescala que cruzan hasta el estrecho de Florida donde se genera la corriente del Golfo (McKinney *et al.*, 2021). En el GoM se distinguen dos ecorregiones, el Norte del GoM y el Sur del GoM las cuales presentan una diferencia en la temperatura superficial del agua durante el invierno de hasta 7 grados, además de reconocerse diferencias en la distribución de algunas especies de peces, que se han asociado a este gradiente ambiental (Wilkinson *et al.*, 2009).

Estas diferencias ambientales y biológicas han generado también que ambas ecorregiones se encuentren clasificadas dentro de diferentes provincias biogeográficas. Por un lado, el Norte del Golfo de México ha sido clasificado en la provincia biogeográfica del WTNA, junto con la ecorregión Carolineana. Mientras que el Sur del Golfo de México se encuentra clasificado dentro de la provincia del TNWA, donde se incluyen otras ocho ecorregiones: Caribe Occidental (WCAR), Florida (FLO), las Antillas Mayores (GRA), Bermudas, Bahamas, Sur y Suroeste del Caribe y Caribe Oriental. Ante la primicia de diferencias ambientales y de distribución de especies queda abierta la pregunta si también existirá una marcada diferencia en la estructura taxonómica de las especies de esponjas distribuidas en estas provincias biogeográficas. Actualmente, sólo se ha hecho un análisis de patrones de diversidad de esponjas de la clase Homoscleromorpha donde se incluyeron estas dos provincias biogeográficas (TNWA y WTNA). En este estudio se encontró que la ecorregión de las Antillas Mayores (GRA), presenta la mayor riqueza de especies (Domingos *et al.*, 2015). Sin embargo, los autores hacen hincapié en que los patrones que ellos describen se encuentran sesgados debido a las diferencias en el esfuerzo de muestreo en la región.

El objetivo de este trabajo será describir los patrones de diversidad taxonómica y sus promedios de distinción taxonómica respecto al conocimiento de especies de esponjas de las Clases Demospongiae, Homoscleromorpha y Calcarea, distribuidas en las provincias biogeográficas Atlántico Occidental Tropical (TNWA) y Atlántico Occidental Templado (WTNA). Además de evaluar la diversidad de esponjas arrecifales presentes en el Atlántico mexicano entre las subregiones del Sistema Arrecifal Veracruzano, Banco de Campeche y Caribe Mexicano, así como su relación con las ecorregiones de las dos provincias antes mencionadas.

MATERIAL Y MÉTODOS

El índice de diversidad taxonómica (Δ) y el promedio de distinción taxonómica (Δ +) propuestos por Clarke & Warwick (1998), capturan la estructura de dominancia y rareza de las especies en una muestra, pero en especial de la relación taxonómica de las especies. Por ejemplo, una comunidad tendrá mayor diversidad taxonómica si sus especies pertenecen equitativamente a distintos géneros, y más aún, si los géneros pertenecen a distintas familias, que en una situación donde las especies son congéneres y están relacionadas de manera cercana (Clarke and Warwick, 1999, 1998). Ambos índices pueden ser aliados para entender los cambios en la estructura taxonómica de las especies en una comunidad.

Para realizar el análisis el promedio de distinción taxonómica (Δ+) es necesario construir una matriz maestra de taxonomía (presencia/ausencia) donde se incluye el inventario de especies de esponjas de ecosistemas arrecifales reconocidas para la región. En este sentido se delimitó la región de interés a cuatro ecorregiones de la provincia Atlántico Occidental Tropical (TNWA), las cuales fueron: Sur del Golfo de México (SGOM), Florida (FLO), Caribe Noroccidental (WCAR) y las Antillas Mayores (GRA) (Figura. 4.1). Para la Provincia Atlántico Occidental Templado (WTNA) se incluyeron sus dos ecorregiones, el Norte del Golfo de México, NGM) y la Carolineana (CARO) (Figura 4.1). Cabe señalar que, si bien en la ecorregión CARO no existen arrecifes de coral, se incluyó esta ecorregión para fines comparativos en los análisis estadísticos.

Para generar la matriz maestra de taxonomía se utilizó la matriz de datos de esponjas del Atlántico Tropical Occidental de Díaz(2012), la cual contiene información histórica de las esponjas registradas en la región hasta el año 2010 en arrecifes coralinos someros y en los manglares del Caribe . De esta matriz se extrajo la información referente a especies que se distribuyeran en arrecifes de coral de las ecorregiones antes mencionadas. Para complementar esta matriz se revisaron los trabajos con registros de esponjas publicados en revistas indexadas en el periodo 2010-2022. La información referente a la costa Atlántica mexicana fue complementada con la información generada por este trabajo para el sur del Golfo de México (Ugalde *et al.*, 2021a), y Caribe Mexicano (Ugalde *et al* in prep). Del inventario de especies resultante se revisaron sinonimias, su distribución geográfica y distribución batimétrica removiendo aquellas especies que tuvieran una distribución mayor a los 50. Para realizar esta curación de la matriz se utilizó como referencia la base de datos mundial de esponjas *World Porifera Database* (de Voogd *et al.*, 2022). Los niveles taxonómicos utilizados para el análisis

fueron: especie, género, familia, orden y clase. La diversidad de cada ecorregión se consideró como el número total de especies registradas en cada ecorregión o subregión.



Figura 4.1. Ecorregiones de interés para el análisis de distinción taxonómica: Caroliniana (CARO), Florida (FLO), Norte del Golfo de México (NGM), Sur del Golfo de México (SGOM), Caribe Occidental (WCAR) y Antillas Mayores (GRA).

Se sometió a prueba la hipótesis nula de que el promedio en distinción taxonómica de los inventarios locales de especies de esponjas fuera el esperado para la ecorregión o subregión usando la prueba estadística basada en permutaciones Taxonomic Distinctness Test (TAXDTEST). Cualquier desviación de la distinción taxonómica de cada localidad respecto de lo esperado dada la riqueza de especies indicaría una estructura taxonómica distinta a la que predice el inventario regional. Las expectativas de representatividad se construyeron sobre la base de 9999 muestreos aleatorios para cada valor de riqueza. Se estimó Δ + para cada caso, y el 5% de valores extremos en ambas colas de la distribución sirvió como referencia para descartar la hipótesis nula de representatividad taxonómica para el valor registrado de Δ +.

Este mismo procedimiento fue repetido, pero ahora para evaluar los inventarios de especies de cada ecorregión y reconocer si los inventarios se encuentran o no dentro de lo esperado para las provincias. Además, para identificar la relación de los conjuntos de especies entre las ecorregiones, se analizó la matriz de presencia/ausencia de especies por medio del índice de Sørensen, y se exploró por medio de un nMDS. Los análisis estadísticos se realizarán con PRIMER v7 & PERMANOVA+ (Clarke *et al.*, 2014). Para reconocer sí la estructura taxonómica de las esponjas entre las ecorregiones estaba dominada por el recambio de especies o la anidación, la diversidad beta fue descompuesta en sus componentes según lo propuesto por Baselga (Baselga, 2010; Baselga and Orme, 2012), utilizando la paquetería BETAPART para el programa estadístico R.

RESULTADOS

En total se registró un inventario de 498 especies de esponjas, pertenecientes a 183 generos, 84 familias, 23 órdenes de las clases Calcarea, Homoscleromorpha y Demospongiae (Anexo 2). La riqueza de especies registrada para la provincia Atlántico Occidental Templado (WTNA) fue de 132 especies, mientras que en la provincia Atlántico Occidental Tropical (TNWA) se registró una riqueza de 485 especies.

ESTRUCTURA TAXONÓMICA DE LAS ESPONJAS DEL ATLÁNTICO OCCIDENTAL TEMPLADO Y TROPICAL

Al analizar la riqueza de especies de esponjas por ecorregión de las provincias biogeográficas Atlántico Occidental templado y Tropical, se encontró que la ecorregión del WCAR de la provincia TNWA presenta la riqueza más alta de especies (313 spp). Por otra parte, como era de esperarse debido a la falta de arrecifes de coral en la ecorregión, la menor riqueza (26 spp) se presentó en la ecorregión CARO de la provincia WTNA. El resto de las ecorregiones presentaron riquezas entre 97 y 249 especies (Tabla 4.1).

El número de especies por Orden taxonómico fue diferente para cada ecorregión, pero en general Poecilosclerida (93 ssp), Haplosclerida (85 spp), Tetractinellida (73 spp), Clionaida (34 spp) y Axinellida (31 spp) fueron los órdenes que tuvieron el mayor número de especies por ecorregión (Figura 4.3a). Destacando a la ecorregión WCAR, que presenta la alta riqueza de especies pertenecientes a los órdenes Haplosclerida (63 spp) y Poecilosclerida (61 spp), mientras que la ecorregión GRA presenta una alta riqueza de especies pertenecientes al Orden Tetractinellida (47 spp) (Figura 4.3a).



Figura 4.2. Diagrama de sombras a) Número de especies pertenecientes a los 23 Ordenes registrados en las ecorregiones analizadas; b) Número de especies pertenecientes a las 50 familias más importantes de las ecorregiones analizadas.
La clasificación por familias sigue el mismo patrón, es decir las familias con un mayor número de especies pertenecen a los órdenes más diversos, siendo la familia Microcionidae (Poecilosclerida, 28 spp), Clionaidae (Clionaida, 23 spp), Niphatidae, Chalinidae (Haplosclerida, 22 y 20 spp), Coelosphaeridae (Poecilosclerida, 19 spp), Petrosiidae (Haplosclerida, 17 spp) (Figura 4.3b).

Se encontró que, de las 498 especies registradas en todas las ecorregiones analizadas, 193 (38%) especies fueron registradas sólo en una de las 9 ecorregiones analizadas, y 220 especies (45%) fueron registradas en entre 2 y 5 ecorregiones. Tan sólo cuatro especies se distribuyen en todas ellas (*Cinachyrella kuekenthali, Dragmacidon reticulatum, Ircinia campana, Niphates erecta*). Sin embargo, si no se considera a la ecorregión CARO para este análisis, la lista de especies compartidas entre las ecorregiones restantes aumenta a 27 (5%) especies que se distribuyen a lo largo del gradiente analizado (*Agelas clathrodes, Agelas dispar, Aiolochroia crassa, Amphimedon compressa, Amphimedon viridis, Aplysina fistularis, Aplysina fulva, Axinella corrugata, Callyspongia (Cladochalina) aculeata, Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armigera, Chondrilla caribensis, Cliona varians, Desmapsamma anchorata, Dysidea etheria, Geodia gibberosa, lotrochota birotulata, Ircinia felix, Ircinia strobilina, Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) isodictyalis, Monanchora arbuscula, Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima, Mycale (Mycale) laevis, Neofibularia nolitangere, Niphates digitalis, Spirastrella coccinea, Tedania (Tedania) ignis, Verongula rigida, Xestospongia muta).*

Como era de esperarse, al analizar las ecorregiones por sus especies compartidas, se encontró que las ecorregiones cercanas son las que comparten un mayor número de especies entre si (Tabla 4.1). En este sentido, las ecorregiones WCAR y GRA comparten 170 especies; WCAR y SGM comparten 139 especies; FLO y NGM comparten 108 especies; GRA y SGM comparten 112 especies; FLO y GRA comparten 103 especies.

La ecorregión Caroliniana (CARO), la cual comparte provincia biogeográfica con NGM, comparte 18 especies de las 26 especies registradas en la ecorregión. Y en general comparte entre 7 y 16 especies con el resto de las ecorregiones (Tabla 4.1). De las especies presentes en la ecorregión CARO sólo dos especies *Raspailia (Raspaxilla) pearsei* y *Stelletta carolinensis* fueron exclusivas para esta ecorregión, el resto de las especies se podrían considerar como especies comunes en arrecifes de coral o sustratos duros (Anexo 2).

Para el caso particular de la ecorregión de Florida y el Norte del Golfo de México, ecorregiones que se encuentran agrupadas en provincias distintas, compartieron 106 especies

(Tabla 4.1), de las cuales 17 especies fueron exclusivas de estas dos ecorregiones (Antho (Acarnia) penneyi, Ascaltis agassizii, Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) fistula, Craniella insidiosa, Daedalopelta nodosa, Leucosolenia horrida, Lissodendoryx (Ectyodoryx) acanthostylota, Paratimea galaxa, Petrosia (Petrosia) cretácea, Placospongia cristata, Ptilocaulis aulopora, Spongia (Spongia) gramínea, Spongia (Spongia) tampa, Stellitethya repens, Tetilla sigmophora, Xestospongia menzeli).

| | CARO | NGM | SGM_NCY | SGM_VN | SGM | WCARM | FLO | GRA | WCAR |
|---------|------|-----|---------|--------|-----|-------|-----|-----|------|
| CARO | 26 | 106 | 139 | 90 | 165 | 120 | 136 | 237 | 299 |
| NGM | 18 | 124 | 95 | 57 | 111 | 70 | 42 | 165 | 241 |
| SGM_NCY | 16 | 60 | 155 | 44 | 39 | 47 | 82 | 160 | 201 |
| SGM_VN | 7 | 40 | 53 | 97 | 90 | 66 | 99 | 187 | 235 |
| SGM | 16 | 70 | 142 | 91 | 181 | 34 | 67 | 138 | 177 |
| WCARM | 10 | 60 | 83 | 64 | 96 | 130 | 81 | 164 | 183 |
| FLO | 16 | 106 | 66 | 49 | 81 | 67 | 148 | 151 | 224 |
| GRA | 12 | 84 | 89 | 62 | 111 | 85 | 98 | 249 | 154 |
| WCAR | 14 | 72 | 112 | 78 | 136 | 130 | 89 | 159 | 313 |

Tabla 4.1. Número de especies compartidas y no compartidas entre ecorregiones. Número de especies compartidas (triangulo inferior, gris oscuro). Número de especies no compartidas (triangulo superior, gris claro e itálicas). Número de especies registrado en cada ecorregión en se muestran en la diagonal.

En cuanto al análisis del promedio de distinción taxonómica, se encontró que los promedios más altos se registraron en las ecorregiones NGM, seguida por las ecorregiones FLO y WCAR (Tabla 4.2, Figura 4.5). Mientras que los valores más bajos del promedio de distinción taxonómica (Tabla 4.2, Figura 4.5) se presentaron en las ecorregiones CARO, y SGM (en ambas porciones NCY y VN). Al analizar los valores del promedio distinción taxonómica en el gráfico de embudo (*funnel plot*) (Figura 4.5), se observa que las ecorregiones CARO y SGM (incluidas también sus porciones NCY y VN), se encuentran por debajo de los valores mínimos de distinción taxonómica que se esperarían al azar para la región, mientras que el resto de las ecorregiones caen dentro del área de promedio de distinción taxonómica que se esperaría para la región.

Al explorar la similitud en la composición de especies de las ecorregiones examinadas se encontró la formación de dos grupos principalmente, con un 80% de similitud (Figura 4.4). El primer grupo está formado por las ecorregiones, FLO, NGM y SGM (y su porción NCY), las cuales, aunque pertenecen a provincias distintas mostraron similitud en la estructura taxonómica de especies de esponjas que ocurren en dichas ecorregiones. Además, en este grupo también se agregó la porción mexicana del WCAR, es decir que la composición de especies de esta subregión es similar a las especies del SGM, FLO y NGM.

Mientras que el segundo grupo está formado por las ecorregiones WCAR y GRA (Figura 4.4), las cuales están agrupadas en la provincia del Atlántico Occidental Tropical (TNWA). Como era de esperarse la ecorregión Caroliniana de la provincia Atlántico Occidental Templado (WTNA) no se agrupo con ninguna otra ecorregión.

| | - | • | • |
|---------|-----|-------|--------|
| | S | Δ+ | Λ+ |
| CARO | 26 | 72.74 | 277.12 |
| NGM | 124 | 79.18 | 133.04 |
| FLO | 148 | 78.93 | 134.29 |
| SGM_NCY | 155 | 77.74 | 123.96 |
| SGM_VN | 97 | 76.68 | 131.44 |
| SGM | 181 | 77.61 | 120.12 |
| WCARM | 130 | 78.6 | 135.82 |
| WCAR | 313 | 78.77 | 136.93 |
| GRA | 249 | 78.34 | 117.4 |

Tabla 4.2. Número de especies por ecorregión (S), así como su valor promedio de distinción taxonómica $(\Delta +)$ y variación de distinción taxonómica $(\Lambda +)$.



Figura 4.3. Escalamiento multidimensional no métrico (nMDS) sobre la similitud en la composición de especies entre ecorregiones de las provincias Atlántico Occidental Templado (WTNA) y el Atlántico Occidental Tropical (TNWA). El coeficiente de similitud usado fue el de Sorensen.

El análisis de descomposición de la diversidad beta entre las ecorregiones muestra un patrón de recambio de especies (SIM 0.58), y una baja perdida o anidación de especies (SNE 0.19) (Figura 4.6). De manera particular, la diversidad beta de la provincia del Atlántico Templado Occidental (WTWA) presenta valores similares de recambio y anidación de especies. Mientras que la diversidad beta en la provincia Atlántico Tropical Occidental (TNWA) estuvo dominando por el recambio de especies (Figura 4.6).



Figura 4.4. Análisis de los componentes de diversidad beta entre las provincias geográficas Atlántico Occidental Templado (WTWA), Atlántico Tropical Occidental (TNWA) y diversidad beta total entre las ecorregiones. Componentes de diversidad beta: SIM= recambio, SNE= anidación.



Figura 4.5. a) Promedio de distinción taxonómica (Δ +) y b) variación de la distinción taxonómica promedio (Λ +) en comparación con el número de especies para cada una de los arrecifes del área de estudio. La línea punteada central representa el promedio general de distinción taxonómica, y las líneas solidas los intervalos de confianza del 95%.

DISCUSIÓN

Las provincias biogeográficas se encuentran definidas por la presencia de especies que tienen cierta cohesión a lo largo del tiempo evolutivo, en las cuales se esperaría cierto nivel de endemismos como resultado del aislamiento, o ciertas características abióticas (corrientes, salinidad, suministro de nutrientes, geomorfología) que delimitan las fronteras entre las provincias (Spalding et al., 2007). Por lo que para poder delimitar regiones o provincias biogeográficas se requiere de una comprensión profunda de los organismos que las habitan, incluyendo aspectos como la taxonomía, biología, ecología y distribución de los grupos de especies. Conforme se va aumentando el conocimiento sobre las especies, los límites de las provincias y regiones biogeográficas pueden ir cambiando. Si bien para algunos grupos como peces, crustáceos o moluscos existe un gran número de estudios dedicados a entender sus patrones biogeográficos, y con los cuales se han delimitado las provincias o regiones biogeográficas, existen otros grupos como las esponjas que debido a su complejidad para su identificación se ha generado un sesgo en la generación de conocimiento sobre su distribución y diversidad, por lo que también es difícil abordar la descripción de sus patrones biogeográficos. En este estudio analizamos las similitudes en la diversidad taxonómica de las esponjas asociadas a los sistemas arrecifales en dos provincias biogeográficas: el Atlántico Occidental Templado y el Atlántico Occidental Tropical; cuyo límite de ambas provincias se encuentra en el Golfo de México (GoM). Esto con el objetivo de distinguir algún patrón de diversidad taxonómica que permitiese establecer hipótesis respecto a los patrones biogeográficos de las esponjas en el Atlántico tropical.

Los principales resultados de este análisis fueron el registro de una alta riqueza de 498 especies de tres clases, en que la provincia Tropical del Atlántico alberga el mayor número de especies. Sin embargo, este resultado puede estar influenciado por la extensión geográfica de las provincias analizadas. Por un lado, el Atlántico Occidental Templado (WTNA) sólo tiene dos ecorregiones, el Norte del Golfo de México (NGM) y Carolineana (CARO), en comparación con la provincia del Atlántico Occidental Tropical (TNWA), de las cuales se analizaron cuatro de las ocho ecorregiones que la componen. Por lo que, al tener una mayor extensión geográfica, representa también una mayor diversidad de hábitats, productividad primaria más alta, y como consecuencia una mayor fuente de alimento para las esponjas (Wulff 2005; Bell *et al.* 2015). Y, por otra parte, la provincia WTNA, sólo tiene arrecifes de coral en una de sus dos ecorregiones, el NGM. A diferencia de la provincia TNWA, en cuyas ecorregiones se distribuyen la mayoría de los arrecifes coralinos del Atlántico Oriental, lo que en consecuencia generá una mayor diversidad de especies por la alta complejidad ambiental, en comparación con las regiones con arrecifes menos desarrollados o ausentes.

Las diferencias ambientales entre las provincias, principalmente el gradiente de temperatura, en un factor limitante para el desarrollo de arrecifes de coral en latitudes más altas. Se ha reconocido que la distribución de las esponjas en el Atlántico tropical es altamente variable y depende de numerosos factores ambientales como la temperatura del agua, la salinidad y la disponibilidad de nutrientes principalmente (Wulff 2005; Bell *et al.* 2015). Este gradiente ambiental representa un filtro para las especies, generando una baja afinidad taxonómica entre ecorregiones que están cercanas, como el caso de la ecorregión CARO, que fue la ecorregión con la riqueza de especies más baja, y además una baja diversidad taxonómica.

Se encontró una la alta diversidad taxonómica en el resto de las ecorregiones analizadas, las cuales en su mayoría se encuentran dentro de los valores esperados del promedio de distinción taxonómica de la región dadas sus riquezas locales, además de una alta afinidad entre las ecorregiones, principalmente de aquellas que pertenecen a provincias biogeográficas distintas como es el caso de la ecorregión NGM, FLO y SGM. Como se ha mencionado anteriormente, se distingue un gradiente de temperatura durante el invierno entre las ecorregiones Norte y Sur del GoM (Wilkinson *et al.*, 2009), por lo que se esperaba encontrar una diferencia en la estructura taxonómica de las especies de esponjas como resultado del gradiente ambiental. Sin embargo, nuestros resultados mostraron que las ecorregiones NGM, SGM y FLO presentan una similitud del 80% en cuanto a su estructura taxonómica de especies de esponjas. Se destaca que la ecorregión NGM presenta una elevada amplitud taxonómica, es decir que las especies presentes en esta ecorregión pertenecen a familias o géneros distintos a los de las otras ecorregiones. Por otro lado, aunque las ecorregiones WCAR y GRA forman un grupo independiente, todas las ecorregiones analizadas a excepción de la CARO presentan un 60% similitud en su estructura taxonómico. Esto indica una alta afinidad taxonómica entre las ecorregiones analizadas independientemente de la provincia biogeográfica. Esta alta afinidad taxonómica entre las especies de la ecorregión NGOM y el resto de las ecorregiones de la provincia TNWA, refleja una profunda conexión en cuanto a sus características ecológicas y ambientales.

El patrón de diversidad beta de las especies de esponjas que se observó en las ecorregiones biogeográficas analizadas, estuvo dominada por el componente de remplazo de especies y no por el anidamiento. Este patrón puede ser analizado desde diferentes factores a escala regional y local. A nivel regional, se puede reconocer una alta heterogeneidad ambiental entre las ecorregiones analizadas, el cual es asumido como un proceso primario que limita la distribución de las especies debido principalmente a los límites de tolerancia de cada especie a los factores ambientales, actuando como un filtro de especies (MacArthur and Levins, 1967; Vallée *et al.*, 2019). A escala local se ha reconocido que el patrón de diversidad beta con una mayor contribución del componente de reemplazo de especies de esponjas indica que los factores ambientales locales tienen un gran impacto en el establecimiento de los conjuntos de especies de esponjas. Esta variación ambiental local minimiza la influencia de otros factores que actúan a escalas espaciales más amplias, lo cual tiene repercusión en los patrones de diversidad de esponjas a escala regional (conclusión derivada del Capítulo 3).

En general, se detectó una alta afinidad taxonómica entre las regiones analizadas, aunque con una alta tasa (38%) de especies que pueden considerarse endémicas, al ser registradas solamente en una de las ecorregiones analizadas. Esto puede estar asociado a que el tiempo de vida de los gametos y las larvas de la mayoría de las esponjas son relativamente cortos, de entre 24 y 72 horas (Maldonado, 2006), limitando el potencial de dispersión, generando que las poblaciones de esponjas mantengan un flujo genético bajo, lo que da lugar a una alta diferenciación genética. Esto significa que las esponjas son particularmente vulnerables a los procesos de especiación (Erwin and Thacker, 2007), lo que puede explicar por qué hay altos niveles de endemismo en las poblaciones regionales.

CONCLUSIONES GENERALES

A continuación, se describen las principales conclusiones desprendidas de los tres capitulos que comprenden este trabajo.

- Despues de la revisión de literatura y de especiemenes recolectados en diferentes localidades de la costa Atlantica de México, se reconoce una alta diversidad de especies, con por lo menos 202 especies registradas, este trabajo incremento un 14% el conocimiento de la diversidad de esponjas de esta región.
- La riqueza de especies en la costa Atlántica de México podría incrementarse al estudiar otras áreas, como las zonas de manglar, pastos marinos, así como hábitats más crípticos de los arrecifes de coral.
- Los resultados de este trabajo destacan que procesos no estocásticos (interacciones biológicas) y factores ambientales que operan a escalas espaciales locales (hidrodinámica local y geomorfología) son más críticas para mantener los conjuntos de especies de esponjas en la actualidad, en comparación con los procesos que operan en escalas espaciales más grandes (dispersión de larvas, corrientes oceanográficas e historia geológica).
- No sé detectó un gradiente en la diversidad de esponjas de la costa Atlántica de México, al contrario, se encontró un patrón de diversidad beta que fue dominado por el remplazo o rotación de especies también, lo cual sugiere que los filtros ambientales a escala local tienen un efecto fuerte para el establecimiento y desarrollo de la comunidad de esponjas.
- La alta rotación de especies encontradas en la subregión NCY denota la importancia de los arrecifes de esa subregión como una zona de transición de especies de esponjas entre la subregión WCAR y las aguas más templadas de la subregión VN, debido principalmente al gradiente ambiental.
- Los hallazgos de este trabajo resaltan la relevancia de los procesos a nivel local para mantener patrones regionales que exhiben una diversidad gamma elevada. La

diversidad de esponjas no se debe a la diversidad regional, sino a la heterogeneidad ambiental significativa en la escala local.

 Se destaca la alta afinidad taxonómica entre las ecorregiones NGM, SGM, FLO, WCAR y GRA, aun y cuando la ecorregión NGM pertenece a otra provincia biogeográfica. Lo cual supone que esta ecorregión podría de ser reclasificada a la provincia Templada del Atlántico, sin embargo, otras comunidades deberían de ser analizadas para poder hacer esta reclasificación.

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ANEXO I - AN UPDATE ON THE DIVERSITY OF MARINE SPONGES IN THE SOUTHERN GULF OF MEXICO CORAL REEFS







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ZOOTAXA



An update on the diversity of marine sponges in the southern Gulf of Mexico coral reefs

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| Ageus wiedenmayeri Aicolado, 1964 |
| Canus Brageharita Tangant 1802 |
| Prosubaritas carriahowansis Piitzler Piantoni van Soast & Díaz 2014 |
| Prosuberues curriedowensis Kutzler, Plantoni, van Soest & Diaz, 2014 |
| Cidei Axinemida Levi, 1955 |
| Converse Fature Laria Topsont 1021 |
| <i>Ectyoplasia</i> Topsent, 1951 |
| Ectyopiusiu jerox (Duchassanig & Michelotti, 1004) |
| Converse Dragmacidon Hollmonn 1017 |
| Dragmacidon raticulatum (Pidley & Dendy 1886) |
| Ganus Ptilogaulis Carter 1883 |
| Ptilocaulis walnersii (Duchassaing & Michelotti 1864) |
| Family Heteroxyidae Dendy 1005 |
| Genus Myrmekioderma Ehlers 1870 |
| Myrmekioderma rea (de Laubenfels 1934) |
| Order Biemnida Morrow 2013 |
| Family Riemnidae Hentschel 1923 |
| Genus Neofibularia Hechtel 1965 |
| Neofibularia nolitangere (Duchassaing & Michelotti 1864) |
| Order Bubarida Morrow & Cárdenas. 2015. |
| Family Desmanthidae Topsent, 1893 |
| Genus <i>Desmanthus</i> Topsent, 1893. |
| Desmanthus meandroides van Soest & Haidu. 2000 |
| Order Clionaida Morrow & Cárdenas, 2015. |
| Family Clionaidae d'Orbigny, 1851 |
| Genus <i>Cliona</i> Grant, 1826 |
| <i>Cliona aprica</i> Pang, 1973 |
| Cliona dioryssa (de Laubenfels, 1950) |
| Cliona flavifodina Rützler, 1974 |
| Cliona varians (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) |
| Family Spirastrellidae Ridley & Dendy, 1886 |
| Genus <i>Spirastrella</i> Schmidt, 1868 |
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| Spirastrella mollis Verrill, 1907 |
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| Placospongia ruetzleri van Soest, 2017 |
| Order Haplosclerida Topsent, 1928 |
| Family Callyspongiidae de Laubenfels, 1936 |
| Genus <i>Callyspongia</i> Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 |
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| Chondrilla caribensis Rützler, Duran & Piantoni, 2007 | 92 |
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Abstract

Until now, 127 species of marine sponges have been recorded in the southern Gulf of Mexico (SGoM). In this study, we describe the sponge fauna recorded on 16 coral reefs of the SGoM, defined as the Mexican waters of the Gulf of Mexico (GoM), during a period from 2005 to 2019. We report 80 sponge species, including 34 first geographic records for the southern GoM region. The latter are fully described and illustrated, taking into account 24 that represent new records for the GoM: *Agelas conifera, Agelas sventres, Agelas wiedenmayeri, Prosuberites carriebowensis, Desmanthus meandroides, Cliona aprica, Cliona dioryssa, Placospongia ruetzleri, Haliclona (Gellius) megasclera, Haliclona (Reniera) aff. portroyalensis, Neopetrosia proxima, Xestospongia arenosa, Calyx podatypa, Shiphonodictyon xamaycaense, Acarnus innominatus, Iotrochota arenosa, Polymastia tenax, Svenzea cristinae, Svenzea flava, Svenzea tubulosa, Svenzea zeai, Timea stenosclera, Stellettinopsis megastylifera, Suberea flavolivescens. The present work highlights the understimated and remarkable diversity of reef-associated sponges within the Campeche Bank Coral reef systems. Present work data was compiled with existing published information to produce an updated list of 161 known sponges in the southern GoM.*

Key words: Campeche Bank Reefs, Veracruz Reefs, Porifera, Gulf of Mexico marine biodiversity, Biogeography, Tropical Northwestern Atlantic (TNwA)

Introduction

The sponge fauna in the Gulf of Mexico (GoM) has been studied since the 19th century, with the work of European (Schmidt—German, Carter—British, Topsent—French) and American (Hyatt, de Laubenfels & Hartman) naturalists that took part or received biological material from marine expeditions and surveys that used dredging and other fishing methods (see historical review in Rützler *et al.* 2009). However, the North part of the GoM, comprising the coast of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, has been historically better studied than the south part of the GoM, defined herein as Mexico's Economic Exclusive Zone within the GoM. For most of the 20th century, knowledge of the sponge fauna was focused on defining and understanding the commercial sponges that were dominant in the Florida Keys (Smith 1954, de Laubenfels & Storr 1958). With the development of new techniques such as SCUBA (self-contained underwater breathing apparatus) and underwater photography tools, the taxonomic field had a momentum of growth. The uprise of a new generation of spongiologists dedicated to the study of Caribbean marine sponges as well, brought invaluable contributions to the taxonomy of sponges, for example, van Soest (2009), Rützler *et al.* (2014), Gómez (2014), Ugalde *et al.* (2015).

It was only in the middle of the 1970s, that a Mexican biologist, Dr. Gerardo Green Macías (born in 1946, deceased in 1986), started a detailed survey on the diversity of marine sponges at the Veracruz Reef System, on La Blanquilla reef (Green 1977; Green et al. 1986). The Veracruz Reef System (sometimes herein referred to as Veracruz reefs) is located in the Veracruz State of Mexico at the east part of the GoM, integrated by islands, islets, and twenty-three reefs that form a submarine mountain range located in the inner portion of the continental shelf (Horta-Puga et al. 2015). In the Veracruz Reef System, Green's collection sites became the foremost spot for sponge research due to the reefs' proximity to the coast. Consequently, many other surveys were performed in these reefs, such as Gómez (2002, 2007, 2011, 2014), and furthermore, at the Tuxpan reef System in the north of Veracruz State, González-Gándara et al. (2009), and recently De la Cruz-Francisco & Gónzalez-Gónzalez (2016) and De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez (2016). On the other hand, the Campeche Bank that is located at the southeast GoM is characterized by an extensive continental shelf with scattered emerged and submerged reefs, where the sponge diversity has been less explored due to the difficulty of reaching the offshore reefs, which are between 30 to 160 km off the coast. Some publications describing the richness of poriferans in the region include Patricia Gómez's research: the first checklist of species in the SGoM and Caribbean (Gómez 2002), followed by the description of the new genus; Yucatania and species Yucatania clavus (Gómez 2006), and the revision of the genus Clathria Schmidt, 1862 (Gómez 2014). Ugalde et al. (2015) recently described new records of sponges from the GoM at Alacranes reef and Sisal banks.

Rützler *et al.* (2009) integrated the first checklist of sponges from the GoM, based on information from both previous and recent published literature, from species that inhabit both shallow and deep environments, all summing up to 339 species belonging to the four classes. Although this revision has some issues related to the inclusion of problematic species, Rützler *et al.* (2009) remains the new, uncontested starting point for the knowledge compilation on the GoM's marine sponge fauna richness and distribution. Nevertheless, some gaps remain in the knowledge of Porifera's diversity in the GoM, particularly the undersampled SGoM. The present work aims to update the species richness of sponges in the GoM, with the description of species recorded for the first time in the region; and provide the current list of species registered in the SGoM.

Material and method

The GoM has been divided into many different regions since the early days of Briggs' biogeographic work (1974). Recently, Felder & Camp (2009) proposed eight pragmatic geometric divisions used in that extensive and comprehensive review of the GoM's marine diversity, including sponges. Robertson & Cramer (2014) proposed another finer division of the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico that uses 45 sections of the continental and insular shelves with boundaries between those sections based on environmental discontinuities. However, the ever more used regionalization of the GoM follows the Wilkinson *et al.* (2009) marine ecoregions; based on Spalding *et al.* (2007); 'Marine Ecoregions of the World'. Although the present work in the SGoM region is essentially included inside the Wilkinson (2009) "south of GoM" ecoregion, we prefer to define it herein as Mexico's Economic Exclusive Zone within the GoM.

The specimens were collected in 16 coral reefs and one coastal lagoon yielding up to 196 sampling locations in the southern GoM (Fig. 1). Field collection occurred from 2005 to 2019 and involved SCUBA diving, free diving, and trawling in some cruises, within a depth range between 0.5 to 42 m. A total of 250 specimens were reviewed. The specimens were fixed in ethanol 90% and finally preserved in ethanol 70%. The complete dataset of the specimens' information may be consulted in the OBIS portal (https://www.obis.org/dataset/5acccdb9-8230-4ec7-bea0-5bf3b0ce9d70) or at Zenodo dataset (https://zenodo.org/record/4563206#.YL_2-Uxv82w, Ugalde *et al.*, 2021).

All the specimens were deposited in the Porifera collection "Colección Nacional del Phylum Porifera "Gerardo Green" (CNPGG), at the Instituto de Ciencias del Mar y Limnología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (Mexico City, Mexico). The slides of dissociated spicules and skeletal structures were made according to usual procedures, including boiling with nitric acid and manual sectioning (free-hand cut) (Hajdu *et al.* 2011) and were analyzed with a standard light microscope and also deposited at the CNPGG. The measurement of spicules was limited to fifteen spicules of each size class. Measurements are presented in the format minimum–average (Standard

Deviation) -maximum length/minimum-average (Standard Deviation) -maximum thickness, unless stated otherwise. All specimens were identified to species level.

The classification used in this manuscript follows the World Porifera Database (WPD) (van Soest *et al.* 2021). The higher taxa are presented in alphabetical order. Within each higher taxon, lower taxa are likewise presented in alphabetical order. The species' descriptions follows the next sequence: affiliation, name, synonymy, type locality, material examined, description, skeleton, spicules (if applicable), distribution, and remarks. The synonymies cited here are based on compiled references and those given by the WPD (van Soest *et al.* 2021).

The detailed description of the species (as mentioned above) was only made for the new records for the GoM. Those species that are well-known and described in other works, are not fully described here, but we have included references in each case to consult the species' description. Furthermore, illustrations of these species have been provided: specimen, skeleton, and spicules.



FIGURE 1. Map of sampling localities explored in this study in the southern Gulf of Mexico. The localities include 16 coral reefs from Veracruz to Campeche Bank and one station in the Chelem lagoon in Yucatan Peninsula.

Results

A total of 80 species were identified and illustrated (mostly on their body shape, their spicules and ectosomal and coanosomal skeleton), 39 of which are properly described. All belonging to 17 Orders, 38 Families, and 51 genera, from the Class Demospongiae Sollas 1885. Of this total, 34 are new records for the SGoM, of which 24 are new records for the entire GoM (Tables 6 and 7).

Systematics

Phylum Porifera Grant, 1836

Class Demospongiae Sollas, 1885

Subclass Heteroscleromorpha Cárdenas, Pérez & Boury-Esnault, 2012

Order Agelasida Hartman, 1980

Family Agelasidae Verrill, 1907

Genus Agelas Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Agelas clathrodes (Schmidt, 1870) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 2A–C, 16A

Synonymy and references: *Chalinopsis clathrodes* Schmidt (1870: 60), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 37), and Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 327); *Agelas clathrodes*: Gómez (2002: 74), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 37), Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 327), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11); *Agelas clathrodis* (misspelling): see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 37); *Ectyon flabeliformis, Ectyon sparsus* and *?Agelas rudis*, see references compiled in Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 327).

Type locality. Caracas (Venezuela).

Material examined. CNPGG-1927, Alacranes reef (22.58563°N, 89.74283°W), 23 m depth, coll. Nuno Simões, 23 August 2016; CNPGG-1972, Alacranes reef (22.57985°N, 89.76388°W), 11 m depth, coll. Nuno Simões, 24 August 2016; CNPGG-1573, Alacranes reef (22.4039°N, 89.7033°W), 12 m depth, coll. Nuno Simões, 24 August 2009; CNPGG-1573, Cayo Arenas reef (22.100°N, 91.4200°W), 42 m depth, coll. B/O Pelican, 06 June 2005; CNPGG-2296, CNPGG-2297, Banco Obispo Sur reef (20.49856°N, 92.2048°W), 17 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Green 1977: as *A. sparsus*; Gómez 2002, 2007, 2011; current records), the Bahamas, other Caribbean Sea countries to Brazil (Parra-Velandia *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. The identification of the examined material is carried out with confidence, following Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014), in which all morphological characters match. Apart from being a common species in the southern GoM region (Gómez 2002) and the Caribbean Sea (Zea 1987; Parra-Velandia *et al.* 2014). You may refer to these references for the description of the species.



FIGURE 2. *Agelas clathrodes* (Schmidt, 1870) (CNPGG-2297), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region, upper side; **C.** verticillated acanthostyles. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$; $C = 50 \mu m$.

For Mexico, *Agelas clathrodes* was first recorded in 1977 at La Blanquilla reef in Veracruz as *A. sparsus* by Green (1977), whose material was at the CNPGG, and it has been examined in the present study. We confirmed that Green's specimens belong to *A. clathrodes*. This species has been described in different reefs of Veracruz in the SGoM (Gómez 2007) and in the northern sector of the GoM (Storr 1976).

Agelas conifera (Schmidt, 1870)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 3A–D, 16B

Synonymy and references: *Chalinopsis conifera* Schmidt (1870: 60), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 37), and Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 318); *Agelas conifera*: Rützler *et al.* (2009: 302), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 38), Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 318), and Pérez *et al.* (2017:11).

Type locality. The Antilles.

Material examined. CNPGG-1696, Alacranes reef (22.45838°N, 89.61122°W), 12 m depth, coll. Nuno Simões, 10 August 2016; CNPGG-2364, CNPGG-2373, Banco Nuevo reef (20.54561°N, -91.87944°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 20 September 2017.

Description. Massive habit with lobate cone growths, sometimes club-shaped (Fig. 16B); the largest specimen measures up to $6.5 \times 3.5 \times 3$ cm. Surface smooth, slightly lobulated without visible pores. Oscules partially covered by a translucent membrane, up to 1 cm in diameter. Color *in vivo* greenish light-brown, and light brown after fixation. Consistency is slightly compressible.

Skeleton. A reticulation of spongin fibers; round meshes up to 600 μ m in diameter (Figs. 3A–B). Ascending fibers of 50–100 μ m in thickness, cored by several spicules. Uncored interconnecting fibers 30–50 μ m in thickness, echinated by few spicules (Fig. 3C).

Spicules. Megascleres: verticillate styles like acanthostyles in appearance (fully spined; Fig. 3D), slightly curved, in a large size range; $100-148 (40.6)-228/5-8.1 (1)-9.2 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Cuba (Alcolado 2002), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Parra-Velandia *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. The material examined follows all aspects of the original description, including those from Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014), who have extensively studied the present species. Except for the thinner acanthostyles in our specimens than those from Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014) (72–205/3–18 μ m), they are within the expected length range. The specimens of *Agelas conifera* recorded by Gómez (2002) correspond to *A. tubulata* confirmed by Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014), and we agree with that observation. *A. conifera* probably was recorded in Florida, but the references quoted by Rützler *et al.* (2009) are not published and are challenging to assess. Therefore, this is an official first record of *A. conifera* for the GoM, widening its distribution.



FIGURE 3. *Agelas conifera* (Schmidt, 1870) (CNPGG-2364), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** detail of the choanosomal region; **D.** verticillated acanthostyles. Scale bars: $A = 1000 \mu m$; $B-C = 200 \mu m$; $D = 100 \mu m$.

Agelas dispar Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 4A-C, 16C

Synonymy and references: *Agelas dispar* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 76), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 37), Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 306), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 77) and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11); *Agelas sparsus:* see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 38) and Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 306); *Agelas sparsus* var. *clavaeformis*, *Agelas dispar* f. *clavaeformis* and *Agelas* sp. 2, see references compiled in Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 306).

Type locality. The Virgin Islands.

Material examined. CNPGG-1309, CNPGG-1698, Alacranes reef (22.45838°N, 89.61122°W), 10–11 m depth, coll. Nuno Simões, 10 August 2016; CNPGG-2007, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20361°N, -91.97611°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2016.

Description. Massive habit to lobate (Fig. 16C), size 17×10 cm. Surface: smooth, pierced by pores. Oscules are round with slightly elevated collars, 0.5 to 1 cm in diameter. Brown color *in vivo*, and brown after preservation in ethanol. Consistency is elastic and compressible.

Skeleton. A regular reticulation of spongin fibers; with meshes 250 to 360 μ m wide (Fig. 4A). Primary fibers cored (1–9 spicules per cross-section) and echinated; diameters 50–120 μ m. Secondary fibers are not cored and less echinated than primaries, 30–70 μ m diameter, and some fibers are free of spicules (Fig. 4B).

Spicules. Megascleres: Acanthostyles are usually slightly curved 83-104(13.5) -130/3.9-5.4 (1.1) -7.8 µm (Fig. 4C).

Distribution. Mexico (current records), US (Florida)(de Laubenfels 1936), Bahamas, Cuba (Alcolado 1976), other countries in the Caribbean Sea to Brazil (Parra-Velandia *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. Our specimens correlate with those reported in the Caribbean region by Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014). Some records assigned to *A. dispar* need to be reassigned to their correct species, as in the case of *A. dispar* from Veracruz reported by Green *et al.* (1986). We examined the specimens of Green *et al.* (1986) deposited in the CNPGG, and they corresponded indeed to *A. sventres*, as has been reassigned by Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014). Therefore, our specimens are the first record of *Agelas dispar* in the SGoM.



FIGURE 4. *Agelas dispar* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-1345), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the choanosomal region; **C.** verticillated acanthostyles. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$; $C = 50 \mu m$.

Agelas schmidtii Wilson, 1902 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 5A–C, 16D

Synonymy and references: *Agelas schmidtii* Wilson (1902: 398), Alcolado (1976), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 39), Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 329), and Rützler *et al.* (2014: 77); *Agelas sp.*: Johnson (1971: 109); *Agelas sventres:* see reference compiled in Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 329); *Agelas schmidtii*: van Soest (2017: 117).

Type locality. Puerto Rico.

Material examined. CNPGG-2229, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°, N, -91.95997°W), 11.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 August 2018; CNPGG-2274, Triangulo Este reef (20.89765°, N, -92.24218°W), 12 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 11 September 2017; CNPGG–1347, Alacranes reef (22.45838°N, 89.61122°W), 20 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 12 August 2009; CNPGG-2353, Banco Obispo Sur reef (20.42059°, N, -92.22865°W), 12 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 14 September 2017; CNPGG-2426, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°, N, -96.06863°W), 9 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018.

Description. Tubiform (splitted or anastomosed) habit (Fig. 16D); largest specimen measures 5–18 cm long, 2 cm diameter, 0.15 cm thickness of the tube wall. Surface slightly rugose without visible pores. Oscules on top of the tube, up to 0.5 cm in diameter. Color *in vivo* bright orange, and after fixation light brown. The consistency is compressible and elastic.

Skeleton. A regular reticulation of spongin fibers; round meshes up to 700 μ m in diameter (Fig. 5A). Fibers with a regular diameter and without a distinction of primary and secondary fibers, ca. 50–80 μ m in thickness and cored by a few spicules; some fibers are free of spicules. Fibers near the ectosomal region echinated by a few spicules. Several sand grains and foreign debris on the surface and throughout the skeleton (Figs. 5A–B).

Spicules. Megascleres: verticillate styles like reduced acanthostyles (fully spined) (Fig. 5C), often straight and in an extensive size range; $80-152(63.5) - 250/5 - 8.8(2.6) - 12 \mu m$.



FIGURE 5. *Agelas schmidtii* Wilson, 1902 (CNPGG-2274), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** verticillated acanthostyles. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$; $C = 50 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), Cuba (Alcolado 1976), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, and Brazil (Parra-Velandia *et al.* 2014; van Soest 2017).

Remarks. Our specimens fit with the original description of *A. schmidtii* in Wilson (1902), which he mentions the presence of verticillate styles (i.e., verticillate acanthostyles) with 90–200/4–8 µm and a skeleton with horny reticulate fibers, sparsely echinated in the interior and more echinated near to the surface. However, the specimens analyzed here differ in color (i.e., bright red or bright orange) in comparison with Wilson's specimens who mentions "yellowish-brown, with a tinge of washed-out red here and there." Such color difference can be interpreted as intraspecific variation since Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014) have found specimens of *A. schmidtii* from the Bahamas, Barbados, Curaçao, and Jamaica (other Caribbean areas) with bright red or bright orange color too. The habit is also variable in *A. schmidtii*, since Wilson (1902) describes the sponge body as "elongated, tubular, with a few short branches" and Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014) have found specimens with the following shapes: small round, tapered finger (from Belize), minute open tubes (from Rosario Islands, Colombia) and rounded finger (the Bahamas). Some of these shapes were observed in our material as well as the variation of them, for instance: lobular with an aperture on the upper region (CNPGG-2229), short small open tubes (CNPGG-2353), larger repent tubes (CNPGG-2426).

Specimens from South America are reported in different localities from the northeast (off the coast), southeast (off the coast) and seamounts (Victória-Trindade Seamounts Chain), 20 m to 108 m depth, with ramose or reptant tubes and a few ramified, light or dark brown color, and verticillate acanthostyles with 120–210 µm (Muricy *et al.*

2006). Further, specimens from Potiguar Basin (northeast Brazil, ca. 50 m depth) are reported with an erect habit (tubular shape), light brown color, and verticillate acanthostyles with 74–197 μ m (Muricy *et al.* 2008).

The color of Brazilian specimens is nearest to the original description than our material's color and Parra-Velandia's *et al.* (2014) material. Besides, measurements of verticillate acanthostyles in our material (i.e., 80-250/5-12 µm), Parra-Velandia's *et al.* (2014) material (i.e., 43-210/2-13 µm), and Brazilian material (Muricy *et al.* 2008) are similar to the original description (Wilson 1902). However, our material and Parra-Velandia's *et al.* (2014) material have thicker verticillate acanthostyles. Unfortunately, the thickness of the verticillate acanthostyles of Brazilian material has not been reported (Muricy *et al.* 2006, 2008). Our study presents the first record of *A. schmidtii* for the GoM.

Agelas sventres Lehnert & van Soest, 1996

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 6A–D, 16E

Synonymy and references: *Agelas sventres* Lehnert & van Soest (1996:65); *Agelas sventres*: Muricy *et al.* (2011: 40), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 78), Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 334), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11); *Agelas clathrodes, Agelas dispar, ?Agelas dispar, ?Agelas sparsus* and *Agelas schmidtii:* see references compiled in Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 334).

Type locality. Jamaica.

Material examined. CNPGG-2442, Cabezo reef (19.05086°, N, -95.82388°W), 10.4 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018.

Description. Massive habit to lobed (Fig. 16E); size 3.4×2.3 cm. Surface smooth, irregular, but pierced by oval to round apertures, with aggregated pore areas. Oscules on the top of lobes. Orange color *in vivo*, beige after preserved in ethanol. Consistency is highly compressible.

Skeleton. A reticulation of spongin fibers conforming irregularly rounded meshes up to 435 μ m wide (Fig. 6A). Ascending fibers 100–150 μ m thick, cored by several spicules. Interconnecting fibers uncored 30–60 μ m thick. Fibers echinated by several spicules (Fig. 6B–C).

Spicules. Megascleres: verticillate acanthostyles (Fig. 6D), with a smooth tip, stout, slightly curved, in a large size range, 80-135.4 (32)-200/5-10.9 (2.9)-14 μ m.



FIGURE 6. *Agelas sventres* Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 (CNPGG-2442), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** detail of the choanosomal region; **D.** verticillated acanthostyles. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-C = 100 \mu m$; $D = 50 \mu m$

Distribution. Mexico (Green *et al.* 1986: as *Agelas dispar*; current records), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Parra-Velandia *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. Agelas sventres was reported initially in Jamaica (51.8 m depth), with an elongate habit (fingershaped), orange color, a trabeculate skeleton with ascending fibres cored by acanthostyles (*i.e.*, verticillate acantho-
styles), 75–160/7–16 μm (Lehnert & van Soest 1996). Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014) have widely studied *A. sventres* from different localities in the Caribbean region (Bahamas, Barbados, Curaçao, Venezuela, Jamaica, and San Andrés Island), at 5 to 35 m depth, and they have described massive-lobate specimens, which vary from an elongated ball form (finger shape) to irregular multilobate ball forms. Besides, Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014) have reported orange color (externally), trabecular skeleton (reticulate), and verticillate acanthostyles: 75–286/4–13 μm. Specimens in South America have only been recorded in northeastern Brazil, in Potiguar Basin, from ca. 50 m depth, with an erect habit (columnar and irregular to digitiform shape), bright orange to reddish-orange color, and verticillate acanthostyles: 86–189 μm (Muricy *et al.* 2008, 2011).

The morphological character in our specimens matches closely with the descriptions of Lehnert & van Soest (1996) and Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014), with a massive-lobate shape, orange color, reticulate skeleton with fibers cored by verticillate acanthostyles $80-200/5-14 \mu m$. Our description fits well in the known *A. sventres* variability, thus confirming our identification and the species' distribution in the region.

Agelas wiedenmayeri Alcolado, 1984

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 7A–D, 16F

Synonymy and references: *Agelas wiedenmayeri* Alcolado (1984: 11), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 40), Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 313), and Rützler *et al.* (2014: 78); *Agelas schmidtii*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 40), and Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 313); *?Agelas schmidtii*: see references compiled in Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 313); *?Agelas schmidtii*: see references compiled in Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014: 313).

Type locality. Cuba.

Material examined. CNPGG-1946, Alacranes reef (22.38333°N, 8963105°W), 12 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 23 June 2016; CNPGG-1973, Alacranes reef (22.36705°N, 89.67511°W), 16 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 25 June 2016; CNPGG-2476, Alacranes reef (22.36666°N, 89.66666°W), 4 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 23 May 2016.

Description. Erect tubular habit with cylindrical short and thick tubes in clusters (five tubes), raised from a common base (Fig. 16F); the size of tubes are 4–5 cm long, 1.5–3 cm in diameter, 0.25 cm the thickness of the tube wall. Surface smooth, without visible pores. Oscules of two types; large ones on the top of each tube, up to 2.5 cm diameter, and small oscules scattered on the external walls, up to 0.25 cm in diameter. Color *in vivo* reddish-brown, dark brown preserved in ethanol. The consistency is resilient and compressible.



FIGURE 7. *Agelas wiedenmayeri* Alcolado, 1984 (CNPGG-2476), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** detail of the choanosomal region; **D.** verticillated acanthostyles, arrow pointing to a juvenile form. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-C = 100 \mu m$; $D = 50 \mu m$.

Skeleton. A reticulation of spongin fibers forms regular and rounded meshes near the surface, up to 250 μ m wide (Fig. 7A). Toward the choanosomal region, meshes are more irregular and larger, up to 750 μ m wide (Fig.

7B). Ascending primary fibers are 50–80 μ m in diameter, cored by several spicules. Uncored interconnecting fibers and echinated, 30–50 μ m thick. Simultaneously, there are scattered spicules (Fig. 7C) and sediments throughout the skeleton (Fig. 7A–B).

Spicules. Megascleres: verticillate acanthostyles (Fig. 7D), slightly curved; 70–99.0 (14)–120/4–4.7 (0.4)–5 μ m.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Cuba (Alcolado 1984), Bahamas, other countries in the Caribbean Sea, and Brazil (Parra-Velandia *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. Parra-Velandia *et al.*(2014) have analyzed specimens of *A. wiedenmayeri* from several localities in the Caribbean (size range of verticillate styles, $97-227/5-15 \mu m$) and the Bahamas (size range of verticillate styles, $73-111/4-8 \mu m$). Our material has spicule measurements ($70-120/4-5 \mu m$.) close to the material described by Parra-Velandia *et al.* (2014) from the Bahamas. Up to now, *A. wiedenmayeri* has not been reported from the GoM. Thus this is the first record for the region.

Family Hymerhabdiidae Morrow, Picton, Erpenbeck, Boury-Esnault, Maggs & Allcock, 2012

Genus Prosuberites Topsent, 1893

Prosuberites carriebowensis Rützler, Piantoni, van Soest & Díaz, 2014 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 8A–B, 16G

Synonymy and references: *Prosuberites carriebowensis* Rützler *et al.* (2014: 41), and van Soest (2017: 120). **Type locality.** Belize

Material examined. CNPGG-2238, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.96221°N, -92.31128°W), 16 m depth, coll. Julio Duarte, 08 September 2017; CNPGG-2211, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20183°N, -91.97583°W), 6.9 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018.

Description. Thinly encrusting habit (Fig. 16G), the larger specimen measures $1.5 \times 0.8 \times 0.1$ cm. Surface irregular and hispid with elevated oscules, covered by a translucent membrane. Orange color *in vivo*, yellowish-orange preserved in ethanol. Consistency difficult to discern, highly delicate.

Skeleton. Hymedesmioid skeleton type, tylostyles arranged vertically with their heads positioned into the basal spongin plate—no ectosomal specialization (Fig. 8A).

Spicules. Megascleres: tylostyles in two size categories (Fig. 8B). Large tylostyles slightly curved to very curved shaft, with a small head, clearly set off, in a large size range, 350-880 (449.1)–1800/10-12.4 (2.5)– $18 \mu m$, tyle thickness 12-15.7 (2.6)– $20 \mu m$. Small tylostyles, also large, but slightly thicker than the previous category, 200-536.7 (241.6)–920/6-15.8 (4.1)– $20 \mu m$, tyle 9.6–20.6 (4.3)– $24 \mu m$ thick.



FIGURE 8. *Prosuberites carriebowensis* Rützler, Piantoni, van Soest & Díaz, 2014 (CNPGG-2238), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of hymedesmioid skeleton; **B.** large and small tylostyles. Scale bars: $A = 200 \mu m$; $B = 250 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Belize (Rützler et al. 2014).

Remarks. Our material shows similarities with the original description of *P. carriebowensis* by Rützler *et al.* (2014); *viz.*, thinly encrusting habit, irregular surface (slightly rugose) with dispersed and slightly elevated oscules, presence of translucent membrane over the surface, and orange color *in vivo*. However, the specimens described here have slightly larger and thinner tylostyles; viz., our material with $350-1800/10-18 \mu m$ (larger tylostyles) and $200-920/6-20 \mu m$ (small tylostyles) vs. material of Rützler *et al.* (2014) $240-840/15-30 \mu m$ (type I) and 230-1550/9-25 (type II). Besides, we observe a simple hymedesmioid architecture from most of our material's skeleton, while Rützler *et al.* (2014) have described bunches of tylostyles. This study presents the first record of *Prosuberites carriebowensis* for the GoM.

Order Axinellida Lévi, 1953

Family Raspailiidae Nardo, 1833

Genus Ectyoplasia Topsent, 1931

Ectyoplasia ferox (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 9A–E, 16H–I

Synonymy and references: *Amphimedon ferox* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 81); *Hymeniacidon amphilecta*: de Laubenfels (1936: 137); *Ectyoplasia ferox*: Gómez (2007: 59), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 140), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 299), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 149), and Rützler *et al.* (2014: 63); *Ectyoplasia ferox surgens*, see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 149).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2186, CNPGG-2187, Cayo Arcas reef (20.21208°N, -91.96083°W), 2.8–3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 18 August 2018; CNPGG-2200, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, -91.95997°W), 5.9 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2214, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19963°N, -91.96680°W), 4.1 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 22 August 2018; CNPGG-1167, Alacranes reef (22.38830°N, -89.70244°W), 12 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 8 August 2009; CNPGG-2220, 2240, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.96185°N, -92.30246°W), 6 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 08 August 2018; CNPGG-2407, Hornos reef (19.19083°N, - 96.11777°W), 4 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018; CNPGG-2411, CNPGG-2420, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, - 96.06863°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018; CNPGG-2436, Cabezo reef (19.05086°N, -95.82388°W), 9.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018.



FIGURE 9. *Ectyoplasia ferox* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2200), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** detail of the choanosomal region **D.** styles and clavulate acanthostyle; **E.** clavulate acanthostyle. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-C = 250 \mu m$; $D = 50 \mu m$; $E = 25 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2002, 2007; De la Cruz-Francisco & Gónzalez-Gónzalez 2016; current records), Cuba (Alcolado 2002), Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Hajdu *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. *Ectyoplasia ferox* is a common inhabitant of the coral reefs. It occurs around the reefs of Veracruz Reef System (Gómez 2002, 2007), Campeche Bank Reefs (current records), and off Quintana Roo (Maas-Vargas 2004), as well as other Caribbean countries. The species bears some colour and habit variation. Specimens can be ochre-yellow to orange, purplish, and greyish-brown, and they can inhabit variously exposed or cryptic microhabitats. According to Rützler *et al.* (2014), specimens from the light-exposed open reef more commonly form groups of laterally fused tubes, while those with encrusting shape seem typical for caves and other cryptic habitats. All of these have the same skeletal arrangement of plumose tracts formed by styles and clavulate acanthostyles, as well as no ectosomal specialization. For a detailed description, refer to Hajdu *et al.* (2011) and the references cited above.

Family Axinellidae Carter, 1875

Genus Dragmacidon Hallmann, 1917

Dragmacidon reticulatum (Ridley & Dendy, 1886) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 10A–C, 16J

Synonymy and references: *Axinella reticulata* Ridley & Dendy (1886: 481), and Ridley & Dendy (1887: 184); *Axinella rosacea*, Verril (1907: 341); *Ectyoplasia explicata*: Wiedenmayer (1977: 159); *Ectyoplasia ferox explicata*: Wiedenmayer (1977: 159); *Dragmacidon reticulatum*: Rützler *et al.* (2009: 301), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 119), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 89–90), Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 170), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 70), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11); *Pseudaxinella lunaecharta*: Gómez & Green (1984: 81), Gómez (2002: 73); *Axinella lunaecharta*, *Axinella reticulata*, *Dragmacidon reticulatus*, *Dragmacydon reticulatus* (misspelling), *Pseudaxinella reticulata*: Alvarez *et al.* (1998: 15), and references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 89–90).

Type locality. Brazil.

Material examined. CNPGG-2283, Triangulo Este reef (20.90879°N, -91.2017°W), 7.8 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 12 September 2017; CNPGG-1165, Alacranes reef (22.36705°N, -89.67511°W), coll. Patricia Gómez, 3 August 2009.



FIGURE 10. *Dragmacidon reticulatum* (Ridley & Dendy, 1886) (CNPGG-2283), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the choanosomal region; **C.** styles and oxeas. Scale bars: $A-B = 250 \mu m$; $C = 100 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez & Green 1984; Gómez 2002 as *Pseudaxinella lunaecharta*; Ugalde *et al.* 2015; current record), Bermuda, Bahamas, US (North and South Carolina, Florida), Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea and Brazil (Ugalde *et al.* 2015).

Remarks. Dragmacidon reticulatum is a common inhabitant of the GoM, found in the north region (Alvarez

et al. 1998 as *Pseudaxinella reticulata*), southern region (Ugalde *et al.* 2015), and the Mesoamerican barrier reef of Quintana Roo (Gómez & Green 1984; Gómez 2002; Maas-Vargas 2004 as *Pseudaxinella lunaecharta*). No ecophenotypic variability is found in specimens of *D. reticulatum*, or in spicule measurements, which are styles in a range of 229–309 × 9–16.5 µm, 290–340 × 15–20 µm or 200–300 × 6.8–7.8 µm; oxeas 297–346 × 12–15 µm, 360–410 × 15–18 µm or 283–340 × 7.8–9.8 µm; respectively in Gómez & Green (1984), Rützler *et al.* (2014) and Ugalde *et al.* (2015, Figs. 15A, B). For a detailed description, see Hajdu *et al.* (2011) and the references cited above.

Genus Ptilocaulis Carter, 1883

Ptilocaulis walpersii (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 11A–C, 16K

Synonymy and references: *Pandaros walpersii* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 90), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 91; *Ptilocaulis gracilis*: Carter (1883: 321); *Axinella appressa*: Verril (1907: 340); *Axinella rudis*, Verril (1907: 341); *Pseudoaxinella rosacea*: de Laubenfels (1950: 87); *Homxinella rudis*: de Laubenfels (1953: 531); *Axinella ramosa*: Burton (1954: 229); *Ptilocaulis walpersii*: Alvarez *et al.* (1998: 22), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 299), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 172), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 91), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 71), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2171, Cayo Arcas reef (20.1949°N, -91.9574°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 25 April 2018; CNPGG-2217, Cayo Arcas reef (20.1996°N, -91.9668°W), 4 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 22 August 2018; CNPGG-2300, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.4985°N, -92.2048°W), 17 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017; CNPGG-2366, Banco Nuevo reef (20.5485°N, -91.8061°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 15 September 2017.

Description. Upright digitiform shape (Fig.16K), slightly laterally compressed or forming erect branches. Specimens with a wide range of sizes 4–6–10 cm long, 1.5–2 cm branch diameter. Surface corrugated and irregular. Oscules not visible. Bright orange color *in vivo*, light orange preserved in ethanol. Consistency firm and elastic, not compressible.

Skeleton. Anisotropic skeleton formed by well-developed fascicles or primary fibers, interconnected by short tracts (Fig.11A). Fascicle endings have a plumose-like arrangement of spicules, with points protruding outside the surface. Mesh diameter of $275-380 \mu m$.

Spicules. Megascleres: styles slightly curved with hastate tip in two categories (Figs. 11B–C), mainly short styles. Styles I: 180–273 (35.7)–340/4–12.4 (3.1)–16.8 μ m, Styles II: 400–596.2 (79.6)–680/9–11.1 (1.19)–12.2 μ m.



FIGURE 11. *Ptilocaulis walpersii* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2300), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of skeleton; **B-C.** large and small styles I and II. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-C = 100 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Maas-Vargas 2004; current records), Bermuda, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Alvarez *et al.* 1998; Rützler *et al.* 2014), Brazil (Hajdu *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. The present work is the first record of *Ptilocaulis walpersii* in the SGoM, widening its geographic distribution. The species has been found in three different coral reefs in the Campeche Bank and recorded in Quintana Roo reefs (Maas-Vargas 2004). The present material has styles I slightly smaller than those reported by Alvarez *et al.* (1998) 260–400 × 5–15 μ m, and Rützler *et al.* (2014) 340–450 × 10–18 μ m. However, they are within the known length range for the species. This small variation might be ecophenotypical.

Family Heteroxyidae Dendy, 1905

Genus Myrmekioderma Ehlers, 1870

Myrmekioderma rea (de Laubenfels 1934)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 12A-G, 16L

Synonymy and references: *Anacanthaea rea* de Laubenfels (1934: 11); *Epipolasis rea, Epipolasis reiswigi* and *Myrmekioderma styx*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 96); *Myrmekioderma rea*: Muricy *et al.* (2011: 96), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 72), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11), and van Soest (2017: 56).

Type locality. Puerto Rico.

Material examined. CNPGG-2261, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.95629°N, -92.308609°W), 8 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 10 September 2017; CNPGG-2433, Cabezo reef (19.05086°N, -95.82388°W), 8.3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018.

Description. Massive habit; larger specimen size $7.5 \times 5 \times 3$ cm (Fig. 16L). Surface slightly irregular, covered by sand and calcareous debris. Pores are not visible. Oscules scattered up to 2 mm diameter. Color *in vivo* orangish-yellow, pinkish beige preserved in ethanol. Consistency firm and slightly resilient.

Skeleton. The ectosomal region is constituted by acanthoxeas perpendicular to the surface in a palisade-like structure (Fig. 12A). Some acanthoxeas in a paratangential and criss-cross arrangement (Fig. 12B). It is covered by a crust of sand grains and calcareous debris, up to 200 μ m thick. Choanosomal region with longitudinal tracts (up to 120 μ m thick) of large oxeas towards the surface. The large oxeas are also scattered in between. Raphides scattered throughout the skeleton; in trichodragmas. Rounded channels, up to 100 μ m diameter, are horizontally aligned beneath the palisade of acanthoxeas. Channels scattered in the choanosome, up to 130 μ m in diameter. Scattered debris was also found in the choanosomal region (Fig. 12B).



FIGURE 12. *Myrmekioderma rea* (de Laubenfels, 1934) (CNPGG-2261), skeleton and spicules: **A.** ectosomal region in a transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** acanthoxeas in a paratangential and criss-cross arrangement in a transversal section of the skeleton, **C.** general view of stylote and strongylote oxeas, and acanthoxeas; **D.** strogylote oxea; **E.** oxea; **F–G.** acanthoxea. Scale bars: $A-B = 200 \mu m$; $C = 100 \mu m$; $D-G = 50 \mu m$.

Spicules. Megascleres: Large oxeas with styloid and strongylote modifications, stout, slightly curved to sinuous, some forms double bent, and smooth (Fig. 12C). The tips are conical, stepped, or blunt; 535-807 (161.3)–1110/8-11.5 (1.5)– $14 \mu m$ (Figs. 12D–E). Acanthoxeas are slightly curved to sinuous; some are double bent, covered irregularly with minute spines, sometimes smoother at the middle region (Figs. 12F–G). With sharp and acerate tips; 235-362 (48.9)–420/7.2-10.7 (2)– $14 \mu m$. Microscleres: raphides very thin; 120-150.3 (20.7)– $180 \mu m$ in length.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), US (Florida), Barbados, Bahamas, Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Diaz *et al.* 1993); Guyana (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. Van Soest (2017) believed the observed variability in Guyana's specimens obtained from the same trawl (98 m and 65 m depth) was intraspecific. He observed variation in the habit (i.e., broad knoll, club-shaped body or finger-shaped body) and spiculation (i.e., the shape of oxeas and number of categories of oxeas and raphides). We extend this intraspecific variation of *M. rea* by considering specimens from Belize (Rützler *et al.* 2014) and the GoM (present study), both no deeper than 20 m. These specimens have massive cushion shape habits. In adition, spicule measurements of the Mexican specimens analyzed in our study (particularly of oxeas) are thinner than those in specimens from Belize and Guyana. However, in general, our material's spicule measurements are more similar to specimens from Belize than the ones from Guyana (Table 1).

TABLE 1. Previous and current records of *Myrmekioderma rea* (de Laubenfels 1934), locality and spicule dimensions reported. Micrometric data is presented as minimum–maximum length/minimum–maximum thickness; in µm.

| Author | Locality | Oxeas | Acanthoxeas | Raphides |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------|
| van Soest (2017) | Guyana Shelf | I: 664–978/19–39, | 111-360/6-14 | 40-120/<1 |
| | | II: 345–522/11–16, | | |
| | | III: 111–360/6–14 | | |
| Rützler et al. (2014) | Belize | 680-1000/18-34 | 226-410/8-15 | 110/<1 |
| Mothes et al. (2004) | Northern Brazil | 731.5-978.5/18.4-32.2 | 209-351.5/4.6-11.5 | Absent |
| Rosa-Barbosa (1995) | Rio Grande, | 313.7-1604.4/9-4.7 | 184-622.8/5.9-25.7 | 90-166/3 |
| | Brazil | | | |
| Current records | Gulf of Mexico | 535–1110/8–14 µm | 235-420/7.2-14 | 120-180/<1 |

Intraspecific variation of *Myrmekioderma rea* can be observed in Brazilian specimens too (Rosa-Barbosa 1995, Mothes *et al.* 2004, 2006). They were all reported with a massive habit, similar to our material's and Belize's (Rützler *et al.* 2014), but devoid of raphides in northern Brazil (Mothes *et al.* 2004), and possessing styles (744.2–1497/10–23.9 μ m) and small trichodragmas (23–92/4.6–13 μ m) in materials reported by Mothes *et al.* (2006), from southern Brazil. These variations deviate from typical spiculation of *M. rea* in specimens from Guyana, the Caribbean region, and the GoM (our material) (Table 1). Previous and the present records of *M. rea* are from shallow to mesophotic depths on coral reefs (de Laubenfels 1953; van Soest & Stentoft 1988; Díaz *et al.* 1993; Rützler *et al.* 2014), and from muddy sand bottoms down to 100 m depth (van Soest 2017).

Order Biemnida Morrow, 2013

Family Biemnidae Hentschel, 1923

Genus Neofibularia Hechtel, 1965

Neofibularia nolitangere (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 13A–C, 16M

Synonymy and references: *Amphimedon nolitangere* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 82); *Fibularia massa, Fibulia nolitangere, Fibulia massa, Gellius massa, Neofibularia massa* and *Neofibularia nolitangere nolitangere*: see references compiled in Hartman (1967: 7); *Neofibularia nolitangere*, Hajdu & van Soest (2002: 648) and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2206, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20183°N, -91.97583°W), 6.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018.

Description. Massive habit, growing in laterally fused tubes, sometimes volcano-shaped with an apical depression (Fig. 16M); the largest specimen measures up to 22×10 cm. Surface hispid, slightly rugose. Oscules are wide and oval-shaped up to 2 cm in diameter. Color *in vivo* dark red-brown and beige after fixation. The consistency is crumbly and brittle.

Skeleton. Irregular reticulation of fibers cored by several spicules projecting out the fibers; meshes 200 μ m in diameter (Figs. 13A–B).

Spicules. Megascleres: Strongyles slightly curved 270-317.6 (27.48)-350/8-10.8 (1.5)-12 µm (Fig. 13C). Microscleres: straight microxeas 110-116 (4.1)-120/8-10.8 (1.5)-12 µm (Fig. 13C1); raphides occurring singly 100-107 (6.7)-115/2-2.3 (0.5)-2.4 µm; sigmas 16-17 (1.95)-20 µm (Fig. 13C2).



FIGURE 13. *Neofibularia nolitangere* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2206), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the choanosomal region; **C.** strongyles, microxeas (1, black arrow), raphides and sigmas (2, white arrow). Scale bars: $A = 200 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$; $C-F = 50 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Bahamas, US (North Carolina, Florida) (de Laubenfels 1936), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Zea 1987).

Remarks. Hartman (1967) revised specimens of *Neofibularia nolitangere* where sigmas had been overlooked by de Laubenfels (1936), and found them. These specimens perfectly matched additional materials from the former author, and Hechtel (1965) before him, described from Jamaica, including the presence of dermatitis-producing toxins. Specimens described here possess all three categories of microscleres, although the similar lengths of raphides and microxea raises the possibility of the former being merely juveniles of the latter. Contrary to Hartman's (1967) report, we could not see distinctly arranged trichodragmas for either category, much the less both.

Ours is the first record of this species in the SGoM. It was formerly known from the northern part of the GoM, in particular from Florida, as well as from the Caribbean (widely distributed) and the Bahamas.

Order Bubarida Morrow & Cárdenas, 2015

Family Desmanthidae Topsent, 1893

Genus Desmanthus Topsent, 1893

Desmanthus meandroides van Soest & Hajdu, 2000 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 14A–I, 16N

Synonymy and references: *Desmanthus meandroides* van Soest & Hajdu (2000: 302) and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 143); *Desmanthus* sp.: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 143).

Type locality. Brazil.

Material examined. CNPGG-2389, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20988°N, -91.96686°W), 4 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 26 august 2017.

Description. Thinly encrusting habit (Fig. 16N); covering an area ca. 11 cm²; up to 0.1 cm high. Surface hispid with several subectosomal channels in a very characteristic meandriform pattern. Pores or oscules not visible. Color *in vivo* orange and after fixation light beige. Consistency firm.

Skeleton. Styles of several sizes are disposed perpendicular to the surface (Fig. 14A). Desmas in choanosomal region with rhabdomes pointing outwards although not reaching the surface (Fig. 14C). Several subectosomal channels visible (Fig. 14B).

Spicules. Megascleres (Figs. 14D–I): Desmas I, cladomes (Fig: 14F); 70–*141* (37.9)–190/4–6.3 (1.2)–7.2 μ m. Desmas II (Figs. 14G–I), cladomes; 110–*153.7* (27.2)–200/7–*10.5* (2)–15 μ m and rhabdomes; 70–*108.3* (31)–180/10–*13.5* (4.2)–25 μ m. Styles, slightly curved and smooth (Fig. 14D); 150–*383.7* (221.7)–760/3.5–8.6 (3.6)–14 μ m.



FIGURE 14. *Desmanthus meandroides* van Soest & Hajdu, 2000 (CNPGG-2389), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the skeleton base, arrows pointing to sub-ectosomal channels; **C.** detail of the sub-ectosomal layer with desmas in the skeleton base ; **D.** styles; **E.** desmas I strongly ramified cladome; **F.** desmas I with a slender appearance; **G–I.** desmas II, arrow pointing to rhabdome. Scale bars: $A-D = 100 \mu m$; $E-I = 50 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current record), Brazil (van Soest & Hajdu 2000).

Remarks. Up to now, *Desmanthus meandroides* had been reported only in Brazil (van Soest & Hajdu 2000; Moraes *et al.* 2006). Thus, our study is the first record of the species for the GoM. Our material has external morphological features (shape, color, and surface pattern) and spicules quite similar to the original description by van Soest & Hajdu (2000). However, our material has, in general, smaller spicule sizes than the original; *viz.*, desmas I cladomes $155-291/5-6 \mu m$, desmas II with cladomes $155-267/8-17 \mu m$, rhabdomes $49-204/10-30 \mu m$, and styles $126-834/8-10 \mu m$.

Order Clionaida Morrow & Cárdenas, 2015

Family Clionaidae d'Orbigny, 1851

Genus Cliona Grant, 1826

Cliona aprica **Pang, 1973** Tables 6, 7; Figs. 15A–E, 16O

Synonymy and references: *Cliona aprica* Pang (1973: 42), Zea & Well (2003: 351), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 12); ?Cliona *aprica*, **Non** *Cliona aprica*, *Cliona caribbaea*, **Non** *Cliona caribbaea*, *Cliona aprica*—*C. ca*-

ribbaea species complex, *Cliona* sp. 1 and **Non** *Cliona* sp. 1: see references compiled in Zea & Weil (2003: 351). **Type locality.** Jamaica.

Material examined. CNPGG-2298, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.49856°N, -92.20481°W), 17 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017.

Description. Burrowing sponge with a thinly encrusting outgrowth (Beta growth stage) (Fig. 16O); size $5 \times 3.7 \times 0.5$ cm. Surface smooth with small scattered oscules, up to 1 mm in diameter. Brownish color *in vivo*, lighter color around oscules, and beige preserved in ethanol. Consistency is slightly friable.

Skeleton. Tylostyles disposed perpendicular to paratangential at the surface and scattered in the choanosomal region. Spirasters scattered.

Spicules. Megascleres: Tylostyles smooth, in a large size range (Figs. 15A–D), 250– 326.5 (49.4)–380/3–7.1 (2.7)–12 μ m, with a rounded tyle 4.8–9.6 (3)–14 μ m width. Microscleres (Fig. 15E): Spirasters relatively slender and long, with fragile and small spines; 20–29.4 (4.1)–35/1–1.1 (0.1)–1.2 μ m.



FIGURE 15. *Cliona aprica* Pang, 1973 (CNPGG-2298), spicules: **A.** tylostyles; **B.** tylostyles in detail; **C.** tylostyle with a polytylote base; arrows pointing to spirasters **D.** tylostyle, small and very thin; **E.** spiraster. Scale bars: $A = 100 \mu m$; $B = 50 \mu m$; $C-E = 10 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current record), Cuba, Jamaica, other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Zea & Weil 2003).

Remarks. Our material assigned to *C. aprica* corresponds to Pang's original description (1973) and the material examined by Zea & Weil (2003). Although *C. aprica* commonly grows in a scattered manner leaving some substratum uncovered, it also presents a continuum growth cover or an extensive papillary fusion as a widespread coat. According to the features observed in our specimen, it corresponds mostly to *C. aprica* rather than *C. caribbaea* Carter, 1882 a close congener. Even though our specimen has a brown chocolate color when alive, and not blackishbrown or black color as in the original description of *C. aprica*; both, differ from *C. caribbaea* in the amber-brown to grey-brown color. Oscular openings and sizes of growth among them also vary. Still, most of all, our spicule measurements are within the average range of *C. aprica*, which have widening ranges along the Caribbaea localities examined by Zea & Weil (2003) (tylostyles 204–427/3.8–19 µm, spirasters 12.6–38.5 µm). While *C. caribbaea* has larger tylostyles 271–465/4.7–15.2 µm; as well as larger spirasters 14.9–47 µm, witnessed by Zea & Weil (2003). *Cliona aprica* is commonly found in the Caribbean Sea. However, this work extends the geographic distribution of the species to the GoM.



FIGURE 16. In situ photographs of species analyzed in the present study: A. Agelas clathrodes (Schmidt, 1870) (CNPGG-2297); B. Agelas conifera (Schmidt, 1870) (CNPGG-2373); C. Agelas dispar Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2007);
D. Agelas schmidtii Wilson, 1902 (CNPGG-2285); E. Agelas sventres Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 (CNPGG-2285); F. Agelas wiedenmayeri Alcolado, 1984 (CNPGG-2476); G. Prosuberites carriebowensis Rützler, Piantoni, van Soest & Díaz, 2014 (CNPGG-2211); H. Ectyoplasia ferox (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2407); I. Ectyoplasia ferox (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2407); J. Dragmacidon reticulatum (Ridley & Dendy, 1886) (CNPGG-2283); K. Ptilocaulis walpersii (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2171); L. Myrmekioderma rea (de Laubenfels, 1934) (CNPGG-2261); M. Neofibularia nolitangere (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2206); N. Desmanthus meandroides van Soest & Hajdu, 2000 (CNPGG-2389); O. Cliona aprica Pang, 1973 (CNPGG-2298). Scale bars, A–O = 1 cm.

Cliona dioryssa (de Laubenfels, 1950)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 17A–C, 18 A–B

Synonymy: *Spirastrella dioryssa* de Laubenfels (1950: 98); *Cliona dioryssa*: Rützler (1974: 17–21), and references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 66).

Type locality. Bermuda.

Material examined. CNPGG-2165, Alacranes reef (22.38252°N, 89.67961°W), 5 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 19 May 2016.

Description. Burrowing specimen; size, $4.5 \times 2 \times 1.2$ cm. Papillae or oscules not observed. Color *in vivo* not recorded—light purple color in ethanol. Consistency is slightly friable.

Skeleton. Bundles of tylostyles disposed perpendicular toward the surface (Fig. 18A). Spirasters scattered.

Spicules. Megascleres: Tylostyles smooth, in a large size range (Fig. 17A, 18B), 222–253.2 (25)–292.6/2.9–4 (1.5)–5.8 μ m, with a rounded tyle (some mucron shape) 5–6.8 (2)–8.5 μ m width. Microscleres: Spiraster I (Fig. 17B), stout spirasters with very thin and small, simple thorns, 8.2–15 (5)–21.3/ up to 6 μ m. Spirasters II (Fig. 17C), thin spirasters, longer and slender than the previous category, with very thin and small thorns (bifurcated or trifurcated tips); 22–39.5 (5)–60/ up to 2 μ m (Fig. 17C).

Distribution: Mexico (current records), Bermudas (de Laubenfels 1950), Brazil (Muricy et al. 2011).

Remarks. De Laubenfels (1950) described *C. dioryssa* as *Spirastrella dioryssa* in Bermudas (type locality), whose main characteristic is the stout spirasters in two categories. However, de Laubenfels' description was relatively brief regarding the characteristics and measurements of the spirasters (Table 2). Later, Rützler (1974) redescribed the species more extensively in his revision "The borrowing sponges of Bermuda", where the spirasters were reported as *—Type I stout, with a thick shaft densely set with large strong spines, most of which are joined at the base. Type II is more delicate, with a long slender shaft and small spines, which are usually well spaced from each other. Reduction of number or size of spines is very common—*. Our specimen's spirasters match with the description given by Rützler (1974), but the spirasters II in our material are longer (Table 2).

TABLE 2. *Cliona dioryssa*, color and spicule dimensions reported in the literature and current records. Micrometric data is presented as minimum–maximum length/minimum–maximum thickness; in µm.

| Author | Color | Tylostyle | Spiraster I | Spiraster II |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| de Laubenfels (1950) | Bright orange | 265.8-325/4-5 | 12 | 24 |
| Rützler (1974) | Yellow-orange | 106.8-391.6/3.7-7.4 | 11.2-41.6/1.4-4.8 | 19.2-43.2/0.6-2.2 |
| Lehnert (1993) | not recorded | 232-305/4-8 | 30-46/4.6 | 17-20/1-3 |
| Current records | not recorded | 222-292.6/2.9-5.8 | 8.2–21.3/6 | 22-60/2 |



FIGURE 17. *Cliona dioryssa* (de Laubenfels, 1950) (CNPGG-2165), SEM spicules: **A.** tylostyle; **B.** spirasters II. **C.** spirasters I. Scale bars: $A = 100 \mu m$, $B-C = 10 \mu m$.

The color *in vivo* is described as bright orange in de Laubenfels (1950) and yellow to orange in Rützler (1974). Unfortunately, we do not know the color *in vivo* of our material since it was inside a piece of coral, which was fixed in ethanol. Thus, the specimen examined was not found until laboratory analysis. Further, the light purple color of the tissue in ethanol differs from the material of *C. dioryssa* described by Rützler (1974). Based on spiculation, we believe that our material can be classified as *C. dioryssa*. The species has been recorded from the Bermuda Islands (de Laubenfels 1950; Rützler 1974) and Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011). This is the first record of the species for the GoM, thus widening its distribution.

Cliona flavifodina Rützler, 1974

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 18C–D, 36B

Synonymy and references: Cliona flavifodina Rützler (1974: 373); Ugalde et al. (2015: 158).

Type locality. Bermuda.

Material examined. CNPGG-2164, Alacranes reef (22.37413°N, 89.66138°W), 5 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 19 May 2016; CNPGG-2383, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.96412°N, -92.30193°W), 9 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 9 September 2017; Cayo Arcas reef (20.20432°N, -91.96448°W), 3 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 21 August 2016.



FIGURE 18. *Cliona dioryssa* (CNPGG-2165), skeleton and spicules: **A**. transversal section of the skeleton; **B**. tylostyles and spirasters. *Cliona flavifodina* (CNPGG-2386), habitus and spicules: **C**. burrowing habit (into a piece of coral); D. tylostyles and spirasters, arrows pointing to spirasters (one zoomed in). Scale bars: A–B and D (including zoomed-in) = $25 \mu m$; C = 10 mm.

Distribution. Mexico (Ugalde et al. 2015, current records), Bermuda (Rützler 1974).

Remarks. *Cliona flavifodina* has been reported in a few localities only: Bermuda (Rützler 1974), Belize (Rützler *et al.* 2014), and in the SGoM (Ugalde *et al.* 2015). Furthermore, Carballo *et al.* (2004) recorded the species in the Tropical Mexican Pacific. Ugalde *et al.* (2015) have questioned this record due to differences in the morphology of spines of spiraster, and tylostyles in loose tracts.

Our material was also collected in coral reefs in the Campeche Bank (see above in material examined), and its spiculation, as well as spicule measurements, fit Ugalde's *et al.* (2015) material. These authors have described a specimen with orange color *in vivo* and faded-yellow color in ethanol, tylostyles 190–420/7–13 μ m (tyle 7.8–13/10–15 μ m), and spirasters (could be split into two categories) 7.8–50.7/1.5–2.6 μ m with 1–4 bends. Ugalde *et al.* (2015) have mentioned that the tylostyle's tyle is predominantly spherical, although the oval shape occurs. In our material tylostyles have predominantly oval tyles, which agrees with specimens from Bermuda (Rützler 1974). This author described tylostyles with droplet or elongate tyles (3.7–17.8 μ m). Further, he described the species' color as yellow-brown, its tylostyles with 178–409.4/0.7–11.1 μ m and spirasters (some of them called amphiasters—smallest forms) with 14.4–65.6/0.5–3.2 μ m and 1–5 bends. The spiculation of the specimens examined here fits Rützler's (1974) material too. Tylostyles in our materials are 205–415/5.2–10.4 μ m (tyle with 7.8–13 μ m) in dimensions. A

minor point of distinction relates to the smaller spirasters (with up to 7 bends) found by us $19.2-40.3/1-1.2 \mu m$. On the other hand, our material's yellow color *in vivo* fits better the color reported by Rützler (1974) than that by Ugalde *et al.* (2015).

Cliona varians (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) Tables 6, 7; Figs 19A–B, 36A

Synonymy and references: *Thalysias varians* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 86); *Anthosigmella varians* de Laubenfels (1936: 143; Pang 1973: 47—references therein); Gómez & Green (1984:83); Gómez (2002:71); (non) *Anthosigmella varians* Wells *et al.* (1960: 55); *Suberites tuberculosus* Schmidt (1870: 46); *Suberites coronarius* Carter (1882: 352); (non) *Suberites coronarius* Carter (1897: 74); *Spirastrella coronaria* Topsent (1894: 26); *Anthosigmella coronarius* Topsent (1918: 557); (non) *Cliona coronaria* Dendy (1916: 132); *Papillina arcuata* Topsent (1889: 35); *Cliona varians* (Hajdu *et al.* 2011; Muricy *et al.* 2011—references therein).

Type locality. Guadeloupe, U.S. Virgin Islands (St. Thomas) and St. Barthelemy.

Material examined. CNPGG-2168, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19491°N, -91.95741°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 April 2018; CNPGG-2188, Cayo Arcas reef (20.21636°N, -91.97747°W), 9.1 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 18 August 2018.



FIGURE 19. *Cliona varians* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2188), spicules: A-B. tylostyles. Scale bars: $A-B = 100 \mu m$.

Distribution. Gulf of Mexico (Topsent 1889; Gómez 2002; Rützler *et al.* 2009; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), several localities in the Caribbean and Brazilian regions (Hajdu *et al.* 2011; Muricy *et al.* 2011 and references therein).

Remarks. This species was previously known from SGoM (Topsent 1889; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016—only list of species) and it is common in Caribbean and Brazilian regions. The external morphology of our material of *C. varians* is very similar to that of other specimens known from the GoM (Topsent 1989; Gómez 2002), the Caribbean region (Gómez & Green 1984; Zea *et al.* 2021) and Brazil as well (*e.g.*, Hajdu *et al.* 2011). However, microscleres could not be observed by us in this study. Microscleres are either not common in our material, or are located in particular regions of the sponge body, which were not assessed during spicule preparation. Topsent (1889), Gómez & Green (1984) and Gómez (2002) reported the presence of microscleres in their respective materials.

Family Spirastrellidae Ridley & Dendy, 1886

Genus Spirastrella Schmidt, 1868

Spirastrella coccinea (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 20A–D, 36C

Synonymy and references: *Thalysias coccinea* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 84); *Spirastrella coccinea* de Laubenfels (1936: 22), de Laubenfels (1949a: 19), de Laubenfels (1950: 96), van Soest (1981: 5), Macintyre *et al.* (1982: 134), van Soest *et al.* (1983: 199), Thomas (1985: 304), Vacelet (1990: 22), Gómez 2007: 55, Rützler *et al.* (2009: 296), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 70), Alcolado & Busutil (2012: 68), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 37), Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 160), van Soest (2017: 172).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2251, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.9641°N, -92.3019°W), 9 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 09 September 2017; CNPGG-2375, Banco Pera reef (20.72669°N, -91.93481°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 15 September 2017; CNPGG-2414, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, -96.06863°W), 6 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018.



FIGURE 20. *Spirastrella coccinea* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2251), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton, showing one tract of tylostyles; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region with tylostyles and spirasters; **C.** tylostyles and spirasters; **D.** 1—spirasters I, 2—spirasters II and 3—spirasters III. Scale bars: $A-C = 100 \mu m$; $D = 25 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2007, 2011; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bermuda (de Laubenfels 1950), Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. *Spirastrella* is characterized by possessing tylostyles in a variety of lenghts and spirasters of one or more types, in some cases with bifurcations in their rays. However, the length in both the spirasters and tylostyles overlapp among species, which complicates species identification. The two species have three spirasters that differ in *S. coccinea* for being larger than in *S. mollis*. Although the tylostyles are similar in length in both species, in *S. coccinea* they are thinner than in *S. mollis*. *Spirastrella coccinea* is a common species in the coral reefs of the GoM; it was previously recorded from the Veracruz Reef System (Gómez 2007, 2011), and now from different coral reefs at the Campeche Bank, and additional materials from the Veracruz Coral Reef System.

Spirastrella mollis Verrill, 1907

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 21A–E, 36D

Synonymy and references: *Spirastrella mollis* Verrill (1907: 344), Rützler (1986: 122), Rützler *et al.* (2000: 234), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 38), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 12) and Van Soest (2017: 172); *Spirastrella* aff. *mollis*: Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 159).

Type locality. Bermuda.

Material examined. CNPGG-2424, Isla Verde reef (19.1984°N, -96.0686°W), 6 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018.

Description. Encrusting habit with swelling veins *in vivo* that end in the oscules (Fig. 36D). Surface smooth, fleshy, scattered oscules provided with an elevated membrane, 4–6 mm diameter. Orange-salmon or reddish color *in vivo*, and beige color in ethanol. Consistency is firm, easy to fall apart.

Skeleton. Brushes of spicules densely packed and perpendicular to the surface, with outward pointed ends, spirasters densely distributed through surface forming a cortex (Figs. 21A–B).

Spicules. Megascleres: Tylostyles straight 280–415 (54.6)–490/2.5–8.323 (2.9)–12 μ m, mainly ovoid heads, also rounded present, 5.5–10.6 (2.2)–14 μ m, tips acerate to hastate, sometimes rounded (Fig. 21C). Microscleres: Spirasters I bent once or twice, with conical and single strong rays (Fig. 21D–1), 36–44.87 (4.4)–50 × 5–6.7 (0.8)–9 μ m, spirastes II bent once with conical rays (Fig. 21D–2), 13–21.12 (4.3)–26.5 × 1.5–2.7 (0.7)–5 μ m, spiraster III bent once with bifid rays (Fig. 21D–3, E) 5–7.1 (1.4) 9.5 × 1–1.8 (0.3)–2.4 μ m.



FIGURE 21. *Spirastrella mollis* Verrill, 1907 (CNPGG-2424), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton, arrows pointing to bouquets of tylostyles; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region with tylostyles and spirasters; **C.** tylostyles and spirasters; **D.** 1—spirasters I, 2—spirasters II and 3—spirasters III; **E.** spirasters III. Scale bars: $A = 200 \mu m$; $B-C = 100 \mu m$; $D = 25 \mu m$; $E = 10 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Ugalde *et al.* 2015; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bermuda, Bahamas, and other Caribbean Sea countries (Rützler *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. There are five valid species of *Spirastrella* for the Tropical Northwestern Atlantic (TNwA). Three of them have been recorded for the GoM: Spirastrella coccinea (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864), Spirastrella coccinopsis de Laubenfels, 1953, and Spirastrella mollis Verrill, 1907. Spirastrella mollis was recorded by Ugalde et al. (2015) in the Campeche Bank, identified as an affinity of the species, due to the differences in the spirasters morphology, in contrast with those described by Rützler et al. (2014). The present material corresponds to the description of S. mollis by Rützler, et al. (2014); the characters of our material are similar in color and morphology in vivo, also with the measurements and shape of the tylostyles and spirasters. Additionally, it was frequent to observe small spirasters in the transition to amphiasters (5–9.5 μ m tick) according to the specimens recorded by Rützler et al. (2014). Thus, corroborating the presence of S. mollis in the GoM. On the other hand, S. mollis and S. hartmani are controversial species, possibly in synonymy. In the brief original description of Spirastrella mollis there are no spicule measurements (Verril 1907), and the type specimen has gone missing, complicating the comparison with the actual specimens. Consequently, Boury-Esnault et al. (1999) described Spirastrella hartmani as a new species, mainly by comparing the differences in the shape of the spirasters to S. mollis. However, Rützler et al. (2014) suggest that S. hartmani and S. mollis are the same species, considering the differences in the spicules' measurements and shape due to normal variation between populations and the few specimens reviewed. Both species, S. mollis and S. hartmani are currently accepted (van Soest et al. 2021). For these reasons, we suggest a revision of the Spirastrella spp. of the TNwA, including S. coccinopsis with a brief description. Spirastrella mollis has not been registered since its first sighting by de Laubenfels (1953).

Family Placospongiidae Gray, 1867

Genus Placospongia Grey, 1867

Placospongia ruetzleri van Soest, 2017

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 22 A–J, 36E

Synonymy and references: *Placospongia ruetzleri* van Soest (2017: 173).

Type locality. Guyana.

Material examined. CNPGG-2391, Hornos reef (19.19083°N, -96.11777°W), 2.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018.

Description. Encrusting habit fragmented in several parts (Fig. 36E), the larger fragment $2.4 \times 2.2 \times 0.3$ cm. Surface smooth among grooves. The grooves do not have contact lines between them; thus, no polygonal plates divide the cortex. Oscules and pores situated inside the grooves, up to 1 mm in diameter, slightly elevated from the groove. Brick orange color *in vivo*, light brown in ethanol. Consistency is hard and cartilaginous.

Skeleton. A thick crust of selenasters in the ectosomal region (1800 μ m thick) and upright tracts of large tylostyles in choanosomal region, up to 180 μ m thick (Fig. 22A); small tylostyles next to tracts and scattered (Fig. 22B). Other microsclere types scattered throughout the skeleton.

Spicules. Megascleres: Large tylostyles stout, straight and smooth (Figs. 22C–D); 700–803.3 (88.1)–950/12– 15.1 (23.3)–19.2 μ m, tyle width 14–17.6 (2.5)–21.5 μ m. Small tylostyles similar to the previous category but smaller (Figs. 22E); 185–283 (79.3)–395/4.8–7.9 (2.2)–12 μ m, tyle width 7–8.8 (1.7)–12 μ m. Microscleres: Selenasters (Fig. 22 F–1, G), 35–62 (13.6)–80 μ m in a larger diameter. Spirasters (Fig. 22F–2, H–I), 12–15.4 (2.5)–19.2 × 2.5–3.8 (1.5)–7 μ m (free of spines). Acanthomicrorhabds (Fig. 22 F–3, J); 3.5–6.1 (1.7)–9.8 × 1.5–2.1 (0.4)–3 μ m.



FIGURE 22. *Placospongia ruetzleri* van Soest, 2017 (CNPGG-2391), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of ectosomal region showing a dense layer of selenasters; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton with tracts of tylostyles in the choanosomal region; **C.** tylostyles, and selenaster; **D.** large tylostyles and selenasters; **E.** small tylostyles; **F.** 1—selenaster, 2—spiraster and 3—acanthomicrohabd; **G.** different growth stages of selenaster; **H.** spiraster; **I.** a stout spiraster; **J.** acanthomicrohabds. Scale bars: $A-B = 250 \mu m$; $C = 100 \mu m$; $D-E = 50 \mu m$; $F-G = 50 \mu m$; $H-J = 10 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current record), Guyana (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. This is the first record of the species after its original description, and the first record of *P. ruetzleri* in the GoM. Although our material has all spicule categories described by van Soest (2017), it has smaller sizes of spicules; *viz.* respectively, larger tylostyles 700–950/12–19.2 μ m *vs.* 618–1158/11–19 μ m; smaller tylostyles 185–395/4.8–12 μ m *vs.* 324–479/6–11 μ m; selenasters 35–80 μ m *vs.* 66–82/51–66 μ m; spirasters 12–19.2/2.5–7 μ m *vs.* 16–26/2–4 μ m; acanthomicrorhabds 3.5–9.8/1.5–3 μ m *vs.* 7–14 /1–2 μ m. Unfortunately, only one specimen was collected, and we cannot confirm if the smaller size of spicules is a common characteristic of the population of *P. ruetzleri* from the GoM or an interspecific morphologic variation. Another two species of *Placospongia* are

recorded in the northern GoM: *Placospongia carinata* and *P. melobesioides* (Rützler *et al.* 2009). However, the two are originally from a different geographic location, the Indian Ocean and the Indo-Pacific region, respectively, making them not considered valid for the TNwA by van Soest (2017), including consistent differences concerning the west Atlantic *P. carinata*.

Order Haplosclerida Topsent, 1928

Family Callyspongiidae de Laubenfels, 1936

Genus Callyspongia Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Subgenus Callyspongia (Callyspongia) Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Callyspongia (Callyspongia) fallax Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 23A–F, 36F

Synonymy and references: *Callyspongia fallax* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 57), Gómez & Green (1984: 76), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 97–98) and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 10); *Patuloscula procumbens* Carter (1882: 365) and Carter (1885: 286); *Siphonochalina procumbens* Dendy (1887: 505) and Wilson (1902: 393); *Siphonochalina var. infirna* Wilson (1902: 393); *Callyspongya repens* Little (1963: 42), and Alcolado (1980: 3); *Ceraochalina venderhosti* Arndt (1927: 154); *Callyspongia fallax* var. *fallax* and *Callyspongia (Callyspongia) fallax:* see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 97–98).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2239, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.96185°N, -92.30246°W), 6 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 08 September 2017; CNPGG-2247, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.95178°N, -92.30963°W), 23 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 09 September 2017; CNPGG-1741, Alacranes reef (22.368667°N, 89.680389°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 16 February 2012; CNPGG-1225, Alacranes reef (22.378778°N, 89.667444 W), 12 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 19 February 2012; CNPGG-1964, Alacranes reef (22.385567°N, 89.680706°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 21 May 2012

Description. A cluster of short tubes laterally fused, erect, or repent (Fig. 36F). The largest specimen is 20×8 cm, diameter of tubes up to 3 cm. Surface smooth and velvety to the touch. Oscules 1.5–2.0 cm in diameter. Color *in vivo* light purple and beige after fixation. The consistency is elastic and flexible.



FIGURE 23. *Callyspongia* (*Callyspongia*) *fallax* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2239), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the ectosomal skeleton ; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** transversal section of the skeleton; **D.** detail of the choanosomal region; **E.** oxeas; **F.** oxea in detail. Scale bars: A and C = 500 μ m; B and D = 100 μ m; E = 50 μ m; F = 10 μ m.

Skeleton. Ectosomal reticulation with often unispicular fibers, rounded to polygonal meshes (Figs. 23 A–B), 200–500 μ m diameter. Choanosomal reticulation with a rectangular mesh 250–375 μ m in length (Fig. 23C). Ascending primary fibers 30–100 μ m in diameter, often cored more than one oxea. The choanosomal skeleton's secondary fibers with 25–100 μ m in diameter, often cored by one oxea (Fig. 23D).

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas straight to slightly curved, isodiametric, with conical to stepped tips (Figs. 23 E-F); 70–77.9 (5)–87/2.5–4.2 (0.8)–5 μ m.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez & Green 1984; current records), US (Florida) (Little 1963; Storr 1976), Cuba (Alcolado 1980: as *C. repens*), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), Colombia (Zea 1987), other countries in the Caribbean Sea and Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. This species was originally described by Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864); however, their description is too brief. Recent descriptions of *Callyspongia* (*Callys.*) *fallax* pointed out differences in its morphology and spicules. Wiedenmayer (1977) proposed and described a lectotype for the species, which is taken as the actual description of the species. His description referred to a coalescent globular morphology, with lobes provided with apical oscules and a reddish to blueish purple coloration *in vivo*. The spicules recorded by Wiedenmayer are straight to slightly curved hastate oxeas, with mammiform ends, and sometimes strongyles $67-75-80 / 1-1.9-2.5 \mu m$ in dimensions. Further, Zea (1987) recorded *C*. (*Callys.*) *fallax* in Colombia. His specimens showed consistent features in morphology, color, and spicule dimensions ($57-78-83 \times 1.1-2-2.6 \mu m$) compared to Wiedenmayer's description. However, Zea mentioned toxas, such as in Little's (1963) and Alcolado's (1980) descriptions. Our specimens showed the same features in morphology, color, and dimensions of oxeas as in Wiedenmayer's and Zea's descriptions, but the oxeas were significantly thicker ($2.5-4.2-5 \mu m$) than those reported by these authors, and we did not find toxas.

Callyspongia (*Callys.*) *fallax* has been recorded in different locations through the Caribbean (Wiedenmayer 1977; Zea 1987) and the northern GoM (Little 1963). Therefore, this is the first record in the southern GoM. The record of *C. fallax* for the Veracruz Reef System by Green (1977) corresponds to *C. armigera*, confirmed by the image provided in his plate (Fig. 10). *Callyspongia* (*Callys.*) *fallax* seems to be a common species in the Campeche Banks coral reefs but not in Veracruz Reefs.

Subgenus Callyspongia (Cladochalina) Schmidt, 1870

Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armigera (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 24A–D, 36G–I

Synonymy and references: *Tuba armigera* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 48) and Desqueyroux-Faúndez & Valentine (2002: 841) references therein; *Callyspongia armigera*: Gómez (2002: 87), *Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armigera*, *Callyspongia (Spinosella) vaginalis* forma *armigera*: Green *et al.* (1986: 136) and *Spinosella vaginalis* forma *armigera*, see references compiled in Desqueyroux-Faúndez & Valentine (2002: 841); *Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armígera*: van Soest (2017: 26).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2179, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20433°N, 91.95999°W), 6 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 25 April 2018; CNPGG-2223, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19963°N, 91.96680°W), 3.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 22 August 2018; CNPGG-2394, CNPGG-2399, Hornos reef (19.190833°N, 96.11777°W), 2.2–2.4 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Green 1977; Green *et al.* 1986; Maas-Vargas 2004; Gómez 2011; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bermuda, Bahamas, US (Florida: Wiedenmayer 1977), Cuba (Alcolado 1976), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Zea 1987).

Remarks. *Callyspongia* (*C.*) *armigera* is one of the most common species in the SGoM. Apart from being at Cayo Arcas, Campeche Bank (current records), it is frequently spotted in the Veracruz Reefs (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2007, 2011).



FIGURE 24. *Callyspongia* (*Cladochalina*) *armigera* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2223), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the ectosomal skeleton ; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** transversal section of the skeleton; **D.** oxeas. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-C = 100 \mu m$; $D = 25 \mu m$.

Family Chalinidae Gray, 1867

Genus Chalinula Schmidt, 1868

Chalinula aff. molitba (de Laubenfels, 1949)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 25A-C, 36J

Synonymy and references: *Haliclona molitba* de Laubenfels (1949, 9); *Haliclona crassiloba* de Laubenfels (1950: 47), *Chalinula molitba*: De Weerdt (2000: 55 with additional references and synonymy); Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 175).

Type locality. Bermuda.

Material examined. CNPGG-2359, Banco Obispo Sur reef (20.42345°N, -92.22743°W), 9 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 14 September 2017.

Description. Encrusting habit; size $6 \times 1.5 \times 0.3$ cm (Fig. 36J). Surface smooth, microhispid, and entirely covered by several pores and small oscules (1 mm in diameter); all apertures scattered on the surface. Purple color *in vivo*, and light brown in ethanol. Consistency is highly compressible.

Skeleton. Reticulation uni to paucispicular tracts, forming irregularly to rectangular meshes $150-300 \mu m$ in diameter, larger than one spicule in length (Figs. 25A–B). Spongin moderate to abundant.

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas slender, slightly curved, and smooth (Fig. 25C). Tips sharp, acerate to hastate; 90-108 (9.4)-120/2.4-2.7 (0.3)- $3.5 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Ugalde *et al.* 2015; current record), Bermuda, Bahamas, US (North Carolina, Florida) through the Caribbean Sea (de Weerdt 2000).

Remarks. Our specimen match with the characteristics of the species, known for the extreme variation in morphology. De Weerdt (2000) reported specimens forming dense clusters of tubes, solid branches, or being simply encrusting. She also reported significant variability of skeletal architecture features, intergrading from spongin-dominated skeletons cored by oxeas to spicule-dominated skeletons forming unispicular isotropic reticulations. On account of spicule dimensions, they vary according to the skeletal arrangement, $45.4-99 \times 0.5-2.6 \,\mu\text{m}$ in spongin dominated skeletons; $65.9-144 \times 1.3-7 \,\mu\text{m}$ in spicule dominated skeletons (de Weerdt 2000). *Chalinula* aff. *molitba* has been recorded in different localities in the TNwA. De Weerdt (2000) recorded the species in the northern GoM, and recently the species was recorded by Ugalde *et al.* (2015) from Alacranes reef in the SGoM.



FIGURE 25. *Chalinula* aff. *molitba* (de Laubenfels, 1949) (CNPGG-2359), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of transversal skeleton showing a reticulation of spongin fibers and reticulation of oxeas more than one spicule long; **C.** oxeas. Scale bars: $A = 250 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$; $C = 25 \mu m$

Genus Haliclona Grant, 1841

Subgenus Haliclona (Gellius) Gray, 1867

Haliclona (Gellius) megasclera Lehnert & van Soest, 1996

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 26A–D

Synonymy and references: *Haliclona megasclera* Lehnert & van Soest (1996: 73); *Haliclona (Gellius) megasclera*, present study.

Type locality. Jamaica.

Material examined. CNPGG-2379, Banco Obispo Sur reef (20.50072°N, -92.20306°W), 11 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017.

Description. Encrusting habit; seen in a fragmented specimen, size of the fragment: $1.6-3.2 \times 0.15$ cm. The surface is microhispid without visible pores or oscules. Color *in vivo* not recorded, light beige in ethanol. Consistency highly compressible and slightly friable.

Skeleton. Tangential skeleton with a unispicular reticulation, and several scattered spicules (Fig. 26A–B). Choanosomal skeleton is an irregular reticulation of paucispicular primary lines, 2–3 spicules thick (Fig. 26C). Some subdermal lacunae, up to 250 μ m in diameter beneath the ectosomal region, and channels up to 500 μ m in diameter in the choanosomal region. Some raphid-like growth stages of oxeas throughout the skeleton.

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas are slightly curved and smooth, in a large size range; the juvenile forms are thinner (Fig. 26D). Tips sharp, acerate to hastate; 280-355.3 (46.9)–440/8.5–10.4 (1.3)–12 µm.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Jamaica (Lehnert & van Soest 1996).

Remarks. *Haliclona* (*G.*) *megasclera* has been described only in Jamaica (Lehnert & van Soest 1996); therefore, our study is the second record of the species and the first record for the GoM, as well as the first from a shallower habitat. The material examined conforms well to the general outline, skeleton, and spicule sizes, according to the expected for *H.* (*G.*) *megasclera*. Its massive habit that was not encountered in our collecting dives should probably be due to the different depths and evident environmental differences. The slightly larger oxeas in our material do not distort the average range of $282-370/9-12 \mu m$ in the type material. Besides, the large-sized oxeas are the main trait of *H.* (*G.*) *megasclera* compared to other Caribbean *Haliclona* (*Gellius*) species. Despite that, no striking differences appear over the two morphs, massive habit at 77 m depth, and encrusted habit at 11 m; both include the same overall traits.



FIGURE 26. *Haliclona (Gellius) megasclera* Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 (CNPGG-2379), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the ectosomal skeleton ; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton of the choanosomal region near to surface; **C.** transversal section of the skeleton of the choanosomal region; **D.** oxeas, 1— juvenile forms raphides-like oxeas and 2—raphides. Scale bars: $A = 250 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$; $D = 25 \mu m$.

Subgenus Haliclona (Reniera) Schmidt, 1862

Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla **Bispo, Correia & Hajdu, 2016** Tables 6, 7; Figs. 27A–C, 36K

Synonymy and references: *Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla* Bispo *et al.* (2016: 237). De la Cruz-Francisco & González-González (2016: 55).

Type locality. Marechal Deodoro, AL, Brazil.

Material examined. CNPGG-2192, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20512°N, -91.96305°W), 0.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 19 August 2018, CNPGG-2477, Yucalpeten lagoon (21.2630°N, 89.7062°W), 0.5 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 17 July 2017.



FIGURE 27. *Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla* Bispo, Correia & Hajdu, 2016 (CNPGG-2192), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** transversal section of skeleton of the choanosomal region; **C.** oxeas, arrows pointing to raphides. Scale bars: $A-B = 200 \mu m$; $C = 25 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (De la Cruz-Francisco & Gónzalez-Gónzalez 2016; current records), Brazil (Bispo *et al.* 2016).

Remarks. *Haliclona (R.) chlorilla* is a shallow species inhabiting tyde pools, seagrasses or macroalgae and it is characterized by a repent morphology of delicate branches in dark green or black live color, and absence of any microscleres (Bispo *et al.* 2016). *Haliclona (R.) chlorilla* has been described for the Northeast of Brazil (Bispo *et al.* 2016). Recently, De la Cruz-Francisco & González-González (2016) recorded the species at the Lobos-Tuxpan reef system in the SGoM, extending the distribution of the species. Our record further extends the distribution of *Haliclona (R.) chlorilla* to the Campeche Bank in the SGoM.

Haliclona (Reniera) aff. *portroyalensis* Jackson, de Weerdt & Webber, 2006 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 28A–F

Synonymy and references: *Haliclona (Reniera) portroyalensis* Jackson *et al.* (2006: 62) and Bispo *et al.* (2016: 241); *Haliclona (Reniera)* aff. *portroyalensis*: present study.

Type locality. Jamaica.

Material examined. CNPGG-2444, Isla Verde reef (19.20588°N, -96.07305°W), 7.8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 31 August 2018.

Description. Thickly encrusting habit; size $2-4.7 \times 0.9$ cm. Surface smooth, provided with scattered oscules ca. 2 mm diameter, without visible pores. The color *in vivo* was not recorded, light beige in ethanol. Consistency is soft and flexible.

Skeleton. The ectosomal skeleton is a unispicular isotropic reticulation tending to isodictyal (Fig. 28A). Choanosomal skeleton is similar to the ectosomal one, with a unispicular network, but some tracts are 2-3 spicules thick (Fig. 28B). Toxas are more abundant in the ectosomal region (Fig. 28E).

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas slightly curved, smooth, in a large size range; juvenile forms are thinner (Fig. 28C–D). Tips sharp, conic to acerate; 140-181 (17.3)–200/5-9.2 (1.7)– $10 \mu m$. Microscleres (Fig.28 E–F): toxas smooth; 24-52.8 (16.4)– $70 \times 0.5-1.5 \mu m$.



FIGURE 28. *Haliclona (Reniera)* aff. *portroyalensis* Jackson, de Weerdt & Webber, 2006 (CNPGG-2477), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton of the choanosomal region; **C.** oxeas, 1— juvenile forms raphides-like oxeas and 2—toxa; **D.** oxeas in detail; **E.** toxas in ectosomal region; **F.** toxas in detail. Scale bars: $A-B = 100 \mu m$; $C-F = 25 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Jamaica (Jackson et al. 2006).

Remarks. This study presents the first record of *Haliclona (R.) portroyalensis* after its original description and the first record for the GoM. Our material has slightly smaller and thicker oxeas $(140-200/5-10 \ \mu\text{m})$ and smaller toxas $(24-70/0.5-1.5 \ \mu\text{m})$ compared with the type material described by Jackson *et al.* (2006): *viz.*, spicules in the latter, oxeas $153-209.7/6-8.7 \ \mu\text{m}$ and toxas $3.6-112.5/0.3-1.5 \ \mu\text{m}$. Furthermore, our material is encrusting and

with few apertures visible, as long as Jackson *et al.* (2006) describe a digitate specimen with a few slightly swollen areas and a bulbous basis and oscules scattered on the surface. Although some differences are observed between our material and the description in Jackson *et al.* (2006), we have only a small specimen examined. A new analysis of specimens from the Gulf population of *H.* (*R.*) *portroyalensis* is needed to clarify if the characters observed by us represent morphological variation or point to a new species. Thus, the present identification is just tentative.

Subgenus Haliclona (Soestella) de Weerdt, 2000

Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea (Hechtel, 1965)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 29A-C, 36L

Synonymy and references: *Sigmadocia caerulea* Hechtel (1965: 30); *Haliclona coerulescens, Haliclona (Reniera) coerulescens, Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea*: Gómez (2007: 63), *Sigmadocia caerulea* and *Sigmadocia coerulea*: see references compiled in de Weerdt (2000: 29); *Haliclona caerulea*: de Weerdt (2000: 29), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 180) and Bispo *et al.* (2016: 241); *Haliclona coerulea*: Pérez *et al.* (2017: 10).

Type locality. Jamaica.

Material examined. CNPGG-2396, Hornos reef (19.19083°N, -96.11777°W), 2.2 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018; CNPGG-2421, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, -96.06863°W), 7.3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018.



FIGURE 29. *Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea* (Hechtel, 1965) (CNPGG-2396), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton of the choanosomal region; **C.** oxeas, and sigmas. Scale bars: $A-B = 250 \mu m$; $C = 25 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2007; current records), Cuba (Alcolado 1976), other Caribbean Sea countries to Brazil (Weerdt de 2000).

Remarks. *Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea* is characterized by a combination of shape, bright blue color, skeletal architecture, and the presence of sigmas 15–30 μ m long, which distinguish it from *Haliclona (Soestella) piscaderaensis*, also with sigmas, but smaller (7–12.5 μ m) (de Weerdt 2000). *Haliclona. (S.) caerulea* has only been registered for the GoM from the Veracruz reefs (Gómez 2007, 2011; this work). De Weerdt (2000) has mentioned that the predominant environment of the species lies in the roots of mangroves and in waters shallower than 27 m. In the GoM, the species is known from shallow coral reefs.

Family Niphatidae van Soest, 1980

Genus Amphimedon Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Amphimedon compressa Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 30A–B, 36M

Synonymy and references: *Amphimedon arborscens* Lamarck (1814: 446); *Spongia arborescens* Lamarck (1814: 446); *Spongia rubens* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 41); *Amphimedon arborescens* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 79); *Haliclona rubens* Laubenfels de (1953: 519), Hartman (1955: 167), Green (1977: 86); *Amphimedon arborscens var. ensiformis* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 79); *Haliclona (Amphimedon) compressa, Amphimedon aff. compressa* and *Amphimedon* sp.: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 103); *Amphimedon compressa* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 73), Gómez (2002:82), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 103).

Type locality. The Virgin Islands.

Material examined. CNPGG–1900, Alacranes reef (22.39255°N, 89.69508°W), 5 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 15 May 2016; CNPGG–1950, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19161°N, -91.99086°W), 12.5 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 23 August 2016; CNPGG–2290, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.4946°N, - 92.20378°W), 24 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017; CNPGG–2403, Hornos reef (19.19083°N, -96.11777°W), 3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018; CNPGG–2419, Isla Verde reef (19.20166°N, -96.07094°W), 3.8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018; CNPGG–2437, CNPGG–2438, CNPGG–2440, Cabezo reef (19.05086°N, -95.82388°W), 9.3–9.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018.



FIGURE 30. *Amphimedon compressa* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2403), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** oxeas. Scale bars: $A = 250 \mu m$; $B = 50 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Hartman 1955; Green 1977 as *Haliclona rubens*; Gómez & Green 1984; Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2002; Maas-Vargas 2004; González-Gándara *et al.* 2009; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea; Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. *Amphimedon compressa* is a common inhabitant of the coral reefs in the GoM; it has been recorded in different coral reefs of Veracruz (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2007, 2011; González-Gándara *et al.* 2009), as well as in the Campeche Bank by Hartman (1955, as *Haliclona rubens*). We observed this species frequently in different coral reefs at the Campeche Bank. *A. compressa* had also been reported by several authors, in the northern GoM (Rützler *et al.* 2009) and off Quintana Roo (Gómez 2002; Maas-Vargas 2004).

Amphimedon viridis Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 31A-C, 36N

Synonymy and references: *Amphimedon viridis* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 8), Green *et al.* (1986: 134), Hajdu *et al.* (2011:191), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 104); *Hemihaliclona viridis* Burton (1937: 18); *Haliclona viridis* Laubenfels de (1936: 42, 1953: 519), and *Haliclona (Amphimedon) viridis*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 104).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2222, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20512°N, -91.96305°W), 2 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 21 August 2018; CNPGG-2477, Isla de Enmedio Reef (19.09864°N, -95.93680°W), 3.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 11 June 2019.

Distribution. Mexico (Green 1977; Maas-Vargas 2004; Gómez 2007; current records), Bermuda, Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Hajdu *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. *Amphimedon viridis* has been reported in different works from the GoM. On the Mexican coast, the species was recorded in Blanquilla reef, Veracruz by Green *et al.* (1986), and later on by Gómez (2007) in different coral reefs around Veracruz Reef System. In the northern GoM, several authors cite *A. viridis* in this area (Rützler *et al.* 2009).



FIGURE 31. *Amphimedon viridis* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2477), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** transversal section of skeleton; **C.** oxeas. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C = 50 \mu m$.

Genus Niphates Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Niphates erecta Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 32A–D, 36O

Synonymy and references: *Niphates erecta* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 93); *Niphates erecta*: Green *et al.* (1986: 136), Gómez (2007: 64), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 193), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 105), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 86), and van Soest (2017: 33); *Niphates thomasiana* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 94); *Fibularia ramosa* Carter (1882: 283); *Pachychalina areolate* Wilson (1902: 392); *Haliclona variabilis* de Laubenfels (1950: 42), Wiedenmayer (1977: 96), and Díaz *et al.* (1985: 49); *Haliclona areolate* Laubenfels de (1936: 39), Wells *et al.* (1960: 207); *Gelliodes areolata* Hechtel (1965: 25), Green (1977: 89); *Niphates* sp., see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 105).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2374, Banco Pera reef (20.72669°N, -91.93481°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 15 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Green 1977 as *Gelliodes areolata*; Gómez 2002, 2007; Maas-Vargas 2004; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bermuda, Bahamas, US (Florida), Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Rützler *et al.* 2014); Guyana, Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. *Niphates erecta* has been reported in the SGoM at Blanquilla reef, Veracruz (Green 1977 as *Gelliodes areolata*). Besides, Gómez (2007) cited it from several reefs on the same coast of Veracruz. In the northern Gulf, several authors have also reported in Rüetzler *et al.* (2009).



FIGURE 32. *Niphates erecta* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2374), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **D.** transversal section of the skeleton; **E.** oxeas, the arrow pointing to a stylote form. Scale bars: $A = 1000 \mu m$; $B-C = 500 \mu m$; $D = 100 \mu m$.

Family Petrosiidae van Soest, 1980

Genus Neopetrosia de Laubenfels, 1949

Neopetrosia proxima (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 33A–C, 45A–B

Synonymy and references: *Thalysias proxima* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 84), and van Soest *et al.* (1983: 198); *Densa araminta, Neofibularia proxima* and *Xestospongia próxima*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 106); *Neopetrosia proxima*, Muricy *et al.* (2011: 106), Santos *et al.* (2016: 336), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 10), van Soest (2017: 35), and Vicente *et al.* (2019: 8).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2376, CNPGG-2264 Banco Pera reef (20.72669°N, -91.93481°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 15 September 2017.

Description. Habit elongate or massive. The size of the specimen with an elongate habit (CNPGG-2264, Fig. 45A), ca. $20 \times 6 \times 2$ cm. The larger massive specimen (CNPGG-2376, Fig. 45B), ca. $20 \times 10 \times 2$ cm. Surface microhispid and undulated. Oscules are slightly aligned (elongate specimen) or scattered (massive specimen). Color *in vivo* pale orange, pinkish-beige, or brownish-beige preserved in ethanol. The consistency is hard but friable.

Skeleton. Ectosome is not easily detachable, and the tangential skeleton shows a rounded mesh; ca. 150–200 μ m in diameter (Fig. 33A). Choanosome with a similar skeleton arrangement to the ectosomal skeleton. The choanosomal region with wide channels; up to 1500 μ m width (Fig. 33B).

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas, slightly curved (Fig. 33C); 132–147 (10)–165/7–9.2 (1.3)–12 µm.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), US (Florida); other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Guyana, and Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. Only two species of *Neopetrosia* have been reported in the northern GoM, *N. carbonaria* and *N. subtriangularis* (Rützler *et al.* 2009). *N. subtriangularis* has been also reported in the southern section of the GoM (*e.g.*, Green 1977; Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2007). *Neopetrosia proxima* has also been reported in Guyana by van Soest (2017). Our study is the first record of *N. proxima* for the GoM, since it has not been recorded in any recent revision study of sponges from the region (Gómez 2007; Rützler *et al.* 2009; Ugalde *et al.* 2015).



FIGURE 33. *Neopetrosia proxima* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2264), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton; **C.** oxeas. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C = 50 \mu m$.

Neopetrosia subtriangularis (Duchassaing, 1850)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 34A–C, 45C

Synonymy and references: *Spongia subtriangularis* Duchassaing (1850: 26), and de Laubenfels (1936: 43); *Thalysias subtriangularis* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 85), and van Soest *et al.* (1983: 199); *Thalysias subtriangularis var. cylindrica* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 85), and van Soest *et al.* (1983: 199); *Schmidtia aulopora* Schmidt (1870: 44); *Pachychalina rugosa* Arndt (1927: 154); *Pachychalina rugosa var. rubens* Arndt (1927: 54), and van Soest (1980: 72); *Neopetrosia longleyi* de Laubenfels (1953: 519); de Laubenfels (1954: 83), Green (1977: 88); *Haliclona doria* de Laubenfels (1936: 458), Green (1977: 86), Díaz *et al.* (1985: 53), and Hechtel (1965: 18); *Haliclona longleyi* de Laubenfels (1936: 43); *Xestospongia subtriangularis*: Green *et al.* (1986: 137), Gómez (2002: 89), see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 107); *Neopetrosia subtriangularis*, Muricy *et al.* (2011: 107), and van Soest (2017: 36)—other references therein.



FIGURE 34. *Neopetrosia subtriangularis* (Duchassaing, 1850) (CNPGG-2435), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** oxeas, C. strongyle. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 50 \mu m$.

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2413, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, -96.06863°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018; CNPGG-2435, Cabezo reef (19.05086°N, -95.82388°W), 9 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Green 1977 as *Haliclona doria*; Gómez 2002, 2007 as *Xestospongia subtriangularis*; Maas-Vargas 2004; González-Gándara *et al.* 2009; current records), the Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. *Neopetrosia subtriangularis*, is a common and widespread sponge at Veracruz Reefs Systems (Green 1977; Gómez 2007; González-Gándara *et al.* 2009). It is also reported in the northern GoM (Rützler *et al.* 2009).

Genus Petrosia Vosmaer, 1885

Subgenus Petrosia (Petrosia) Vosmaer, 1885

Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi van Soest, 1980 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 35A–D, 45D

Synonymy and references: *Petrosia weinbergi* van Soest (1980: 75), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 196) and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 107); *Petrosia* sp., see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 107); *Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi*, Muricy *et al.* (2011: 107), Rützler (2014: 90) and van Soest (2017: 37).

Type locality. Curaçao.

Material examined. CNPGG-2203, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19491°N, -91.95741°W), 5.1 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2249, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.85178°N, -92.30963°W), 23 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 09 September 2017; CNPGG-2392, Hornos reef (19.19083°N, -96.11777°W), 2.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018; CNPGG-2434, Cabezo reef (19.05086°N, -95.82388°W), 8.3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018; CNPGG-2448, Isla Verde reef (19.20588°N, -96.07305°W), 7.2 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 31 August 2018.



FIGURE 35. *Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi* van Soest, 1980 (CNPGG-2249), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** transversal section of the skeleton; **D.** oxeas, 1— oxeas I, 2—oxeas II, 3—oxeas III and 4—oxeas IV. Scale bars: A 500 μ m; B–C = 100 μ m; D = 50 μ m.

Distribution. Mexico (Maas-Vargas 2004; Gómez 2011; current records), Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Guyana, to Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. Our study presents the second record of *P*. (*P*.) *weinbergi* for the GoM, following Gómez (2011). This species is not present in recent studies on sponges from the region. Our specimens match in all their characteristics the description by van Soest (1980).



FIGURE 36. In situ photographs of species analyzed in the present study: A. Cliona varians (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2188); B. Cliona flavifodina Rützler, 1974 (CNPGG-2386); C. Spirastrella coccinea (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2414); D. Spirastrella mollis Verrill, 1907 (CNPGG-2424), oscule detail zoomed in; E. Placospongia ruetzleri van Soest, 2017 (CNPGG-2391); F. Callyspongia (Callyspongia) fallax Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2239); G. Callyspongia (Chladochalina) armigera (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2179); H. Callyspongia (Chladochalina) armigera (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2239); J. Chalinula aff. molitba (de Laubenfels, 1949) (CNPGG-2359), surface detail zoomed in (arrow pointing to a specimen of Timea stenosclera Hechtel, 1969); K. Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla Bispo, Correia & Hajdu, 2016 (CNPGG-2192); L. Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea (Hechtel, 1965) (CNPGG-2396); M. Amphimedon compressa Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2403); N. Amphimedon viridis Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2477); O. Niphates erecta Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2374), surface detail zoomed in; Scale bars, A–O = 1 cm.

Genus Xestospongia de Laubenfels, 1932

Xestospongia arenosa van Soest & de Weerdt, 2001

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 37A-C

Synonymy and references: *Xestospongia arenosa* van Soest & de Weerdt (2001: 110), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 14), Pérez *et al.*, (2017: 10), and Silva & Zea (2017: 120).

Type locality. Curaçao.

Material examined. CNPGG-2237, Triangulos Oeste reef (20.9622°N, -92.3112°W), 15 m depth, coll. Gabriel Cervantes, 08 September 2017; CNPGG-2245, Triangulos Oeste reef (20.9517°N, -92.3096°W), 23 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 09 September 2017.

Description. Slightly encrusting habit. Specimen CNPGG-2245 is fragmented and excavating the coral rubble. The encrusting specimen's size is $3.5 \times 2.5 \times 1$ cm. Surface microhispid and undulated. Oscules are scattered. Color *in vivo* white, light-beige preserved in ethanol. The consistency is brittle, easily broken.

Skeleton. Ectosome is detachable, and the tangential skeleton shows unispicular reticulation (Fig. 37A), enclosing meshes $150-270 \,\mu\text{m}$ in diameter. An isotropic reticulation conforms the choanosomal skeleton from ill-defined tracts, traversed single-spicules (Fig. 37B), and rounded meshes $350-500 \,\mu\text{m}$ in diameter. The skeleton that goes close to the surface is confused and vague.

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas to styles, slightly curved, with a wide range in size (Fig.37C); 250-375 (50.1)–420/8.5-14.3 (3.3)– $19 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Curaçao (van Soest & Weerdt de 2001), Belize (Rützler *et al.* 2014), Colombia, and Martinique (Silva & Zea 2017).

Remarks. Our material of *Xestospongia arenosa* constitutes the first record of the species for the GoM. The present material's overall features are similar to those from the original description, distinguished from other *Xestospongia* species by its loose reticulation, mainly of single spicules. Our specimens were inside the coral rubble with only a portion of their body exposed on the surface, contrasting to the massive morphology of specimens from van Soest & de Weerdt (2001) and Silva & Zea (2017). Characteristics matching our specimens and those described in van Soest & de Weerdt (2001) and Silva & Zea (2017) are the ectosomal skeleton with a unispicular isotropic reticulation, the triangular meshes, and the loose choanosomal skeleton with a reticulation of ascending primary spicule tracts. The length of spicules in our specimens were slightly smaller (250-375(50.1)-420/8.5-14.3(3.3)-19 µm) than in specimens recorded by van Soest & de Weerdt (2001): $342-431.2-508 \times 7-10.1-14$ µm, and Silva & Zea (2017): $300-436-508 \times 16-19-29.2$ µm. This difference in the spicules proportions could be due to the lower amounts of silica available in the GoM compared to other regions in the Atlantic ocean (Lanza-Espino de la & Gómez-Rojas 2004).



FIGURE 37. *Xestospongia arenosa* van Soest & de Weerdt, 2001 (CNPGG-2237), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton; **C.** oxeas. Scale bars: $A-B = 250 \mu m$; $C = 200 \mu m$.

Xestospongia muta (Schmidt, 1870)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 38A–C, 45E

Synonymy: Schmidtia muta Schmidt (1870: 44); Petrosia muta: see references compiled in Muricy et al. (2011: 107–108); *Xestospongia muta*, Gómez (2002: 90), Hajdu et al. (2011: 198), Muricy et al. (2011: 107–108), Pérez et al. (2017: 10) and van Soest (2017: 40)—other references therein.

Type locality. Florida.

Material examined. CNPGG-2230, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, -91.95997°W), 10.2 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2002; Maas-Vargas 2004; current records), the Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Guyana, to Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. *Xestospongia muta* has been reported in the northern GoM (Rützler *et al.* 2009). *Xestospongia muta* was also quoted by Gómez (2002) at Yucatan; however, there is no specific location. Our records confirm the presence of the species in the Southern section of the GoM.



FIGURE 38. *Xestospongia muta* (Schmidt, 1870) (CNPGG-2230), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton; **C.** oxeas. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C = 200 \mu m$.

Family Phloeodictyidae Carter, 1882

Genus Calyx Vosmaer, 1885

Calyx podatypa (de Laubenfels, 1934) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 39A–D

Synonymy and references: *Haliclona podatypa* de Laubenfels (1934: 23); *Calyx podatypa*: Rützler *et al.* (2014: 86), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 10), and van Soest. (2017: 41); *Haliclona podatypa*, *?Calyx podatypa*, *Calyx* cf. *podatypa* and *?Pachypellina podatypa*, see references compiled in van Soest. (2017: 41).

Type locality. Puerto Rico.

Material examined. CNPGG-2246, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.951783°N, 92.309633°W), 23 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 09 September 2017.

Description. Encrusting habit and cushion shaped, cavernous interior, the massive part is similar to an hourglass figure; measures 3×2.3 cm at the base by up to 0.8 cm thick at the middle region. Size of encrusting part, $7 \times 3.4 \times 1$ cm. The surface is smooth without visible pores. Oscules (1–5 mm) scattered or slightly aligned, flush to the surface, or slightly elevated. Color *in vivo* not recorded, whitish beige in ethanol. The consistency is firm but slightly friable.

Skeleton. The ectosomal region is denser than the choanosomal and formed by compacted spicules pointing in

all directions, with aligned and rounded subdermal channels, up to $100 \,\mu\text{m}$ in diameter (Fig. 39B). The choanosomal skeleton is an ill-defined subisodictyal reticulation of spicules interconnected with paucispicular tracts, pierced by large and round channels which are scattered in the choanosomal region, up to 300 μm in diameter (Fig. 39 A, C).

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas slightly curved and smooth, in a large size range (Fig. 39 D). Tips sharp, acerate to telescopic; 130-154.3 (12.3)-170/3.5-6.3 (1.5)-8 μ m.



FIGURE 39. *Calyx podatypa* (de Laubenfels, 1934) (CNPGG-2246), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** detail of the choanosomal region; **D.** oxeas. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-C = 100 \mu m$; $D = 25 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current record), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), other countries in the Caribbean Sea and Guyana (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. This study presents the first record of *Calyx podatypa* for the GoM. The van Soest (2017) study quotes a discrepancy in some specimens reported for *C. podatypa*, leading him to re-examine the holotype. He found uniformity in the oxeas, with the shape curved and thin: $117-133-144/2.5-3.8-5 \mu m$. Our material has a similar shape but slightly larger and thicker oxeas 130-154.3 (12.3)-170/3.5-6.3 (1.5) $-8 \mu m$. All other characteristics fit well; indeed, it has a cavernous choanosome, as Wiedenmayer (1977) described it.

Genus Siphonodictyon Bergquist, 1965

Siphonodictyon xamaycaense Pulitzer-Finali, 1986

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 40A–E, 45F–G

Synonymy and references: *Siphonodictyon xamaycaense* Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 164), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 89), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 10); *Aka* aff. *xamaycaensis* Hofman & Kielman (1992: 206); *Aka xamaycaensis* Alcolado & Busutil (2012: 71).

Type locality. Jamaica.

Material examined. CNPGG-2432, CNPGG-2441, Cabezo reef (19.05861°N, 95.8238°W), 9.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018.

Description. Habit erect wih hollow cylinders (Fig. 45F–G), with thin and fragile walls, burrowing coral rubble—mucus present. The tube's length ranges from 1–4 cm, and diameter of 0.5–0.7 cm. The surface is smooth. Oscular opening at the end of the cylinder 2–6 mm. White color *in vivo* and when preserved in ethanol. The consistency is friable.

Skeleton. The wall's ectosomal skeleton consists of a well-developed network of primary fibers and secondary fibers: $700-1000/300-700 \,\mu\text{m}$ wide. Primary tracts are packed with spicules, $75-300 \,\mu\text{m}$ thick. The secondary fibers are two to five spicules thick (Figs. 40 A–C).



FIGURE 40. *Siphonodictyon xamaycaence* Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 (CNPGG-2432), skeleton and spicules: **A.** tangential section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region with paucispicular reticulation; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton with multispicular tracts in the choanosomal region; **C.** tangential section of skeleton from a fistule showing a reticulation with three size mesh; **D-E.** oxeas. $A-C = 500 \ \mu\text{m}$; $D-E = 50 \ \mu\text{m}$.

Spicules. Megascleres: oxeas slightly curved and with uniform size (Figs. 40D–E): 100-126.2 (7.2)–140/7.2-8.3 (0.7)– $9.5 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Jamaica (Pulitzer-Finali 1986), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Rützler *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. *Siphonodictyon xamaycaense* has been recorded only from the Caribbean Sea; thus, our material represents the northernmost record of the species and the GoM's first record. The specimens examined showed spicule sizes larger than the holotype described by Pulitzer-Finali (1986), $110-125/4.5-6 \mu m$. However, other specimens recorded in Colombia (Hofman & Kielman 1992) have oxeas with similar sizes ($120-150/6-8 \mu m$). Also, the range in length of cylinders between the Colombian and GoM specimens is similar (1-7 cm) compared with those recorded by Pulitzer-Finali (1986), 8-11 cm length.

Order Poecilosclerida Topsent, 1928

Family Microcionidae Carter, 1875

Genus Clathria Schmidt, 1862

Subgenus Clathria (Clathria) Schmidt, 1862

Clathria (*Clathria*) *foliacea* **Topsent**, **1889** Tables 6, 7; Figs. 41A–G, 45H

Synonymy and references: *Clathria foliacea* Topsent (1889: 39), Hooper (1996: 173), and Gómez (2014: 53); *Clathria (Clathria) foliacea,* and *Thalyseurypon foliacea*: see references compiled in Hooper (1996: 173), and Gómez (2014: 53).

Type locality. Campeche Bank, Mexico.

Material examined. CNPGG-2172, Cayo Arcas reef (20.199083°N, 91.96380°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 25 April 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Topsent 1889; Gómez 2014; current records), US (Florida) (de Laubenfels 1936 as *Thalyseurypon foliacea*).

Remarks. *Clathria* (*C.*) *foliacea* is a shrub shaped sponge, pedunculate or not, the branchlets mainly flabellated, similar in shape to *C.* (*C.*) *carteri* (not represented in this study). Therefore, light microscopy for spicule definitions is necessary to confirm the proper identification. *Clathria* (*C.*) *foliacea* has been reported and described for both the SGoM (Gómez 2014) and northern Gulf (de Laubenfels 1936, as *Thalyseurypon foliacea*).



FIGURE 41. *Clathria* (*Clathria*) *foliacea* Topsent, 1889 (CNPGG-2463), skeleton and spicules: **A.** section transversal of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal and choanosomal regions; **C.** ectosomal auxiliary style and choanosomal acanthostyle, arrows pointing to palmate isochelae; **D.** choanosomal principal tylostyles (larger ones) and choanosomal auxiliary subtylostyle (smaller ones), arrow pointing to toxa; **E.** choanosomal auxiliary subtylostyles; **F.** toxa; **G.** palmate isochelae. Scale bars. A = 500μ m; B = 250μ m; C, E = 50μ m; D = 100μ m; F = 25μ m; G = 10μ m.

Clathria (Clathria) gomezae van Soest, 2017 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 42A–G, 45I

Synonymy and references: *Clathria (Microciona) echinata*: Gómez (2014: 66, in part); *Clathria (Clathria) gomezae* van Soest (2017: 146).



FIGURE 42. *Clathria* (*Clathria*) *gomezae* van Soest, 2017 (CNPGG-2231), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal and choanosomal regions; **C.** choanosomal principal styles; **D.** ectosomal auxiliary subtylostyles, white arrows pointing to palmate isochelae and a black arrow pointing to large and small categories of cleistochelae; **E.** ectosomal auxiliary subtylostyles, white arrow pointing to a large cleistochelae (large category of size) and black arrow pointing to a small cleistochelae (small category of size); **F.** palmate isochelae (white arrow pointing to two of it) and large and small categories of cleistochela. **G.** toxa. Scale bars. A = 500 µm; B = 150 µm; C = 100 µm; D = 50 µm; E–F = 25 µm; G = 200 µm.

Type locality. Guyana.

Material examined. CNPGG-2299, Cayo Arcas reef (20.49856°N, 92.20481°W), 17 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017; CNPGG-2231, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, 91.95997°W), 10.2 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2014 as C (C.) echinata; current records), Guyana (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. Up to now, *C.* (*C.*) gomezae has been reported only in the Guyana shelf (van Soest 2017), and in the SGoM (Gómez 2014, as *C.* (*C.*) echinata). Clathria (*C.*) gomezae is characterized by a massive body shape, with an upright outgrowth, grossly punctate, reddish color when alive. The spiculation consists of principal and auxiliary styles, cleistochelae, isochelae, and normal toxas. *C.* (*C.*) echinata (Alcolado 1984) can be confused with *C.* (*C.*) gomezae because of the similarities between the spiculation, but *C.* (*C.*) echinata differs for its encrusting or sub-spherical shape, the presence of oxeote toxa in great size, and above all the spicule dimensions. Van Soest (2017) suggested a new study to determine if the variation of the species belongs to a polymorphic species and to include Clathria (Microciona) trairae Santos & Pinheiro, 2014, which also differs in only minor details with *C.* (*M.*) echinata.

Subgenus Clathria (Thalysias) Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864

Clathria (*Thalysias*) *venosa* (Alcolado, 1984) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 43A–H, 45J

Synonymy and references: *Microciona venosa* Alcolado (1984: 6), Hooper (1996: 411), and Gómez (2014: 70); Clathria venosa, Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 136), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11); *Clathria (Thalysias) venosa*: Hooper (1996: 411), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 62), and Gómez (2014: 70).

Type locality. Caribbean, Cuba.

Material examined. CNPGG-2404, Hornos reef (19.19083°N, 96.11777°W), 3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018; CNPGG-2410, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, 96.06863°W), 3.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018; CNPGG-2445, Isla Verde reef (19.20588°N, 96.07305°W), 7.8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 31 August 2018.



FIGURE 43. *Clathria (Thalysias) venosa* (Alcolado, 1984) (CNPGG-2410), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of skeleton; **B.** choanosomal principal subtylostyle; **C.** choanosomal auxiliary subtylostyles; **D.** ectosomal auxiliary subtylostyles and choanosomal acanthostyle, the arrow pointing to chelae; **E**–**F.** choanosomal acanthostyles; **G.** toxas (one side broken); **H.** palmate isochelae. Scale bars. A = 200 μ m; B–D = 50 μ m; E = 100 μ m; D = 50 μ m; E–G= 10 μ m; H = 5 μ m.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2014; current records), Cuba (Alcolado 1984), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Zea *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. Clathria (T.) venosa is distinguished by its encrusting habit, with a stellate venous pattern at sur-
face flowing to oscules; its color is pink, greyish, and whitish to cinnamon. *C.* (*T.*) *venosa* has been recorded and described for the southern (Gómez 2014) and the northern GoM (Zea *et al.* 2014). The species abundance has been shown to be positively correlated with urban organic pollution on coral reefs, exhibiting a significant exponential relation with the pollution degree (Busutil & Alcolado 2012).

Clathria (*Thalysias*) *virgultosa* (Esper, 1806) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 44A–H, 45K

Synonymy and references: *Spongia virgultosa* Esper, 1806; Lamarck (1814); *Clathria copiosa, Clathria jugosa, Rhaphidophlus juniperinus, Spongia virgultosa, Tenacia clathrata, Thalysias juniperina, Thalysias juniperina,* see references compiled in Hooper (1996: 411), and Gómez (2014: 74); *Clathria (Thalysias) virgultosa:* Hooper (1996: 411), Gómez (2014: 74), and Rützler *et al.* (2014: 62).

Type locality. Greater Antilles.

Material examined. CNPGG-2357, Banco Obispo Sur reef (20.42345°N, 92.22743°W), 9 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 14 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Topsent 1889 as *Clathria copiosa;* Hartman 1955 as *Microciona juniperina;* Gómez 2014; current records), Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Zea *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. *Clathria* (*T.*) *virgultosa* has been reported for the southern (Gómez 2014) and northern GoM (Rützler *et al.* 2009). This species has different morphotypes from bush shaped to encrusting, always rugose surface and reddish color. It is also distinguished by unusual acanthostyles with a smooth shaft at the mid-region and spined on both endings (Gómez 2014). Our material has an encrusting habit, rugose surface, and reddish color. We observe neither microtoxa, nor oxhorn toxa, nor a larger category of palmate isochelae, but we observe the unusual acanthostyles with a smooth shaft at the mid-region, and spined on both endings; see spiculation of *C.* (*T.*) *virgultosa* described by Gómez (2014) and Zea *et al.* 2014.



FIGURE 44. *Clathria (Thalysias) virgultosa* (Esper, 1806) (CNPGG-2357), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** detail of the choanosomal region; **D.** choanosomal principal style (larger form) and choanosomal auxiliary style (smaller form); **E.** ectosomal auxiliary subtylostyles, the arrow pointing to acanthostyles; **F.** acanthostyles; **G.** rhaphidiform toxas; **H.** palmate isochelae. Scale bars. A = 500 µm; B = 200 µm; C = 250 µm; D = 100 µm; E = 50 µm; F–G = 25 µm; H = 5 µm.



FIGURE 45. *In situ* photographs of species analyzed in the present study: A. *Neopetrosia proxima* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2264); B. *Neopetrosia proxima* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 (CNPGG-2376); C. *Neopetrosia subtriangularis* (Duchassaing, 1850) (CNPGG-2435); D. *Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi* van Soest, 1980 (CNPGG-2434). E. *Xestospongia muta* (Schmidt, 1870) (CNPGG-2230); F. *Siphonodictyon xamaycaense* Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 (CNPGG-2441), arrows pointing to fistules; G. *Siphonodictyon xamaycaense* Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 (CNPGG-2432); H. *Clathria (Clathria) foliacea* Topsent, 1889 (CNPGG-2172), its stem is covered by algae; I. *Clathria (Clathria) gomezae* van Soest, 2017 (CNPGG-2231); J. *Clathria (Thalysias) venosa* (Alcolado, 1984) (CNPGG-2410); K. *Clathria (Thalysias) virgultosa* (Esper, 1806) (CNPGG-2357). Scale bars, A–K = 1 cm.

Family Acarnidae Dendy, 1922

Genus Acarnus Gray, 1867

Acarnus innominatus Gray, 1867 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 46A–I, 58A

Synonymy and references: *Acarnus innominatus* Gray (1867: 544), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 145); *Fonteia anomala* Gray (1867: 544); *Acarnus carteri* and *Acarnus (Acarnus) innominatus:* see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 145).

Type locality. St. Vincent.

Material examined. CNPGG-2393, Hornos reef (19.19083°N, 96.11777°W), 2.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018.

Description. Encrusting habit (Fig. 58A); overall size $4 \times 1.5 \times 0.6$ cm. The surface is microhispid, with scattered pores and without visible oscules. Orange color *in vivo*, turning to beige when preserved in ethanol. The consistency is flexible.

Skeleton. Ectosome is formed by paratangential tylotes, with cladotylotes in tufts (Fig. 46A). The choanosomal skeleton consists of a reticulation of multispicular tracts of styles, echinated by cladotylotes (Fig. 46C). Microsclere; chelae and toxas; scattered throughout the choanosomal and ectosomal region (Fig. 46B).



FIGURE 46. *Acarnus innominatus* Gray, 1867 (CNPGG-2393), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton, ectosomal region with scattered tylotes; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton, ectosomal region of the skeleton with cladotylotes; **C.** transversal section of the skeleton, choanosomal region; **D.** 1—style, 2—wing-shaped toxa, 3—acolada toxa and 4—isochelae; **E.** tylote; **F.** detail of the extremities of the tylote; **G.** large cladotylote; **H.** small cladotylote, the arrow pointing to the tip of a style; **I.** oxhorn-shaped toxa. Scale bars: $A-B = 50 \ \mu\text{m}$; $C = 600 \ \mu\text{m}$; $D = 100 \ \mu\text{m}$; $E = 25 \ \mu\text{m}$; $F = 5 \ \mu\text{m}$; $G = 10 \ \mu\text{m}$; $H = 15 \ \mu\text{m}$; $I = 10 \ \mu\text{m}$.

Spicules. Megascleres: Styles stout, slightly curved and smooth (Fig. 46D1); 320-364.3 (27.3)–410/20-19.1 (3.8)–22.5 µm. Tylotes slender, straight and smooth, with microspined ends (Figs. 46E–F); 187-223.5 (25.3)–270/4.5–5.3 (0.6)–6 µm. Large cladotylotes with a smooth shaft and smooth rounded basal tyle and apical clads (Fig. 46G); 180-244.8 (20.4)–270/8–10.8 (1.5)–14 µm, and cladome with 20-36.4 (5.6)–40 µm in diameter. Small cladotylotes with a sparsely spined shaft, and smooth, rounded basal tyle and apical clads (Fig. 46G); 180-244.8 (0.3)–3 µm, and cladome with 10-16 (4.7)–20 µm in diameter. Microscleres: Palmate isochelae (Fig. 46D–4); 10-12.9 (1)–14 µm in length. Oxhorn-shaped toxas (Fig. 46I); 52-66 (10.8)–80 µm in length. Wing-shaped toxas (Fig. 46D–2); 18-34.3 (5.2)–40 µm in length. Accolada-shaped toxas (Fig. 46D–3); 170-363 (153.7)–600 in length.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Bahamas, US (Florida), Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea, and Brazil (Zea 1987; Muricy *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. The present specimen conforms to *A. innominatus* well enough based on Hooper's (2002) redescription of the type material. However, it differs in some aspects from Zea's (1987) description of Colombian materials, where spicule measurements are often larger: styles $404-461 \times 10-21 \mu m$, tylotes $237-313 \times 3.3-4.7 \mu m$, large cladotylotes $233-299 \times 8-10.9 \mu m$, small cladotylotes $133-138 \times 4.7 \mu m$, and occurrence of five instead of four apical clads on cladotylotes. However, these traits are within the known variation of the species. *Acarnus innominatus* has a widespread occurrence in the Caribbean region, but this is its first record for the GoM.

Family Crambeidae Lévi, 1963

Genus Monanchora Carter, 1883

Monanchora arbuscula (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 47A-F, 58B

Synonymy and references: *Pandaros arbusculum* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 88); *Monanchora arbuscula*: Gómez (2002: 79), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 146), Muricy *et al.* (2011), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 64), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11), van Soest (2017: 136), and Esteves *et al.* (2018: 463, in part); *Echinostylinos unguiferus, Echinostylinos* (?)*unguiferus, Monanchora barbadensis* [in part], *Monanchora unguifera, Monanchora* sp. 1, *Monanchora* sp. 2, *Mycale* sp., *Pandaros arbusculum, Prosuberites scarlatum* and *Ptilocaulis* aff. *spiculifer*, see references compiled in Esteves *et al.* (2018: 463).

Type locality. St. Thomas (US Virgin Islands).

Material examined. CNPGG-1815, Alacranes reef (22.3883°N, - 89.7024°W), 12 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 05 August 2012; CNPGG-1822, Sisal reef (21.43977°N, 90.2866°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 22 June 2016; CNPGG-2006, Cayo Nuevo reef (21.8278°N, 92.0773°W), 15 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 18 June 2016; CNPGG-2204, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20183°N, 91.97583°W), 6.4 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2271, Triangulos Este reef (20.89765°N, 92.24218°W), 12 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 11 September 2017; CNPGG-2418, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, 96.19844°W), 3.8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018.



FIGURE 47. *Monanchora arbuscula* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2204), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of choanosomal region; **C.** choanosomal subtylostyles; **D.** ectosomal subtylostyles, the arrow pointing to an anchorate chelae; **E.** ectosomal subtylostyles, the arrow pointing to a sigmoid chelae; **F.** Sigma. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 250 \mu m$; $C = 150 \mu m$; $D - E = 20 \mu m$; F = 10.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2007; current records), Guyana (van Soest 2017), US (Florida), other Caribbean Sea countries, Brazil (Esteves *et al.* 2018).

Remarks. Monanchora arbuscula has been reported in the southern (Gómez 2002, 2007) and northern sec-

tor of the GoM (de Laubenfels 1953). Here, recorded again from the southern sector. *Monanchora arbuscula* has been considered a species complex by Esteves *et al.* (2018), who proposed three new species from materials then considered to belong in *M. arbuscula*, *viz. M. coccinea* Esteves *et al*, 2018, *M. bahamensis* Esteves *et al*, 2018 and *M. megasigmifera* Esteves *et al*, 2018. The authors mention that *M. arbuscula* has a considerable morphological variability, and sometimes the microscleres can be lacking. Our material is represented by specimens with a thin encrusting habit, and microscleres are present (*viz.*, sigmoid chelae and unguiferate anchorate isochelae), except acanthomicrorhabds, but according to Esteves *et al.* (2018) the occurrence of acanthomicrorhabds is rare.

Family Chondropsidae Carter, 1886

Genus Strongylacidon Lendenfeld, 1897

Strongylacidon bermuda (de Laubenfels, 1950)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 48A-B, 58C

Synonymy and references: *Fibulia bermuda* de Laubenfels (1950: 52); *Ulosa bermuda* Rützler (1986: 121); *Fibulia* aff. *bermuda* and *Strongylacidon* aff. *bermuda*, Muricy *et al.* (2011: 190); *Strongylacidon bermudae*, Menegola *et al.* (2011: 4); *Strongylacidon bermudae*: Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 163).

Type locality. Bermuda.

Material examined. CNPGG-2170, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19491°N, 91.95741°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 25 April 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Ugalde et al. 2015; current records), Bermuda (de Laubenfels, 1950).

Remarks. *Strongylacidon bermuda* has previous records from Bermuda; *viz.*, de Laubenfels (1950); as *Fibulia bermuda*, and Rutzler (1986); as *Ulosa bermuda*. It has recently been recorded for the SGoM by Ugalde *et al.* (2015), particularly in Alacranes reef, at 5 m depth. Apparently, it is relatively common in Bermuda, but it is rare in the GoM and was never recorded previously in the Caribbean Sea. It is certainly a shallow-water species since all previous species' records were taken at 3–5 m depth. The current record is from 10 m.



FIGURE 48. *Strongylacidon bermuda* (de Laubenfels, 1950) (CNPGG-2170), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** strongyles. Scale bars: $A-B = 250 \mu m$.

Family Desmacididae Schmidt, 1870

Genus Desmapsamma Burton, 1934

Desmapsamma anchorata (Carter, 1882)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 49A–C, 58D

Synonymy and references: *Fibularia anchorata* Carter (1882: 283); *Desmacidon carterianum* Arndt (1927: 147); *Desmapsamma anchorata*: Gómez (2002: 77), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 151), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 162), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11); *Desmacidon reptans, Echinoclathria (Holopsamma) helwigi* and *Holopsamma helwigi*, see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 162).

Type locality. Antigua.

Material examined. CNPGG-2443, Cabezo reef (19.05086°N, 95.82388°W), 10.4 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018; CNPGG-1754 Alacranes reef (22.3529"N, 89.6723"W) 12 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 7 March 2012; CNPGG-1756 Alacranes reef (22.3830N, 89.6796"W), coll. Patricia Gómez, 6 August 2009; CNPGG-1757 Alacranes reef (22.3670"N, 89.6751"W), coll. Patricia Gómez, 3 August 2009.

Distribution. Mexico (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2002, 2007; current records), Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Zea 1987); Brazil (Hajdu *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. *Desmapsamma anchorata* is a common species in the SGoM, Veracruz's reefs (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2002, 2007), and northeastern Yucatan Peninsula. Our specimens match in all characteristics the original description of Carter (1882).



FIGURE 49. *Desmapsamma anchorata* (Carter, 1882) (CNPGG-2443), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** oxeas and sigmas, the arrow pointing to a small sigma; **C.** sigmas and anchorate isochelae. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 20 \mu m$; $C = 10 \mu m$.

Family Iotrochotidae Dendy, 1922

Genus Iotrochota Ridley, 1884

Iotrochota arenosa Rützler, Maldonado, Piantoni & Riesgo, 2007 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 50A–D, 58E

Synonymy and references: *Iotrochota arenosa* Rützler *et al.* (2007: 179), and Castello-Branco & Menegola (2014: 2); *Iotrochota* cf. *arenosa*: Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11).

Type locality. Belize.

Material examined. CNPGG-2422, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, 96.06863°W), 7.3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018; CNPGG-2452, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, 96.06863°W), 3.6 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 31 August 2018.

Description. Thickly encrusting habit (Fig. 58E); the larger specimen's size $7 \times 7 \times 1$ cm. Surface microconulose and without visible pores. Oscules small (up to 2 mm in diameter), flush to the surface, and scattered. Purplish

dark color in vivo and brownish dark preserved in ethanol. The consistency is flexible and slightly friable.

Skeleton. Reticulation of multispicular tracts of styles and strongyles (multispicular, 30–50 µm thick; Fig. 50A). Some spicules scattered throughout the reticulation. Some thin strongyles paratangential at the surface (Fig.50B). Birotules scattered throughout the skeleton. No visible sand grains.

Spicules. Megascleres: Styles stout, curved, and smooth (Fig. 50C–3); 134-155.6 (10.7)–170/5-8.2 (1.8)–11 μ m. Strongyles I straight and smooth (Fig. 50C–1); 210-218.5 (7.4)–230/5-6 (0.8)–7.5 μ m. Strongyles II very similar to the previous category but slightly longer and thinner (Fig. 50C–2); 230-241 (7.6)–260/3-4.1 (0.8)–6 μ m. Microscleres: Birotule abundant and small (Fig. 50D); 9.5-11.1 (1.1)–12 μ m in length.



FIGURE 50. *Iotrochota arenosa* Rützler, Maldonado, Piantoni & Riesgo, 2007 (CNPGG-2422), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** ectosomal region with brushes of strongyles II (slender strongyles); **C.** 1—strongyles I, 2— strongyles II, 3— styles; **D.** birotules. Scale bars: $A = 100 \mu m$; $B = 20 \mu m$; $C = 25 \mu m$; $D = 10 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Belize (Rützler *et al.* 2007b), Brazil (Castello-Branco & Menegola 2014).

Remarks. *I. arenosa* has only been recorded in Belize (Rützler *et al.* 2007b) and southeastern Brazil (Castello-Branco & Menegola 2014). Thus, our study presents the first record for the GoM. The present material was assigned to *I. arenosa* owing to three main features: 1) embedded sediment grains are absent in our material, 2) purplish brown, almost black color when alive in the type species, and 3) spiculation similar to that of the type material (Table 3). According to Castello-Branco & Menegola (2014) *I. arenosa* from Brazil does not possess sand grains and has much larger measurements in all spicules. The taxonomic significance of this variation must be determined before changing the diagnosis of the species, but this was beyond the scope of our study.

TABLE 3. *Iotrochota arenosa* spicule dimensions reported in the literature and current records. Micrometric data is presented as minimum–maximum length/minimum–maximum thickness; in µm

| Authon | Starlog | Steam grule I | Stuangyla II | Dinotulo |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Author | Styles | Strongyle I | Strongyle II | Dirotula |
| Rützler et al. 2007 | 141.7-174/4.3-8 | 144.5-158/4.2-6.8 | 205.2-230/3.7-4.8 | 10.9–12.4 |
| Castello-Branco & Menegola 2015 | 100-372.4/2.5-16 | 120-210/2.5-10 | 180-270/2.5-7.5 | 8.6–18.6 |
| Current records | 134-170/5-11 | 210-230/5-7.5 | 230-260/3-6 | 9.5–12 |

Family Mycalidae Lundbeck, 1905

Genus Mycale Gray, 1867

Subgenus Mycale (Mycale) Gray, 1867

Mycale (Mycale) laevis (Carter, 1882)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 51A–D, 58F

Synonymy and references: *Esperia laevis* Carter, (1882: 291); *Oxymycale strongylata* Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 1331); *Mycale laevis*: Laubenfels de (1936: 116), Green *et al.* (1986: 130), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 161), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 157); *Esperella fusca, Esperia laevis* and *Mycale fusca:* see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 157); *Mycale (Mycale) laevis*: Muricy *et al.* (2011: 157), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 69), and van Soest *et al.* (2017: 158).

Type locality. Venezuela.

Material examined. CNPGG-1919, Alacranes reef (22.38275°N, 89.695138°W), 6 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 25 May 2016;CNPGG-2273, Triangulo Este reef (20.9177°N, 92.2162°W), 12 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 11 September 2017; CNPGG-466, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, 96.06863°W), 5.5 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 28 August 2018; CNPGG-2430, Cabezo reef (19.09752°N, 95.85616°W), 12.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2007; current records), US (Florida), Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Zea 1987); Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. *Mycale* (*M.*) *laevis* is a common species in the coral reefs of the GoM (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2007). Loh *et al.* (2012) reported orange, semi-cryptic; orange, massive; white, massive; and white, semi-cryptic specimens. Our material is orange or yellow, both when semi-cryptic (material from Triangulo Este reef) or when massive (Isla Verde reef and Cabezo reef).



FIGURE 51. *Mycale (Mycale) laevis* (Carter, 1882) (CNPGG-2273), spicules: **A.** mycalostyles; **B.** microscleres, large anisochelae, raphides and small category of sigma; **C.** raphides in trichrodragma large category of sigmas; **D.** small category of anisochelae and small category of sigma. Scale bars: $A = 100 \mu m$; $B = 20 \mu m$; $C = 25 \mu m$; $D = 10 \mu m$.

Subgenus Mycale (Arenochalina) Lendenfeld, 1887

Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 52A–D, 58G

Synonymy and references: Acamas laxissima Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 95), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 154); Acamasina laxissima de Laubenfels (1936: 117); Mycale hyatti Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 128); Mycale jamaicaensis Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 125); Mycale mucifliens Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 121); Mycale whitfieldi Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 127); Hircinia cartilaginea var. horrida, Esperella nuda, Mycale angulosa, Mycale nuda, Mycale (Acamasina) laxissima, Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima, and Thorecta horridus: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 154); Mycale laxissima: Gómez (2002: 81), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 165), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 154).

Type locality. St. Thomas (US Virgin Islands).

Material examined. CNPGG-2416, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, 96.06863°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde,

28 August 2018; CNPGG-1234, Madagascar reef (21.43847°N, 90.2810°W), 12 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 29 May 2012; CNPGG-1825, Alacranes reef (22.2701°N, 89.5412°W) 8 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 10 August 2009; CNPGG-1829 Alacranes reef (22.386914°N, 89.6790°W), 7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 13 December 2012; CNPGG-2267, Triangulos Oeste reef (20.96073°N, - 92.30751°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 10 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez & Green 1984 as *M. (A.) angulosa*; current records), Bahamas, US (Florida)(Zea 1987), and Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. Up to now, *Mycale (M.) laxissima* has been reported in the SGoM (Veracruz and the Campeche Bank reefs; Gómez 2002, 2007, 2011) and Florida (de Laubenfels 1936, 1953; as *Mycale angulosa*).



FIGURE 52. *Mycale* (*Arenochalina*) *laxissima* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2267), spicules: **A.** mycalostyles; **B.** mycalostyle and sigma; **C–D.** anisochelae. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-D = 100 \mu m$.

Order Polymastiida Morrow & Cárdenas, 2015

Family Polymastiidae Gray, 1867

Genus Polymastia Bowerbank, 1862

Polymastia tenax Pulitzer-Finali, 1986

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 53A–H, 58H

Synonymy and references: *Polymastia tenax* Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 89), Boury-Esnault (1987: 55), Vacelet (1990: 22), Lehnert (1993: 63), Lehnert (1998: 80), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 12), and van Soest (2017: 122).

Type locality. Dominican Republic.

Material examined. CNPGG-2253, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.96412°N, 92.30193°W), 9 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 09 September 2017; CNPGG-2257, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.95864°N, 92.30453°W), 17.4 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 10 September 2017; CNPGG-2258, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.95864°N, 92.30453°W), 8.3 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 10 September 2017; CNPGG-2286, Triangulo Este reef (20.89108°N, 92.23992°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 12 September 2017; CNPGG-2292, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.4946°N, 92.20378°W), 14.8 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017.

Description. Massive habit with lobate conical papillae (Fig. 58H); the larger specimen with $4 \times 3 \times 2.5$ cm at the base, and papillae with 0.8 cm in diameter, 0.1 to 0.5 cm high. The surface is smooth, slightly wavy, and without visible pores. Oscules at the top of each papillae, up to 0.6 cm in diameter. Both brown and whitish colors show up *in vivo*, light brown when preserved in ethanol. The consistency is hard, almost incompressible.

Skeleton. Ectosomal region formed by a dense palisade of smaller tylostyles perpendicular to the surface (Fig. 53A). The choanosomal region is a confused mass of spicules (Fig. 53B), sometimes with style tracts, $30-100 \mu m$

thick. Larger tylostyles scattered in criss-cross position deep in the choanosome (Fig. 53C).

Spicules. Megascleres: Subtylostyles I, Large straight to slightly curved or sinuous, fusiform, and smooth, with a blunt or tyle-shaped base (Fig. 53E–F); 500–738 (97.2)–870/7.5–13.3 (2.5)–16.8 μ m and base/tyle 7–8.9 (1.8)–14.5 μ m. Subtylostyles II, stout, straight, fusiform, and smooth (Fig. 53G); 330–437.3 (45.6)–490/7.2–19.8 (5.4)–25 μ m and tyle 5–8.5 (2.1)–12 μ m. Subtylostyles III, smaller and thinner than the two previous categories (Fig. 53H); 160–206.7 (34.8)–290/2.4–4.9 (1.2)–7.2 μ m and tyle 2.4–4.4 (1.1)–6.5 μ m.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Greater Antilles (Pulitzer-Finali 1986; Boury-Esnault 1987).

Remarks. *Polymastia tenax* had not been recorded from the GoM before. Therefore, our specimens are the first record in the area. The type material of *P. tenax* is described as cushion-shaped with open papillae, with the same skeletal structure described herein. The spicule measurements are quite similar to the present material: styles $630-770/11-14 \mu m$, large subtylostyles $320-420/18-30 \mu m$, and small subtylostyles $130-330/2.5-9 \mu m$ (Pulitzer-Finali 1986).



FIGURE 53. *Polymastia tenax* Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 (CNPGG-2253), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton of the ectosomal region, small tylostyles perpendicular with the surface making a hispid surface; **B.** transversal section of the skeleton, choanosomal region with slender tylostyles in criss-cross, detail zoomed in; **C.** transversal section of skeleton; **D.** general view of spicules; **E.** Subtylostyle I; **F.** Subtylostyle I with a tyle present in the axis; **G.** Subtylostyle II with fusiform appearance; **H.** Subtylostyles III. Scale bars: $A-B = 100 \mu m$; $C = 250 \mu m$; $D = 100 \mu m$; $E-H = 50 \mu m$.

Order Scopalinida Morrow & Cárdenas, 2015

Family Scopalinidae Morrow, Picton, Erpenbeck, Boury-Esnault, Maggs & Allcock, 2012

Genus *Scopalina* Schmidt, 1862

Scopalina ruetzleri (Wiedenmayer, 1977) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 54A–C, 58I

Synonymy and references: *Ulosa ruetzleri* Wiedenmayer (1977: 145); "*Ulosa*" *ruetzleri*, *Dictyonella ruetzleri*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 92); *Scopalina ruetzleri*: Gómez (2007: 62), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 124), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 92), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 74), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 12).

Type locality. The Bahamas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2183, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19491°N, 91.95741°W), 8.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 18 August 2018; CNPGG-2201, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, 91.95997°W), 9.3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2215, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19963°N, 91.96680°W), 4.1 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 22 August 2018; CNPGG-2455, Madagascar reef (21.43933°N, 90.27813°W), 9.8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 06 March 2019.



FIGURE 54. *Scopalina ruetzleri* (Wiedenmayer, 1977) (CNPGG-2183), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of choanosomal region; **C.** styles. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C = 100 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2007; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bermuda, Bahamas, US (Florida), Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Rützler *et al.* 2014); Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. *Scopalina ruetzleri* has been reported in the northern (Rützler *et al.* 2009) and the SGoM (Gómez 2007). Although we have only collected material from reefs (Cayo Arcas reef and Madagascar reef), this species is a common one along the coral reefs in the Campeche Bank: Triangulos reef, Obispo reef, Alacranes reef, and Cayo Arenas reef.

Genus Svenzea Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 2002

Svenzea cristinae Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 2002 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 55A–C, 58J

Synonymy and references: Svenzea cristinae, Alvarez et al. (2002: 173).

Type locality. Belize.

Material examined. CNPGG-2473 and CNPGG-2474, Alacranes reef (22.4952°N, 89.7723°W), 6 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 18 May 2016.

Description. Cushion shaped habit, cavernous (Fig. 58J); overall size, base with $5.2 \times 3.3 \times 2.5$ cm and papillae with 1.2 cm high. Surface microhispid with irregular placed visible pores. Part of the surface as a translucent membrane in shallow depressions. Round to irregular oscules, scattered, up to 0.9 cm in diameter. It is an ochre yellow color *in vivo*, light beige when in ethanol. The consistency is elastic and compressible.

Skeleton. The choanosomal skeleton with loose sinuous tracts of spicules in an irregular reticulation; round meshes, elongated to polygonal, up to 500 μ m in diameter (Fig. 55A). Tracts of spicules protruding outside the surface. Debris and sand grains above the surface and in the choanosomal region (Fig. 55B).

Spicules. Megascleres: Strongylote-shaped styles, curved to sinuous and smooth (Fig. 55C). Base with blunt tips. Apex blunt (more frequent), acerate or as a small tip; 210-324.7 (65.3)–450/3-4.4 (1)–7 µm.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Belize, and Jamaica (Alvarez et al. 2002).

Remarks. *Svenzea cristinae* was originally recorded in Belize and Jamaica, and our specimens match both external and internal morphology of materials described in Alvarez *et al.* (2002). However, slight differences among specimens can be discerned, probably due to the different environmental conditions. For example, mangrove roots, 0.5 m deep in the type material, and the coral reef 6 m deep in our material. The type has purple or pinkish areas in its yellow background, which lack in our material. Oxeas $(60-340/3.7-10 \,\mu\text{m})$ depicted as less frequent or absent

in the original description, are entirely absent in our reef specimens, which also have thinner styles than those seen in the type material (11.2 μ m in Jamaica, up to 17.5 μ m in Belize). Six valid species of *Svenzea* are reported in the TNwA, *S. cristinae*, and *S. flava*, with the same external morphology, specifically their massive encrusting shape and yellow color. However, they differ in their skeletal arrangement and details of spicule morphology and dimensions (Table 4, *S. flava* description below). Our specimens represent the first record of *S. cristinae* for the GoM.



FIGURE 55. *Svenzea cristinae* Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 2002 (CNPGG-2474), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the choanosomal regions; **C.** styles. Scale bars: $A = 250 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$; $C = 50 \mu m$.

| Species | Distribution | Styles | Oxeas | Strongyles | Habit |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Svenzea cristinae Alvarez, van | Belize, | 310-460 | 60–340 | - | Thickly |
| Soest & Rützler, 2002 | Jamaica | × 4.2–17.5 | × 3.7–10 | | encrusting |
| Current records | Mexico | Tending to | | 210-(324)-450 | Thickly |
| | | strongyles | | × 3–(4.4)–7 | encrusting |
| Svenzea flava (Lehnert & van | Jamaica | $244 - 380 \times 2 - 11$ | _ | - | Massive |
| Soest, 1999) | | | | | |
| Current records | Mexico | 270-(350)-415 | _ | - | Massive |
| | | × 5–(9.2)–11 | | | |
| Svenzea germanyanezi Gómez | Mexico | 325-410 | 390–490 | 280-440 | Single |
| & Calderón-Gutiérrez, 2020 | | × 1.8–5.5 | × 9–10.6 | × 10–13 | cone-shaped |
| Svenzea tubulosa | Cuba | 310-395 | _ | - | Tubular |
| (Alcolado & Gotera, 1986) | | × 12–15 | | | |
| Current records | Mexico | 310-(325)-430 | _ | - | Tubular |
| | | × 7.5–(10.5)– | | | |
| | | 16.5 | | | |
| Svenzea zeai (Alvarez, van | Colombia, | 205-290 | 210-330 | _ | Massive with |
| Soest & Rützler, 2002) | Greater | × 7–12.5 | × 7–12.5 | | cones on top |
| | Caribbean | | | | |
| Current record | Mexico | 190-(231)-310 | 170-(234)-290 | | Massive with |
| | | × 5–(7.7)–10 | × 7–(8.5)–9.5 | | cones on top |

TABLE 4. Comparison of the species of the genus *Svenzea* that inhabit the tropical western Atlantic with the current records. Micrometric data is presented as minimum–maximum length/minimum–maximum thickness; in µm.

Svenzea flava (Lehnert & van Soest, 1999) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 56A–D, 58K

Synonymy: Pseudaxinella (?) flava Lehnert & van Soest (1999: 151); Svenzea flava: present study.

Type locality. Jamaica.

Material examined. CNPGG-2479, Bajos del Norte (23.2421°N, 88.7147°W), 12.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 July 2019; CNPGG-2288, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.5065°N, 92.1961°W), 24 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017; CNPGG-2377, Banco Pera Reef (20.7266°N, 91.9348°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 15 September 2017; CNPGG-2475, Cayo Arenas reef (22.1165°N,91.3939°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 15 March 2015.

Description. Massive habit and cavernous (Fig. 58K); the size of the larger specimen, $9 \times 10 \times 4$ cm. The surface is smooth when alive and slightly microhispid when it is being fixed in ethanol. With oscules in two sizes scattered on the surface, large with 12 mm diameter and small with 1–3 mm diameter. Yellow color *in vivo* in the outside part, and cream color inside, beige in ethanol. The consistency is firm but compressible, easy to cut.

Skeleton. Choanosomal skeleton formed by ascending tracts pauci to multi-spicular 30–180 μ m in diameter (Fig. 56A), connected by single spicules and sometimes with ill-defined paucispicular tracts in confusion arrangement (Fig. 56C). With abundant spongin. Ascending tracts protrude outside the surface (Fig. 56B).



FIGURE 56. *Svenzea flava* (Lehnert & van Soest, 1999) (CNPGG-2377), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton with a hispid surface; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** detail of the choanosomal region; **D.** styles. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-D = 200 \mu m$.

Spicules. Styles slightly curved with conical or hastate tip (Fig. 56D), 270–350 (39)–415/5–9.2 (1.8)–11 μm **Distribution.** Mexico (current records), Jamaica (Lehnert & van Soest 1999 as *Pseudaxinella flava*).

Remarks. The present material is quite the same as the original description of *S. flava*. Their massive shape, color in life, skeletal arrangement and spicule dimensions all match. Despite the difference in depth among them, 76 m in Lehnert & van Soest (1999), 8-24 m in the studied material. The closest species to *S. flava* is *S. cristinae* (above), both have the characteristics of the genus (they do not have ectosomal skeleton and have styles), they also share a yellow color in vivo and similar spicule measurements (Table 4). However, *S. flava* has a more cavernous body with larger oscules, and develops an undefined anisotropic skeleton. Traits opposite to those of *S. cristinae* with smaller and fewer oscules, an ill-defined skeletal reticulation with undefined tracts, connected by single spicules and other loose ones. *S. flava* has been recorded only in Jamaica (Lehnert & van Soest 1999), therefore, the current records from the GoM represent the first record and an extension in the geographic distribution of the species.

Svenzea tubulosa (Alcolado & Gotera, 1986) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 57A–C, 58L, 70A

Synonymy: *Scopalina tubulosa* Alcolado & Gotera (1986: 6). **Type locality.** Cuba, Greater Antilles **Material examined.** CNPGG-2166, Cayo Arcas reef (20.1949°N, 91.9574°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 April 2018; CNPGG-2198, Cayo Arcas reef (20.1956°N, 91.9599°W), 6.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2232, Cayo Arcas reef (20.1956°N, 91.9599°W), 10.2 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 August 2018; CNPGG-2272, Triangulo Este reef (20.8976°N, 92.2421°W), 14.1 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 11 September 2017; CNPGG-2370, Banco Nuevo reef (20.5456°N, 91.8794°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 15 September 2017; CNPGG-2472, Alacranes reef (22.5424°N, 89.7486°W), 15 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 25 June 2016.

Description. Tubular habit, erect, in single tubes or forming clusters of two to four tubes (Figs. 58L, 70A), 3–8 cm high, the surface is optically smooth but microhispid to the touch. Oscules on the top of the tubes splitted in two apertures, 5 mm to 1 cm in diameter each. Pores visible along the tubes 1–2 mm diameter. The color is ochre yellow in *vivo* at the outside part, and white color inside, beige when in ethanol. The consistency is firm but compressible, easy to cut.

Skeleton. Choanosomal skeleton is an ill-defined isotropic net, forming meshes (Fig. 57A), 150–250–550 μ m in diameter, ascending tracts let single spicules protrude outside the surface (Fig. 57B).



FIGURE 57. *Svenzea tubulosa* (Alcolado & Gotera, 1986) (CNPGG-2166), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region with a hispid surface and part of the choanosomal reticulation; **C.** styles. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-C = 200 \mu m$.

Spicules. Megascleres. Styles slightly curved with hastate tip (Fig. 57C), 310-325 (34.2)–430/7.5-10.5 (2.9)– 16.5μ m.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Cuba (Alcolado & Gotera 1986).

Remarks. The specimens assigned to *S. tubulosa* conform thoroughly to the original description of Alcolado & Gotera (1986). A somewhat wider range in spicule dimensions is detected in our specimens (Table 4). *Svenzea tubulosa* is easily distinguished from the other five *Svenzea* species reported in the TNwA by its tubular morphology and skeletal architecture, which consists of an almost isotropic network, absent from other species of the genus. Our material is the first record of *S. tubulosa* for the GoM, and this is the first record of the species since Alcolado & Gotera's original description. *Svenzea tubulosa* is recorded herein at four coral reefs in the Campeche Bank, including Alacranes reef. Hence, we expect that the species may have wide geographical distribution in the southern GoM.

Svenzea zeai (Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 1998)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 59A–D, 70B

Synonymy and references: Pseudaxinella zeai Alvarez et al. (1998: 20).

Type locality. Colombia.

Material examined. CNPGG-2284, Triangulo Este reef (20.89108°N, 92.23992°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 12 September 2017.

Description. Massive habit, with globular to volcano-shaped mounds (Fig. 70B). The size of the specimen is $22 \times 12 \times 7$ cm. The surface is smooth and velvety, not visible zoanthids. Oscules on the top of the mounds, 1–1.5

cm diameter. Dark-brown color *in vivo*, beige inside, and it turned light brown in ethanol. The consistency is highly crumbly.



FIGURE 58. In situ photographs of species analyzed in the present study: A. Acarnus innominatus Gray, 1867 (CNPGG-2393);
B. Monanchora arbuscula (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2204); C. Strongylacidon bermuda (de Laubenfels, 1950) (CNPGG-2170); D. Desmapsamma anchorata (Carter, 1882) (CNPGG-2443); E. Iotrochota arenosa Rützler, Maldonado, Piantoni & Riesgo, 2007 (CNPGG-2422); F. Mycale (Mycale) laevis (Carter, 1882) (CNPGG-2273); F. Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2267); H. Polymastia tenax Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 (CNPGG-22587); I. Scopalina ruetzleri (Wiedenmayer, 1977) (CNPGG-2183); J. Svenzea cristinae Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 2002 (CNPGG-2474); K. Svenzea flava (Lehnert & van Soest, 1999) (CNPGG-2288); L. Svenzea tubulosa (Alcolado & Gotera, 1986) (CN-PGG-2272), surface detail zoomed in (arrow indicates white channels in the choanosomal region). Scale bars, A–L = 1 cm.



FIGURE 59. *Svenzea zeai* (Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 1998) (CNPGG-2284), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the choanosomal reticulation; **C.** styles and oxeas; **D.** detail of the style and oxea. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B-C = 100 \mu m$.

Skeleton. Ectosomal skeleton is difficult to discern since there are many blackish granular cells (Fig. 59A). The choanosomal skeleton consists of an irregular isotropic reticulation with 1–3 spicules at all sides (Fig. 59B). Single spicules protrude outside the surface (Fig. 59A).

Spicules. Megascleres: Styles slightly curved (Fig. 59C–D), 190–231 (36.6)–310/5–7.7 (1.3)–10 μm, and oxeas (Fig. 59C–D), 170–234 (42.7)–290/7–8.5 (0.9)–9.5 μm.

Distribution. Mexico (current record), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Alvarez et al. 2002).

Remarks. *Svenzea zeai* is characterized by the smallest spicules in the genus (Table 4) and a massive habit with volcano-shaped mounds not comparable to the other five *Svenzea* species. Although *Svenzea germanyanezi* Gómez & Calderón-Gutiérrez (2020) has a conical shape, it differs in its choanosomal skeleton composed by a subisodictial network, formed by unispicular or occasionally paucispicular tracts. Also, *S. germanyanezy* is stygobiont, 5.6 m depth, while *S. zeai* is a coral reef dweller, 18–20 m depth.

Svenzea zeai is a widespread species in the Caribbean Sea (Alvarez et al. 2002). Rützler et al (2009) referred the species to the GoM, but their reference to Alvarez et al (1998) as the source for that record is mistaken, as no mention of the Gulf is made for *Pseudaxinella* (?) zeai by the latter authors. Accordingly, the specimen studied here constitute the first record of the species in this area.

Order Suberitida Chombard & Boury-Esnault, 1999

Family Halichondriidae Gray, 1867

Genus Hymeniacidon Bowerbank, 1858

Hymeniacidon caerulea Pulitzer-Finali, 1986

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 60A–C, 70C

Synonymy and references: *Laxosuberites coerulea* de Laubenfels (1936: 148); *Hymeniacidon caerulea* Pulitzler-Finali (1986: 117), Rützler *et al.* (2000: 237), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 75), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 75), and Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 165).

Type locality. Puerto Rico.

Material examined. CNPGG-2289, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.50655°N, 92.19616°W), 24 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017; CNPGG-2425, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, 96.06863°W), 9.6 m depth, coll.

Diana Ugalde, 9.6 August 2018; CNPGG-2428, Banco Cabezo reef (19.09752°N, 95.85616°W), 9.5 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 29 August 2018; CNPGG-2447, Isla Verde reef (19.20588°N, 96.07305°W), 7.2 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 31 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Ugalde *et al.* 2015; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), US (Florida), Greater Antilles (Pulitzer-Finali, 1986).

Remarks. The current specimens studied here have the same morphologic features: encrusting habit, cobalt blue color when alive, and long, thin styles in confused spicule tracts. *Hymeniacidon caerulea* has been found in the northern GoM by de Laubenfels (1936 as *Laxosuberites coerulea*), also recorded from Alacranes reef in the SGoM by Ugalde *et al.* (2015).



FIGURE 60. *Hymeniacidon caerulea* Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 (CNPGG-2425), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** styles. Scale bars: $A-C = 300 \mu m$.

Genus Topsentia Berg, 1899

Topsentia ophiraphidites (de Laubenfels, 1934) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 61A–C, 70D–F

Synonymy: Viles ophiraphidites de Laubenfels (1934: 13); Halichondria sp., Halichondria braziliensis, Spongosorites sinuatus, Topsentia roquensis and Viles ophiraphidites: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 95); Topsentia ophiraphidites: Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 130), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 95), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 76), and van Soest (2017: 186).

Type locality. Puerto Rico.

Material examined. CNPGG-2185, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19491°N, 91.95741°W), 7.4 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 18 August 2018; CNPGG-2196, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, 91.95997°W), 6.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2262, CNPGG-2265, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.95629°N, 92.30860°W), 7.1–8.3 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 10 September 2017; CNPGG-2354, CNPGG-2355, Banco Obispo Sur reef (20.42059°N, 92.22865°W), 12 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 14 September 2017; CNPGG-2356, CNPGG-2360, Banco Obispo Sur reef (20.42345°N, 92.22743°W), 9 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 14 September 2017; CNPGG-2368, CNPGG-2371, Banco Nuevo reef (20.54857°N, 91.80611°W), 20 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 15 September 2017; CNPGG-2415, Isla Verde (19.19844°N, 96.19844°W), 6 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018.

Description. Massive habit, globular or erect (Figs. 70D–F), overall sponge size $8 \times 6 \times 6$ cm. The surface is smooth and velvety. Scattered oscules. Yellow-brown color *in vivo*, white inside, and it turned light brown in ethanol. The consistency is firm, slightly compressible, but friable.

Skeleton. Choanosomal skeleton halichondrioid type. Oxeas arranged in bundles that protrude to the surface (Fig. 61A–B).

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas I (Fig. 61C-1), sinuous, bent, fusiform, and smooth (Fig. 61C); 1496-1906.8

(304.5)-2337.8/37-45.6 (9.5)-55.8 µm. Oxeas II (Fig. 61C-2), intermediate oxeas; similar to the previous category, but smaller and some forms are crooked; 598-795.9 (186.3)-1072/14.6-17.8 (3.3)-23 µm. Oxeas III (Fig. 61C-3), similar to intermediate oxeas, but smaller; 350-473.8 (98.2)-592/7.7-8.9 (1.1)-10 µm.



FIGURE 61. *Topsentia ophiraphidites* (de Laubenfels, 1934) (CNPGG-2262), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal and choansomal regions; **C.** oxeas: 1—oxeas I, 2—oxeas II, 3—oxeas III. Scale bars: $A-C = 500 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2011; current records), Barbados, other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Guyana, Brazil (Diaz *et al.* 1993; van Soest 2017).

Remarks. The distinctive characters of *Topsentia* includes the presence of oxeas in a wide range of sizes, usually with two or three size categories, which can be twisted, bent, or double-bent (Díaz *et al.* 1993). These oxeas represent a remarkable trait to *T. ophiraphidites*. This species was reviewed by Díaz *et al.* (1993), who have described specimens from the Caribbean region with massive-amorphous habit (sometimes subspherical to lobate), gray, brown or purple color (externally), confused skeleton (some vague radial arrangement of large spicules toward the surface), two to three sizes of bent or sinuous deformed oxeas to strongyloxeas (600–1100/15–40, 350–800/6–20, 160–400/4–10). The specimens examined by us are predominantly lobate to irregularly massive (CNPGG-2185, CNPGG-2262, CNPGG-2265, CNPGG-2354, CNPGG-2355, CNPGG-2356, CNPGG-2360, CNPGG-2368, CNP-GG-2371, CNPGG-2415), except for one erect sample (CNPGG-2196). Color is yellow-brown externally, the skeleton is confused, and oxeas occur in three categories (1496–2337.8/37–55.8, 598–1072/14.6–23, 350–592/7.7–10), with intermediary and especially smaller oxeas being contorted or crooked.

Although *T. ophiraphidites* is reported from several localities in the Caribbean (Díaz *et al.* 1993), the first record of the species for the GoM is that to La Blanquilla reef, Veracruz (Gómez 2011: without description). Our study presents the second record of the species from the GoM. Besides, our study recorded the species along the different coral reefs in Veracruz and Campeche Bank, confirming that *T. ophiraphidites* is a common inhabitant of the GoM. Further, this species is widely distributed in the western Atlantic, occurring also in the Northeast and Southeast, and oceanic islands of Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011; and other references therein).

Family Suberitidae Schmidt, 1870

Genus Suberites Nardo, 1833

Suberites aurantiacus (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 62A–B

Synonymy and references: *Terpios aurantiaca* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 99), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 72); *Laxosuberites zeteki* de Laubenfels (1864: 99); *Terpios zeteki* Hechtel (1965: 59), and Rützler & Smith (1993: 390);

Laxosuberites aurantiaca, Protosuberites aurantiaca, Protosuberites aurantiacus, Suberites aurantiaca: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 72); *Suberites aurantiacus*: Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 102), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 72), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 12), and van Soest (2017: 192).

Type locality. Saint Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG–1985 Chelem Lagoon (21.2631°N, 89.7063), coll. Diana Ugalde, 1 m depth 28 July 2017.

Description. Massive habit, overall sponge size $12 \times 7 \times 4$ cm. The surface is smooth in parts and rugose in others. Oscules scattered on the surface, no visible when is preserved. Color green *in vivo*, beige when is preserved. The consistency is firm, slightly compressible.

Skeleton. Choanosomal skeleton consists of confused spicules densely packed; the ectosomal skeleton is a palisade-like continuum of bouquets of smaller tylostyles. The tylostyles slightly protruded outside the surface. Visible channels close to the surface (Figs. 62 A).



FIGURE 62. *Suberites aurantiacus* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2406), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** 1—tylostyles I; **2**— tylostyles II;. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 200 \mu m$.

Spicules. Megascleres: Two categories of tylostyles: Tylostyles I (Fig. 62B1), straight and fusiform 180–268 (71)–375/3–4.6 (1.1)–7 μ m, with globose tyle 5–7.5 (1.1)–8 μ m thick, some tyles with mucron; tylostyles II (Fig.62B2), similar in shape to the previous category, 435–617 (85.9)–719/6–9 (2.7)–12 μ m, tyle 6–11 (3.1)–14 μ m thick.

Distribution. Mexico (Castellanos-Peréz *et al.* 2020; current records), Bermuda (de Laubenfels, 1950), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Muricy *et al.* 2011), Brazil (Fortunato *et al.* 2020).

Remarks. *Suberites aurantiacus* is a polymorphic species found with encrusting to massive, or subspherical shape, and orange or green color *in vivo* (Fortunato *et al.* 2020). These variations in color, bluish and red tones are reported by Hechtel (1965), and are also present in the studied specimens (Ugalde personal observation). Also, the head of tylostyles may be wrinkled or deformed, or be very well formed tyles (not wrinkled), which might be a consequence of mangrove habitats in the first case, and rocky coastal habitats, in the second (Hechtel 1965 as *Terpios zeteki*, Rützler & Smith 1993). However, this feature should not be treated as a pattern since the studied material lives in the estuarine habitat of a coastal lagoon, and it has smooth tyles. Tylostyle dimensions also vary widely: I, 140–386.4 x 2.4–12.2 (shaft) x 3.1–12.2 μ m (tyle), and II, 376.2–830 x 4.9–20.7 (shaft) x 5.2–18.3 μ m (tyle), in Brazilian specimens reported by Fortunato *et al.* (2020; Table 2); and 140–877 x 3–18 μ m (overall micrometries) reported from Jamaica specimens by Hechtel (1965, as *Terpios zeteki*).

Suberites aurantiacus is originally recorded from Saint Thomas, Caribbean Sea, however, Rützler & Smith (1993) and Carballo *et al.* (2004) have examined diverse material of *S. aurantiacus* confirming its presence in the Pacific coast of both Panama and Mexico, respectively. Recently, Castellanos-Perez *et al.* (2020) have recorded this species in the Terminos Lagoon in mangrove roots, this being the first record of the species for the SGoM.

Order Tethyida Morrow & Cárdenas, 2015

Family Tethyidae Gray, 1848

Genus Tectitethya Sarà, 1994

Tectitethya crypta (de Laubenfels, 1949) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 63A–E, 70G

Synonymy and references: *Cryptothethya crypta* de Laubenfels (1949: 20), and Sàra & Bavestrello (1996: 383); *Tethya crypta*, and *Tectitethya crypta*: see references complided in Sàra & Bavestrello (1996: 383); *Cryptotheca crypta*: Lerner *et al.* (1998: 1).

Type locality. The Bahamas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2176, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19963°N, 91.96680°W), 7.6 m depth, Diana Ugalde, 25 April 2018; CNPGG-2207, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20183°N, 91.97583°W), 6.9 m depth, Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018.

Description. Massive to lobate habit (Fig. 70G); the overall size is $15 \times 10 \times 8$ cm. The surface is irregular and covered by sand. The sand is also scattered inside the body. The oscules are scattered 1–2 cm in diameter, and have a delicate membrane. Black color *in vivo* and also in ethanol. The consistency is firm but slightly compressible.

Skeleton. Ascending tracts or bundles of spicules radially arranged, protruding outside the surface, the bundles incorporate foreign detritus (Fig. 63A).

Spicules. Megascleres: Anisostrongyles to strongyles, straight, fusiform, and smooth (Fig. 63B–C); 792–1098.8 (272.8)–1671.5/8.3–13.8 (5.1)–21.3 μm. Microscleres: Megasters– oxyspherasters– smooth, with simple or bifid ray (Figs. 63D–E); 37.6–49.4 (7.2)–58 μm in diameter. Microscleres-strongylasters–microspined (Figs. 63D–E); 8.7–11.7 (2.8)–15.8 μm in diameter.



FIGURE 63. *Tectitethya crypta* (de Laubenfels, 1949) (CNPGG-2176), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton, radial tracts of megascleres (strongyloxeas) and several sand grains in choanosomal region; **B.** anisostrongyles and microscleres (megasters and microscleres); **C.** anisostrongyles and miscroscleres; **D–E.** megasters and micrasters in detail. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C = 200 \mu m$; $D-E = 50 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Maas-Vargas 2004; current records), Bahamas, US (Florida) (de Laubenfels 1949a; Wiedenmayer 1977), Cuba, Greater Antilles (Sarà & Bavestrello 1996).

Remarks. There are four valid species of *Tectitethya* in the TNwA: *T. keyensis* Sará & Bavestrello 1996 and *T. macrostella* Sará & Bavestrello 1996 from Florida; *T. raphyroides* Sará & Bavestrello 1996 from the Cayman Islands; and *T. crypta* (de Laubenfels 1949) widely distributed in the TNwA (Alcolado 1976; Wiedenmayer 1977; Pulitzer-Finali 1986; Sarà & Bavestrello 1996; Maas-Vargas 2004). The latter species is here reported for the SGoM.

The detailed description of T. crypta in Sará & Bavestrello (1996) may be considered as the most reliable

description of the species because it was built by the examination of type material and comparisons to other *Tectitethya* species. Sará & Bavestrello (1996) pointed out the mixture of external aspects of *T. keyensis* and *T. crypta* in Wiedenmayer's redescription, but the spicules refer to *T. crypta*.

The present material coincides with *T. crypta* in overall traits, except for slight differences in spicule measurements: the anisostrongyles of the original description are congruent with ours (about 20 μ m thick in de Laubenfels 1949), but thicker (10–40 μ m) in Sará & Bavestrello (1996). The megasters—oxyspherasters are slightly larger in our material (37.6–49.4 μ m) than those reported by de Laubenfels and Sará & Bavestrello (10–40 μ m). The remaining features are similar to *T. crypta*.

Tectitethya macrostella Sarà & Bavestrello, 1996

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 64A–E, 70H

Synonymy and references: *Tectitethya macrostella* Sarà & Bavestrello (1996: 286), and Rützler *et al.* (2009: 297).

Type locality. Florida.

Material examined. CNPGG-2277, Triangulos Este reef (20.9177°N, 92.2162°W), 17 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 11 September 2017.

Description. Massive habit (Fig. 70H); the overall size is $6 \times 2 \times 1$ cm. The surface is irregular, although entirely covered by algae and sand. Foreign detritus is also scattered inside the body. Oscules in the top of the sponge. Black color *in vivo* and also in ethanol. The consistency is firm but slightly compressible.

Skeleton. Ascending tracts or bundles of spicules are radially arranged, incorporating foreign detritus (Fig. 64A).

Spicules. Megascleres. Straight anisostrongyles to strongyles (Figs. 64B–C), 650–1084 (284.9)–1430/6–15.4 (7.1)–27 μ m, almost all the anisostrongyles were broken. Microscleres. Megasters (Figs. 64D–E) –oxyspherasters— with regular size 30–43 (10)–60 μ m, the number and shape of rays is variable, bent, or straight. Microscleres (Figs. 64D–E)—tylasters to strongylasters– 8–11 (3.2)–20 μ m, with variable number of rays.



FIGURE 64. *Tectitethya macrostella* Sarà & Bavestrello, 1996 (CNPGG-2277), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton, radial tracts of megascleres (strongyloxeas) and several sand grains in choanosomal region; **B.** anisostrongyles and microscleres (megasters and microscleres); **C.** anisostrongyles in detail; **D.** megasters and microscleres in detail, arrow pointing to a foreign oxea; **E.** detail of microscleres. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C-D = 100 \mu m$; $E = 10 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), US (Florida) (Sarà & Bavestrello 1996).

Remarks. Our specimen conforms closely to the original description of Sarà & Bavestrello (1996). The main difference is the megaster oxyspheraster size range 20–65.3–100 μ m (diameter) spanning further than observed in our specimen. Other characteristics of *T. macrostella* that distinguish it from its congeners are the maximum thick-

ness attained by the diameter of its megascleres (mean $38.4 \,\mu$ m), and the largest diameter of the micrasters (mean $15 \,\mu$ m), which correspond to what we have observed in the material presently studied.

Tectitethya macrostella was originally recorded in west Florida (Sarà & Bavestrello 1996) and has not been found elsewhere. Thus, this record shows a geographic extension of *T. macrostella* for the SGoM, and the first record of the species after its original description. The absence of records of *Tectitethya macrostella* within the numerous works around the Greater Caribbean (e.g. Hajdu *et al.* 2011; Rützler *et al.* 2014; van Soest 2017) most likely suggests that the species could be endemic to the GoM.

Genus Tethya Lamarck, 1815

Tethya diploderma Schmidt, 1870 Tables 5, 6, 7; Figs. 65A–F, 70I

Synonymy: *Tethya diploderma* Schmidt, (1870: 52), de Laubenfels (1953:545), Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 98). Type locality. Antilles, St. Croix.

Material examined. CNPGG-2191, Cayo Arcas reef (20.2051°N, 91.9630°W), 0.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 19 August 2018.

Description. Hemispherical habit (Fig. 70I); size 1.8×0.8 cm. The surface has round tubercles and is microhispid as well, scattered foreign detritus attached. The oscules are not visible. Yellow color *in vivo*, beige preserved in ethanol. The consistency is firm and slightly compressible.

Skeleton. Cortex well developed 850–1250 μ m thick, formed by abundant megasters and micrasters of the tylaster type, with foreign detritus also incorporated here (Figs. 65A–B). The choanosomal skeleton is formed by ascending tracts of strongyloxeas, 175–250 μ m thick in a radial pattern. These bundles are crossing the cortex in some areas, making the strongyloxeas protrude outside the surface.

Spicules. Megascleres. Principal strongyloxeas straight, and hastate ends (Fig. 65C–1), 750–1087.3 (187.2)– 1350/11–15.3 (2.8)–19 μ m, accessory strongyloxeas (Fig. 65C–2), straight and hastate ends, 280–362 (39.3.2)– 430/4.5–6.5 (1.8)–10.5 μ m. Microscleres. Megasters are spherasters (Fig. 65D), with smooth rays and a thick center, overall diameter 30–41 (10.6)–65 μ m. Microscleres are two types: strongylasters (Fig. 65E), with microspined ends and varied number of rays, 9–11.8 (1.8)–15 μ m in diameter; and oxyaster with straight rays (Fig. 65F), sometimes with microspined tips, 5–8.9 (2.8)–14 μ m in diameter.



FIGURE 65. *Tethya diploderma* Schmidt, 1870 (CNPGG-2191), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton, radial tracts of megascleres (strongyloxeas) and several sand grains in choanosomal region; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region with a layer of aster microscleres and part of the tracts of strongyloxeas; **C.** strongyloxeas, 1—large category and 2—small category; **D.** spherasters; **E.** strongylasters; **F.** oxyaster. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 250 \mu m$; $C = 100 \mu m$; $D = 25 \mu m$; $E-F = 5 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), US (Florida, de Laubenfels 1953), Jamaica, Puerto Rico (Pulitzer-Finali 1986).

Remarks. The specimen examined is consistent with *T. diploderma* in the external morphology, skeleton, and spicules as recorded by de Laubenfels (1953), and complemented by Ribeiro & Muricy (2011). Schmidt's original brief description only mentions the presence of needles as part of the spiculation, that must correspond to megascleres (without measurements), and two categories of asters, which must correspond to the spheraster type (>30 μ m), and tylasters with 6–9 swollen tip rays (8.5 μ m). On the other hand, the spicular set of the species has been completed by Ribeiro & Muricy (2011) adding the strongylaster, tylaster and oxiaster types when re-examining an original specimen from Schmidt (Table 5). Apparently, microscleres (megasters and micrasters) are the main differences among Tethya species (Sará 2002, Ribeiro & Muricy 2011). Apart from T. diploderma, four species of Tethya had been reported in the Caribbean Sea: T. seychellensis (Wright 1881), T. aurantium (Pallas, 1766), T. maza Selenka 1879, and T. actinia de Laubenfels 1950. The first two species, T. seychellensis and T. aurantium originally from the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, are doubtful records for the TNwA. It is unlikely that gene flow can occur between amphi-Atlantic populations given the low dispersal capabilities of sponge larvae (Klautau et al. 1999). On the other hand, T. maza differs from the present material of T. diploderma by having larger megascleres I (up to $1868 \times 32 \,\mu$ m), larger megasters (up to 100 μ m) with bifurcated rays, diameter of strongylasters twice as large (30 μ m), and a thicker cortex (up to 650 μ m). Likewise, *T. actinia* is distinguished by its cortex over 1 mm thick, strongyloxeas over 2000 µm long, and oxiasters with bifurcated rays.

For the moment, we must rely on Ribeiro & Muricy's (2011) reexamination of Schmidt's original specimen of *T. diploderma*, where they could find only micrasters. On the other hand, de Laubenfels (1953) also reported spicule measurements as well as morphological traits such as the 1 mm thick cortex (Table 5). Considerable intraspecific variability is reported for TNwA species of *Tethya* (Table 5), rendering it difficult to identify new materials confidently. Moreover, information is frequently incomplete on type materials (e.g. *T. diploderma*), thus compounding the problem. We advocate that only a large, integrative assessment of *Tethya* spp from several localities in the TNwA will settle species boundaries more confidently.

Family Timeidae Topsent, 1928

Genus Timea Gray, 1867

Timea stenosclera Hechtel, 1969 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 66A–C, 70J–K

Synonymy and references: *Timea stenosclera* Hechtel (1969: 28), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 49), van Soest (2017: 181), and Mácola & Menegola (2018: 294).

Type locality. Barbados.

Material examined. CNPGG-2275, Triangulos reef (20.9177°N, 92.2162°W), 12 m depth, Oscar Bocardo, 11 September 2017; CNPGG-2358, Banco Obispo Sur reef, (20.4234°N, 92.2274°W), 9 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 14 September 2017.

Description: Thinly encrusting habit on coral rubble (Fig. 70J–K); the size of the larger specimen $8 \times 2.5 \times 0.4$ cm. The surface is microhispid. The oscules are not visible. Orange color *in vivo*, light brown in ethanol. The consistency is soft but difficult to discern.

Skeleton. Choanosome with confused tylostyles and protruding outside the surface.

Spicules. Megascleres. Straight and slender tylostyles (Figs. 66A–C), $145-250(51.7)-335/1-2.5(1.1)-5.2 \mu m$, tyle oval to rounded, $18-22(2.5)-26 \mu m$. Microscleres: Asters represented by spheroxyasters, sometimes with blunt rays (tending to strongylaster type), $18-22(2.5)-26 \mu m$ diameter; oxyasters thin rayed euasters $7-10.9(2.5)-14.5 \mu m$ diameter, (Fig. 66B).

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Belize (Rützler *et al.* 2014), Barbados (Hechtel 1969), Brazil (Mácola & Menegola 2018).

Remarks. The material studied conforms to *Timea stenosclera* except for having slightly larger spicule dimensions than those reported by Hechtel (1969) from his Barbados materials (tylostyles $173-252/1.7-2.4 \mu m$, oxy-

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| Species | Distribution | Strongyloxea I | Strongyloxea II | Megaster | M | icrasters | |
| | | | l | Spherasters | Strongylaster | Tylaster | Oxyaster |
| Tethya diploderma Schmidt, 1870 | Antilles, St. Croix | I | I | >30 | I | 8.5 | 1 |
| Sensu de Laubenfels (1953) | South Florida, US | I | I | 50-60 | I | 10 | 45-50 |
| Sensu Pulitzer-Finali (1986) | Puerto Rico, | 400-1500 | I | 70 | I | 7–11 | 25-57 |
| | Jamaica | \times 5–27 | | | | | |
| Sensu Ribeiro & Muricy (2011) | North GoM | Ι | Ι | I | 13-14 | 12-14 | 6-12 |
| Current record | South GoM | 750-1350 | 280-430 | 30-41 | 9–15 | Ι | 5-14 |
| | | × 11–19 | \times 4.5–10.5 | | | | |
| Tethya maza Selenka, 1879 | I | I | 40 | I | I | 12-16 | I |
| Sensu Ribeiro & Muricy (2011) | Brazil | 540-1868 | 224–994 | 26 - 100 | 6-30 | 9–15 | 6-27 |
| | | 10×32 | $\times 2-13$ | | | | |
| Sensu Hajdu et al. (2011) | Brazil | 1476–1548 | 756-910 | 35-42 | 10–14 | 10-13 | 8-43 |
| | | \times 20–25 | \times 7–14 | | | | |
| Sensu Rützler et al. (2014) | Belize | 1101 - 1820 | 370-830 | 25-63 | 25-48 | 10-15 | 7-46 |
| | | × 10–26 | × 4–11 | | | | |
| Tethya actinia de Laubenfels, 1950 | Bermuda | 2000 	imes 20 | I | 30 | 10-15 | I | 32 |
| Sensu Hechtel (1965) | Jamaica | 529-1478 | I | 29–50 | I | 9–13 | 34-61 |
| | | × 10–27 | | | | | |
| Sensu Green et al. (1986) | West GoM | 390-1200 | I | 45–93 | (Not measured see | 6-16.5 | Ι |
| | | \times 6–12 | | | Gómez 2007) | | |

spherasters 11.8–25.9 μ m, oxy- to strongylasters 4.7–11.8 μ m). However, specimens from Belize also have larger spicules (tylostyles 176–310 × 2–7 μ m, spheroxyasters 19–25 μ m, spheroxyasters 15–18 μ m) as shown by Rützler *et al.* (2014). These variations in dimensions appear intraspecific to us. The smaller category of euasters in Hechtel (1969) fits well with ours. This is the first record of *T. stenosclera* for the GoM.



FIGURE 66. *Timea stenosclera* Hechtel, 1969 (CNPGG-2275), spicules: **A.** tylostyles (1—large and 2—small); **B.** tylostyle, large category; **C.** tylostyle, small category and microscleres (1—spheroxyasters and 2—oxyasters). Scale bars: $A-B = 250 \mu m$; $C = 100 \mu m$.

Order Tetractinellida Marshall, 1876

Suborder Astrophorina Sollas, 1887

Family Ancorinidae Schmidt, 1870

Genus Stellettinopsis Carter, 1879

Stellettinopsis megastylifera (Wintermann-Kilian & Kilian, 1984)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 67A–I, 70L

Synonymy: *Ecionemia megastylifera* Wintermann-Kilian (1984: 122), Cardenas *et al.* (2009: 12); *Ancorina megastylifera, Ecionemia dominicana, Ecionemia* sp., *Stellettinopsis dominicana,* and *Stellettinopsis megastylifera*: see references compiled in van Soest (2017: 78).

Type locality. Colombia.

Material examined. CNPGG-2446, Isla Verde reef (19.20588°N, 96.07305°W), 11 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 31 August 2018.

Description. Encrusting habit on coral rubble (Fig. 70L), covered by sand, $10 \times 7 \times 2$ cm. The surface is hispid with some scattered pores. Oscules elevated. The color *in vivo* is black in the outside, and beige inside, the same color preserved in ethanol. The consistency is hard.

Skeleton. Ectosomal skeleton with some spicules perpendicular to paratangential arrangement, and choanosomal region with quite a few disordered spicules (Fig. 67A). Microscleres below the surface and scattered in choanosomal region too.

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas in two categories. Larger oxeas I (Fig. 67B–1), fusiform, slightly curved, and smooth, with sharp tips, hastate to stylote: 760–*1176*.7 (225.3)–1650/20–42.4 (16.5)–70 μ m. Small oxeas II (Fig. 67B–2), less abundant, smaller, and thinner than oxeas I; 430–936 (166.9)–1050/10–26.9 (6.9)–35 μ m. Microxeas (rare; n = 1) 420/2.5 μ m. Dichotriaene (rare; n = 1), stout with short cladomes; rhabdomes 420/30 μ m, clads 80/25 μ m (Fig. 67D). Plagiotriaenes smaller in size than dichotriaenes (Fig. 67C, F) probably transitional forms of di-

chotriaenes. Protriaenes (rare; n = 2), stout with short cladomes; rhabdomes 610-705 (134.4)–800/10-20 (14.1)– 30μ m, clads 25-40 (21.2)–55/9-19.5 (14.8)– 30μ m (67E). Microscleres: Acanthomicrorhabds fusiform with blunt tips; 40-60.3 (14.5)–80/4-4.8 (0.4)– 5μ m (Figs. 67G, I). Acanthoxyasters; 7.5-10 (2.7)– 14.5μ m in diameter (Fig. 67H–1). Acanthostrongylasters; 3.5-4.5 (0.6)– 5μ m in diameter (Fig. 67H–2).



FIGURE 67. *Stellettinopsis megastylifera* (Wintermann-Kilian & Kilian, 1984) (CNPGG-2446), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** 1—large oxeas and 2—small oxea; **C.** plagiotriaene; **D.** dichotriaene; **E.** protriaene; **F.** malformed plagiotriaene; **G.** acanthomicrorhabds, arrow pointing to acanthoxyaster; **H.** 1— acanthoxyasters and 2—acanthos-trogylasters; **I.** malformed acanthomicrorhabd. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C-E = 50 \mu m$; $F = 10 \mu m$; $G = 25 \mu m$; $H-I = 5 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Cuba (Alcolado 2002), Bahamas, other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Cárdenas *et al.* 2009; *Ecionemia*), Guyana (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. According to recent studies (Cárdenas *et al.* 2009; van Soest 2017), morphology and spicule measurements, our specimen matches with *Stellettinopsis megastylifera*. Our specimen did not have anatriaenes, in comparison with specimens from Bocas del Toro recorded in Cárdenas *et al.* (2009). However, anatriaenes seem to be an uncommon spicule because neither the holotype nor van Soest's (2017) specimens have them. Van Soest (2017) mentioned that *S. megastylifera* was distributed in the GoM, nonetheless, this record probably refers to the listed species of Alcolado (2002) in Cuba. Thus, this can be considered the first record of *S. megastylifera* for the GoM.

Family Geodiidae Gray, 1867

Subfamily Geodinae Gray, 1867

Genus Geodia Lamarck, 1815

Geodia gibberosa Lamarck, 1815 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 68A–D, 70M

Synonymy and references: *Geodia gibberosa* Lamarck (1815: 334), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 86), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 47) Rützler *et al.* (2014:25), and van Soest (2017: 93); *Geodia cariboea* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 14), and van Soest *et al.* (1983: 201); *Pyxitis gibberosa* Schmidt (1870: 70); *Geodia (Geodia) gibberosa* Hechtel (1965: 68), Wiedenmayer (1977: 178), and Lehnert (1993: 63); *Geodia flexisclera* Pulitzer-Finali (1986: 76); *Geodia tuberosa* Schweigger (1819: 40).

Type locality. Guyana.

Material examined. CNPGG-2266, Triangulos Oeste reef (20.95629°N, 92.30860°W), 7.1 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 10 September 2017; CNPGG-2291, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.49466°N, 92.20378°W), 16 m depth,

coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Topsent 1889; current records), Bermuda, Bahamas, other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Guyana, Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. *Geodia gibberosa* has been shown to be a species complex based on molecular phylogenetic analysis (Cárdenas *et al.* 2011). The same results have been suggested in morphological analysis (Cárdenas *et al.* 2009). However, Cárdenas et al.'s (2011; Figure 2) results have shown that a specimen from Mexico is sister to another from Belize. There are essential morphological differences in *G. gibberosa* based on morphological analysis (Cárdenas *et al.* 2009), this is shown in a particular specimen from Florida with more regular gross morphology and smaller sterrasters with a different rosette pattern (op.cit. details therein). Another morphological observation of Cárdenas *et al.* (2009) was the presence of anatriaenes in a Panamanian individual, but this latter character is questioned by van Soest (2017), who mentions that the holotype lacks anatriaenes. Tetractine spines were also rare in the material of Cárdenas *et al.* (2009). Our specimens have a massive habit and absent anatriaenes.

Geodia gibberosa is widely distributed in tropical and subtropical areas of the West Atlantic, from North Carolina, USA (35° N) to Brazil (25° S) (Muricy *et al.* 2011). In the GoM, *G. gibberosa* has been reported from the northern (Schmidt 1870) and the southern region (Topsent 1889; present work). In the SGoM the species is common in coral reefs.



FIGURE 68. *Geodia gibberosa* Lamarck, 1815 (CNPGG-2291), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** megascleres (oxeas and plagiotriaenes) and microscleres (sterrasters), arrows pointing to cortical small oxeas; **C.** cortical small oxea and sterraster; **D.** oxyaster and spheroxyasters. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C = 25 \mu m$; $D = 50 \mu m$.

Geodia neptuni (Sollas, 1886)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 69A–D, 70N

Synonymy: *Synops neptuni* Sollas (1886: 198), Sollas (1888: 227), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 70), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 48); *Geodia (Sidonops) neptuni* Lehnert (1993: 64) Gómez (2007: 53) and *Geodia vosmaeri*, *Sidonops neptuni* and *Synops vosmaeri*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 48); *Geodia neptuni*: Gómez (2002: 69).

Type locality. Brazil, Off Alagoas State.

Material examined. CNPGG-2439, Cabezo reef (19.05086°N, 95.82388°W), 9.3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2002, 2007, 2011; current records), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), Cuba (Alcolado 2002), other countries in Caribbean Sea, and Brazil (Muricy *et al.* 2011).

Remarks. Similarly to other species of *Geodia*, *G. neptuni* has also been analyzed integratively, but unlike *G. gibberosa* (cited above), *G. neptuni* is established as monophyletic in a well supported clade with 90% bootstrap (Cárdenas *et al.* 2011; Figure 2). An interesting case in *G. neptuni* is the geographic relationship found, where specimens from the Bahamas are more closely related to specimens from the farther away Belize than to the geographically closer ones from Florida. However, similar morphological characteristics can be observed in the litera-

ture among specimens of *G. neptuni* from the Caribbean and Brazilian regions (e.g. Sollas 1888; Lehnert 1993); viz., cup or vaseform shape and grooved surface. Our material has a similar habit and shape similar to Caribbean specimens.

Geodia neptuni has been reported from the northern (de Laubenfels 1936) and the SGoM (Gómez 2002, 2007, 2011), where it is a common species in coral reefs.



FIGURE 69. *Geodia neptuni* (Sollas, 1886) (CNPGG-2439), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal and choanosomal regions; **C.** oxeas, plagiotriaenes, and microscleres (sterrasters), arrows pointing to a styloid form of oxea; **D.** oxyaster and spheroxyasters. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C = 250 \mu m$; $D = 20 \mu m$.

Subfamily Erylinae Sollas, 1888

Genus Erylus Gray, 1867

Erylus formosus Sollas, 1886 Tables 6, 7; Fig. 71A–D, 79A

Synonymy and references: *Erylus formosus* Sollas (1886: 195), Sollas (1888: 209), Boury-Esnault (1973:267), Gómez & Green (1984: 85), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 81), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 45), Rützler (2014: 23), Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 153), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 11), and van Soest (2017: 85); *Erylus clavatus*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 45).

Type locality. Brazil.

Material examined. CNPGG-2167, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19491°N, 91.95741°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 April 2018; CNPGG-2193, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19491°N, 91.95741°W), 4.3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2202, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, 91.95997°W), 5.1 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez & Green 1984; Ugalde *et al.* 2015; current records), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), other countries in Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Ugalde *et al.* 2015).

Remarks. There are two species of *Erylus* Gray 1987 recorded from the GoM. *Erylus trisphaerus* (de Laubenfels, 1953) described originally from Florida by de Laubenfels (1953) and recently recorded in the SGoM (Ugalde *et al.* 2015), whose main characteristic is the trilobate aspidasters; and *Erylus formosus* Sollas, 1886 which has elongated aspidasters and microstrongiles instead of microxeas. For a detailed description, refer to Ugalde *et al.* (2015) and the references cited above.



FIGURE 70. *In situ* photographs of species analyzed in the present study: A. *Svenzea tubulosa* (Alcolado & Gotera, 1986), B. *Svenzea zeai* (Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 1998) (CNPGG-2284); C. *Hymeniacidon caerulea* Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 (CNPGG-2425); D. *Topsentia ophiraphidites* (de Laubenfels, 1934) (CNPGG-2185); E. *Topsentia ophiraphidites* (de Laubenfels, 1934) (CNPGG-2185); G. *Tectitethya crypta de* Laubenfels, 1949 (CNPGG-2176); H. *Tectitethya macrostella* Sarà & Bavestrello, 1996 (CNPGG-2277); I. *Tethya diploderma* Schmidt, 1870 (CNPGG-2191); J. *Timea stenosclera* Hechtel, 1969 (CNPGG-2275); K. *Timea stenosclera* Hechtel, 1969 (CNPGG-2258), surface detail zoomed in (arrow indicates a specimen of *Chalinula* aff. *molitba*); L. *Stellettinopsis megastylifera* (Wintermann-Kilian & Kilian, 1984) (CNPGG-2446); M. *Geodia gibberosa* Lamarck, 1815 (CNPGG-2291); N. *Geodia neptuni* (Sollas, 1886) (CNPGG-2439). Scale bars, A–N = 1 cm.



FIGURE 71. *Erylus formosus* Sollas, 1886 (CNPGG-2202) skeleton, and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** orthotriaenes, (some of them plagiotriaene like), oxeas, aspidasters and centrotylote microxeas/microstrogyles; **C.** aspidasters and centrotylotes microxeas/microstrongyles, arrows pointing to tylasters; **D.** centrotylote microxeas/microstrongyles, tylasters and an oxiaster. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 200 \mu m$; $C = 100 \mu m$; $D = 50 \mu m$.

Suborder Spirophorina Bergquist & Hogg, 1969

Family Tetillidae Sollas, 1886

Genus Cinachyrella Wilson, 1925

Cinachyrella apion (Uliczka, 1929) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 72A–F, 79B

Synonymy: *Cinachyra apion* Uliczka (1929: 43), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 168); *Cinachyra rhizophyta*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 168); *Cinachyrella apion*: Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 63), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 168), and Rützler *et al.* (2009: 295).

Type locality. The Virgin Islands.

Material examined. CNPGG-2189, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20512°N, 91.96305°W), 0.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 19 August 2018.

Description. Spherical habit (Fig. 79B); the overall size is 2 cm in diameter by 1.5 cm high. The surface is hispid with two large lateral porocalices, 0.6 cm in diameter. Yellow color *in vivo* and beige preserved in ethanol. The consistency is compressible.

Skeleton. Compact radial skeleton formed by tracts of oxeas (Fig. 72A). Cladomes of triaenes that reinforce the main tracts of oxeas protruding outside the surface. Sigmaspires throughout the whole skeleton.

Spicules. Megascleres: Oxeas, straight, fusiform, and smooth (Fig. 72B); 1800-2039.7 (348.9)–2440/19–23.3 (6.7)–31 µm. Two categories of protriaenes: Protriaenes I (Figs. 72B–1, D), the only rhabdome is broken (length was not measured); 5-6.4 (1.7)–8.3 µm thickness of rhabdome. Clads; 75.7-102.4 (27.2)–130/3.8–4.5 (1.1)–5.8 µm. Protriaene II (Fig. 72E, n = 1), one rhabdome broken (length was not measured); 1.6 µm thick. Clads; 39/1.6 µm. Anatriaene (Fig. 72C, n = 1), rhabdome is broken (length was not measured); 5.9 µm thick. Clads; 12/7 µm. Microscleres: Sigmaspires (Figs. 72C, D, E), 12-13 (1)–14 µm in length. Raphides broken (Fig. 72F).

Distribution. Mexico (current record), US (Florida) (Little 1963), Bermuda, Bahamas, Cuba, Belize, Panama, other countries in the Caribbean Sea, and Brazil (Cárdenas *et al.* 2009).

Remarks. *Cinanchyrella apion* is widely distributed in the western Atlantic (Rützler & Smith 1992; Hajdu *et al.* 2011). Apart from raphides, our material has the same types of spicules as known specimens of *C. apion* from the

Caribbean and Brazilian areas (Rützler & Smith 1992; Hajdu *et al.* 2011). In addition, triaenes are rare in our material. Unfortunately, only one specimen was found in our study. In the GoM, *C. apion* has been reported in Florida (Little 1963); thus, this is the first record of the species for the SGoM.



FIGURE 72. *Cinachyrella apion* (Uliczka, 1929) (CNPGG-2189), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** oxeas and Protriaenes I, arrows pointing to the protriaenes; **C.** anatriaene, arrows pointing to sigmaspires; **D.** Protriaene I, the arrow pointing to sigmaspires; **E.** Protriaene II, the arrow pointing to a sigmaspire; **F.** raphides. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$; $C = 25 \mu m$; $D = 50 \mu m$; $E = 20 \mu m$; $F = 50 \mu m$.

Cinachyrella kuekenthali (Uliczka, 1929)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 73A-H, 79C

Synonymy and references: *Cinachyra kükenthali* Uliczka (1929: 44), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 169), and Fernandez *et al.* (2018: 56)); *Cinachyra schistospiculosa, Cinachyra* (*Cinachyrella*) *kukenthali, Cinachyrella kukenthali, Uliczka schistospiculosa:* see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 169), and Fernandez *et al.* (2018: 56); *Cinachyrella kuekenthali:* Gómez (2002: 70), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 65), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 168), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 295), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 18), van Soest (2017: 112), and Fernandez *et al.* (2018: 56), Gómez & Calderón-Gutiérrez (2020: 138); *Craniella corticata* and *Cinachyrella* aff. *kuekenthali:* Fernandez *et al.* (2018: 56).

Type locality. St. Thomas (US Virgin Islands).

Material examined. CNPGG-1351, Alacranes reef (22.3864°N, 89.6801°W), 9 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 19 February 2012; CNPGG-2190, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20512°N, 91.96305°W), 0.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 19 August 2018; CNPGG-2427, Cabezo reef (19.09752°N, 95.85616°W), 9.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 29 August 2018.

Description. Spherical habit (Fig. 79C); overall size 1.8 cm in diameter by 1.2 cm high. The surface is hispid with a few porocalices scattered, 0.2 cm diameter. The color *in vivo* is yellow and beige preserved in ethanol. The consistency is slightly compressible.

Skeleton. Compact radial skeleton formed by tracts of oxeas (Figs.73A–B). Cladomes of triaenes that reinforce the main tracts of oxeas protruding outside the surface. Sigmaspires throughout the whole skeleton.

Spicules. Megascleres: Large oxeas, straight, fusiform, and smooth (Fig. 73 C1); 1595.5–*1865.9* (278.4)–2112/14–*19.2* (6.4)–27.4 μ m. Small oxeas, straight, fusiform, and smooth (Fig. 73 C2); 850–881.7 (27.6)–901/10– *10.1* (0.1)–10.2 μ m. Large protriaenes, with broken rhabdomes (length was not measured; Fig. 73 E–F); 7.6–9.6 (2.7)–12.7 μ m thick. Clads; 75.4–90.4 (19.6)–112.6/4.8–6.2 (1.8)–8.2 μ m. Anatriaene (n = 1; Fig. 73G), broken rhabdomes (length was not measured); 5 μ m thick. Clads; 10/6 μ m. Microscleres (Fig. 73H): Microxeas, straight and microespined (Fig. 73D); 100–*106* (5.3)–110/4.5–5 (0.5)–5.5 μ m. Sigmaspires (Fig. H), 8–9.6 (1.4)–12 μ m in length.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2002; Gómez & Calderón-Gutiérrez 2020; current records), Bahamas, US (North Carolina, Florida), Cuba, other countries in the Caribbean Sea, and Brazil (Cárdenas *et al.* 2009).

Remarks. The distribution of *C. kuekenthali* is similar to that of *C. apion*, ranging from the GoM to Brazil (Rützler & Smith 1992; Rützler *et al.* 2009; Hajdu *et al.* 2011; Muricy *et al.* 2011; Fernandez *et al.* 2018). However, *C. kuekenthali* is also known from deeper waters, down to 100 m in Brazil (Fernandez *et al.* 2018). It also inhabits Mexican caves, such as the anchialine cave La Quebrada, in Quintana Roo (Gómez & Calderón-Gutiérrez 2020). Our material has the same set of spicules of known specimens of *C. kuekenthali* (Rützler & Smith 1992; Hajdu *et al.* 2011; Fernandez *et al.* 2018). However, triaenes were rare, and microxeas were not abundant in our material.



FIGURE 73. *Cinachyrella kuekenthali* (Uliczka, 1929) (CNPGG-2190), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the ectosomal region; **C.** oxeas, 1—large size category and 2—small size category, the arrow pointing to a protriaene; **D.** spined microxeas; **E–F.** protriaenes; **G.** anatriaene; **H.** sigmaspires. Scale bars: A, C = 500 μ m; B, E–F = 100 μ m; D = 50 μ m; G = 5 μ m; H = 10 μ m.

Subclass Keratosa Grant, 1861

Order Dendroceratida Minchin, 1900

Family Dictyodendrillidae Bergquist, 1980

Genus Igernella Topsent, 1905

Igernella notabilis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 74A–B, 79D

Synonymy and references: *Euryades notabilis* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 106); *Darwinella joyeuxi* Topsent (1889:17); *Igernella notabilis:* Muricy *et al.* (2011: 55), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 96), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 9), and van Soest (2017: 18); *Darwinella joyeuxi, Euryades notabilis, Igernella joyeuxi*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 55).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-1133, Alacranes reef (22.3670°N, 89.6751°W), 12 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 03 August 2012; CNPGG-1770, Sisal reef (21.4416°N, 90.2913°W), 12 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 January 2013; CNPGG-2234, Triangulo Este reef (20.90°N, 92.2340°W), 10 m depth, coll. Deneb Ortigosa, 11 August 2017; CNPGG-2244, CNPGG-2252, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.95178°N, 92.30963°W), 9–23 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 09 September 2017; CNPGG-2295, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.49111°N, 92.20296°W), 14 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 13 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Topsent 1889 as *Darwinella joyeuxi*; current records), Bermuda (Rützler *et al.* 2014), Cuba (Alcolado 2002), other countries in the Caribbean Sea; Guyana, and Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. Only three species of Igernella have been reported worldwide: Igenella mirabilis Lévi 1961 from

the Indo-Pacific, *I. vansoesti* Uriz & Maldonado 1996 from Cape Verde, and the current *I. notabilis*. We agree with the comment by van Soest (2017) on the need to verify the presence of *I. vansoesti* from Cape Verde reported in the GoM, since both materials differ in habit and skeletal measurements. *Igernella notabilis* has been reported in Campeche by Topsent (1889), and is a common species in the coral reefs of the area. The distinctive habit of the species in the GoM region was the presence of short tubes joined in a row, a common form in other parts of the Caribbean. There is only one report with encrusting shape 5 mm thick, due to its juvenile state (Rutzler *et al.* 2014).



FIGURE 74. *Igernella notabilis* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2234), skeleton and spongin spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton with an irregular reticulation of fibers in the choanosomal region; **B.** spongin spicules. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$.

Order Dictyoceratida Minchin, 1900

Family Dysideidae Gray, 1867

Genus Dysidea Johnston, 1842

Dysidea etheria de Laubenfels, 1936 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 75A–B, 79E

Synonymy and references: *Dysidea etheria* de Laubenfels (1936: 28), Gómez & Green (1986: 71), Gómez (2002: 97), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 304), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 201), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 56), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 96), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 9); *Dysidea* cf. *etheria*: van Soest (2017: 21).

Type locality. Florida.

Material examined. CNPGG-2173, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19908°N, 91.96380°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 25 April 2018; CNPGG-2199, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, 91.95997°W), 6.7 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2235, CNPGG-2236, Banco Obispo Norte reef (20.50072°N, 92.20306°W), 10 m depth, coll. Deneb Ortigosa, 13 September 2017; CNPGG-2417, Isla Verde reef (19.19844°N, 96.06863°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 28 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2002, 2007; Maas-Vargas 2004; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bermuda, Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Guyana, Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. *Dysidea etheria* is characterized by its cushion shape or erect branched morphology, conulose surface, with a particular sky-blue color, in addition to having the typical skeleton of the family, characterized by the presence of debris in its transparent fibers. Our specimens correspond to all the characters listed above.

Dysidea etheria has been reported in the northern (de Laubenfels 1936) and in the SGoM (Green et al. 1986;

Gómez 2002, 2007; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016). It is a common inhabitant of the coral reefs in the GoM. Further, the species is widely spread in the TNwA region.



FIGURE 75. *Dysidea etheria* de Laubenfels, 1936 (CNPGG-2199), skeleton and fibers: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton in the choanosomal reticulation; **B.** detail of the spongin fibers filled with sand. Scale bars: $A-B = 500 \mu m$.

Family Irciniidae Gray, 1867

Genus Ircinia Nardo, 1833

Ircinia strobilina (Lamarck, 1816) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 76A–B, 79F–G

Synonymy and references: Spongia strobilina Lamarck (1816: 363), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 59); Dysidicinia longispina, Felifera verrucosa, Hircinia (Dysidicinia) longispina, Hircinia (Psammocinia) verrucosa, Hircinia acuta, Hircinia acuta var. longispina, Hircinia acuta var. nigra, Hircinia strobilina, Hircinia verrucosa, Ircinia acuta, Ircinia acuta var. longispina, Ircinia verrucosa, Polytherses capitata, Polytherses cylindrica, Polytherses ignobilis, Polytherses linguiformis: see references compiled in WPD (van Soest *et al.* 2021); Hircinia longispina, Ircinia longispina, Polytherses longispina, Stelospongus longispinus, and Stellospongus longispinus: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 59); Ircinia strobilina, Gómez & Green (1984:69), Green *et al.* (1986: 139), Gómez (2002: 96), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 305), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 210), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 59), Rützler *et al.* (2017: 21).

Type locality. Unknown.

Material examined. CNPGG-2263, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.95629°N, 92.30860°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 10 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2002; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bermuda, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, and Brazil (Rützler *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. *Ircinia strobilina* is distinguished from other species of the genus by its particular grayish-black color, its large conules, and oscules darker in color than the rest of the body, grouped in depressions in the upper part of the sponge. Generally, the sponge morphology is massive to spherical, supported by a skeletal network of fasciculated primary fibers packed by debris connected by secondary fibers. Our specimens match these characteristics.

The species has been reported in the northern and in the SGoM (de Laubenfels 1936; Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2002; 2007, 2011). This species is a common inhabitant in the coral reefs in the SGoM.



FIGURE 76. *Ircinia strobilina* (Lamarck, 1816) (CNPGG-2263), skeleton and filaments: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton, mixture of filaments; **B.** detail of the filaments. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$.

Family Spongiidae Gray, 1867

Genus Hyattella Lendenfeld, 1888

Hyattella cavernosa (Pallas, 1766) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 77A–B, 79H

Synonymy and references: *Spongia cavernosa* Pallas (1766: 394), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 60); *Aulena columbia*: de Laubenfels (1953: 513); *Hyrtios cavernosus:* Wiedenmayer (1977: 59), *Spongia cavernosa*: Pallas (1766: 394); *Hippospongia anomala, Hippospongia dura, Hyattella intestinalis, ?Spongelia velata, Spongia bresiliana, Spongia virgultosa* and *Trypespongia columbia*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 60); *Hyattella cavernosa*: Muricy *et al.* (2011: 60); *Hyattella cavernosa*: Muricy *et al.* (2011: 60), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 305), and Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 176).

Type locality. American Seas ("Mare Americanum").



FIGURE 77. *Hyatella cavernosa* Hyatt, 1877 (CNPGG-2260), skeleton and fibers: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the fibers. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$.

Material examined. CNPGG-2175, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19908°N, 91.96380°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 25 April 2018; CNPGG-2197, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, 91.95997°W), 7.1 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 20 August 2018; CNPGG-2260, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.96396°N, 92.30061°W), 12 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 10 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Ugalde *et al.* 2015; current records), Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Ugalde *et al.* 2015), Brazil (Sandes *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. *H. cavernosa* has been reported in the Campeche Bank, in the SGoM by Ugalde *et al.* (2015). Furthermore, this species has been reported in the northern Gulf (Florida and Cuba) as *H. intestinalis* (Rützler *et al.* 2009). The accuracy of these records is unlikely given the known Indo-west Pacific distribution of the species (van Soest *et al.* 2020).

Genus Spongia Linnaeus, 1759

Subgenus Spongia (Spongia) Linnaeus, 1759

Spongia (Spongia) obscura Hyatt, 1877 Tables 6, 7; Figs. 78A–B, 79I

Synonymy and references: *Spongia equina cerebriformis* var. *obscura* Hyatt (1877: 521); *Spongia equina cerebriformis* var. *plana* Hyatt (1877: 520–521); *Spongia (Spongia) plana* Hyatt (1877: 520); *Spongia plana* Hyatt (1877: 521); *Spongia obscura* Wiedenmayer (1977: 56), Gómez (2002: 92), and Rützler *et al.* (2009: 306).

Type locality. Bahamas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2177, Cayo Arcas reef (20.1996°N, 96.9668°W), 7.6 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 24 April 2018.



FIGURE 78. *Spongia* (*Spongia*) *obscura* (Pallas, 1766) (CNPGG-2177), skeleton and fibers: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the choanosomal region. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 200 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2002; current records), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), US (Florida), other countries in the Caribean Sea (Zea 1987).

Remarks. *Spongia (Spongia) obscura* is distinguished by its massive shape with small oscular tubes on top, blackish color *in vivo*, highly compressible, and conulose surface, an irregular skeleton of primary and secondary fibers, the former cored by foreign debris (Zea 1987); the secondaries always free. The species is uncommon in the GoM. Even though, it has already been reported from southern and northern localities. Hyatt (1877, as var. *mexicana*—Veracruz) and Gómez (2002, Campeche and Yucatán) made the records to the southern part of the gulf, while de Laubenfels & Storr (1958, Florida) made to the northern part.
In the past, there has been much confusion about the taxonomy of west Indian *Spongia* spp. Species have been synonymised or splitt apart, while others had emended definitions (see van Soest 1978, van Soest *et al* 2021). Many of them have been declared "*taxon inquirendum*" because their type materials are unrecognizable, thus hampering proposals of neotypes.



FIGURE 79. In situ photographs of species analyzed in the present study: A. Erylus formosus Sollas, 1886 (CNPGG-2202); B. Cinanchyrella apion (Uliczka, 1929) (CNPGG-2189); C. Cinanchyrella kuekenthali (Uliczka, 1929) (CNPGG-2190); D. Igernella notabilis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2234); E. Dysidea etheria de Laubenfels, 1936 (CNPGG-2199); F. Ircinia strobilina (Lamarck, 1816) (not collected) G. Ircinia strobilina (Lamarck, 1816) (CNPGG-2260); I. Spongia (S.) obscura Hyatt, 1877 (CNPGG-2177). Scale bars, A–H = 1 cm.

Subclass Verongimorpha Erpenbeck, Sutcliffe, De Cook, Dietzel, Maldonado, van Soest, Hooper & Wörheide, 2012

Order Verongiida Bergquist, 1978

Family Aplysinidae Carter, 1875

Genus Aiolochroia Wiedenmayer, 1977

Aiolochroia crassa (Hyatt, 1875)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 88A–B

Synonymy and references: *Dendrospongia crassa* Hyatt (1875: 401), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 171); *Dendrospongia crassa* Hyatt (1875: 401); *Ianthella basta* de Laubenfels (1936: 31); *Verongula ardis* Wiedenmayer (1977: 78); *Aplysina crassa*, *Aplysina fulva* and *Aplysina janusi*, *Ianthella ardis*, *Ianthella ianthella*, *Pseudoceratina crassa*: Green *et al.* (1986: 141), Gómez & Green (1984: 74), *Verongia crassa*, and *Verongia janusi*: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 171); *Aiolochroia crassa*: Wiedenmayer (1977: 75), Gómez (2002: 104), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 307), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 221), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 171), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 9), and van Soest (2017: 16).

Type locality. Bahamas (Nassau).

Material examined. CNPGG-1898, Alacranes reef (22.55675°N, 89.78405°W), 15 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 03 July 2016; CNPGG-1324, Madagascar reef (21.44119°N, 90.29277°W), 8.5 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 10 August 2016.

Distribution. Mexico (Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2002, 2007, 2011; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bermuda (de Laubenfels 1950); Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Guyana, and Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. *Aiolochroia* Wiedenmayer, 1977 has three known species; one in the Eastern Tropical Pacific *Aiolochroia thiona* (de Laubenfels, 1930); two in the western Atlantic, *Aiolochroia janusi* (Boury-Esnault, 1973) and *Aiolochroia crassa* (Hyatt, 1875). *Aiolochroia crassa* is characterized by its yellow, orange, green, or purplish color *in vivo*, a surface with rounded tubercles that surround depressions which give it a polygonal appearance, and fibers in a dendritic pattern with some reticulated areas in the subsurface region (Bergquist *et al.* 2002). *Aiolochroia crassa* is a common inhabitant of the coral reefs in the GoM, recorded in the Veracruz reefs (Gómez 2007, 2011), Campeche Bank (Gómez 2002), and in the northern GoM (Storr 1976).

Genus Aplysina Nardo, 1834

Aplysina cauliformis (Carter, 1882) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 80A–B, 88C

Synonymy and references: *Luffaria cauliformis* Carter (Carter 1882), other references compiled in Widenmayer (1977: 68), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 173); *Aplysina longissima, Luffaria cauliformis* var. *elongo-reticulata, Luffaria cauliformis* var. *rufa, Luffaria fulva* and *Verongia longíssima*: see references compiled in Wiedenmayer (1977: 68); *Luffaria fulva*: Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 8); *Aplysina cauliformis*, Wiedenmayer (1977: 68), Gómez & Green (1984: 71), Gómez (2002: 101), Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 8), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 307), Hajdu *et al.* (2011:224), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 173), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 97), and van Soest (2017: 15).

Type locality. Antigua.

Material examined. CNPGG-2380, Triangulo Este reef (20.90°N, 92.234°W), 10 m depth, coll. Omar D. Dominguez, 11 September 2017.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez & Green 1984; Gómez 2002; González-Gándara *et al.* 2009; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977); US (Florida, de Laubenfels 1936); Brazil (Pinheiro *et al.* 2007), Bermuda, other countries in Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Rützler *et al.* 2014), Guyana (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. At least three species of *Aplysina* in the western Atlantic have branched morphology, *Aplysina orthoreticulata* Pinheiro, Hajdu & Custódio, 2007, *Aplysina fulva* (Pallas, 1766), and *Aplysina cauliformis* (Carter, 1882). However, each of these species have particular external characteristics that allow their identification. For example, *Aplysina orthoreticulata* has branches with regular diameter with a surface covered by shallow depressions, and is beige with purple spots *in vivo* (Pinheiro *et al.* 2007). *Aplysina fulva* has single or a cluster of branches with irregular diameter, repent or erect, and most commonly is ochre or brown (Zea, 1987; Pinheiro *et al.* 2007). In contrast, *Aplysina cauliformis* has slender and cylindrical branches with regular diameter and a finely conulose surface. A particular characteristic of the species is the purple color that is conserved after its preservation in ethanol.

Aplysina cauliformis is a common species of the coral reefs in the GoM. Aside Triangulo Reef, we have re-

corded (not collected) the species in Cayo Arcas, Alacranes, and Bajos del Norte reefs. The species is also recorded in Quintana Roo reefs (Gómez & Green 1984; Maas-Vargas 2004).



FIGURE 80. *Aplysina cauliformis* (Carter, 1882) (CNPGG-2380), skeleton and fibers: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of fibers and pith. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$.

Aplysina fistularis (Pallas, 1766) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 81A–B, 88D–E

Synonymy and references: *Spongia fstularis* Pallas (1766: 385), Wiedenmayer (1977: 64), Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 10) Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 10), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 173); *Spongia tubaeformis* Lamarck (1814: 435); *Spongia fistulosa, S.* [*Spongia*] *fistulosa, S.* [*Spongia*] *fistulosa, S.* [*Spongia*] *fistularis* and *Luffaria insularis*: see references compiled in Wiedenmayer (1977: 64); *Verongia fistularis:* Green (1977: 85), Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 10), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 173); *Aplysina fistularis* forma *fistularis:* Wiedenmayer (1977: 64), Gómez (2002: 100), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 173); *Verongia fistularis* f. *fistularis:* see references compiled in Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 10); *Aplysina fistularis:* Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 14), Rützler *et al.* (2009: 307), Hajdu *et al.* (2011:230), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 174), Rützler *et al.* (2014: 98).

Type locality. Puerto Rico.



FIGURE 81. *Aplysina fistularis* (Pallas, 1766) (CNPGG-1235), skeleton and fibers: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of fibers and pith. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$.

Material examined. CNPGG-1235, Alacranes reef (22.41752°N, 89.73927°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 29 June 2016; CNPGG-1237, Madagascar reef (21.43794°N, 90.27755°W), 8 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 09 August 2016; CNPGG-1381, Alacranes reef (22.3864°N, 89.6801°W), 18 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 18 February 2012.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez & Green 1984; Lanza-Espino de la & Gómez- Rojas 2004; González-Gándara *et al.* 2009; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), US (Florida, de Laubenfels 1936), Bermuda, other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Rützler *et al.* 2014), Guyana (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. Aplysina fistularis is a common species in reefal environments like Veracruz, Yucatan, and Quintana Roo's reefs (Green 1977; Green *et al.* 1986; González-Gándara *et al.* 2009). Aplysina fistularis has also been reported from the northern GoM (Rützler *et al.* 2009). In 1948 de Laubenfels explained the right designation of the neotype for *A. fistularis*, proposing Puerto Rico as the type locality. Those records of Aplysina fistularis from the eastern Pacific (Baja California) are inaccurate since the different specimens reported possess a distinct morphology and skeletal architecture than those from *A. fistularis* in the TNwA (Gómez *et al.* 2018).

Aplysina fulva (Pallas, 1766) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 82A–C, 88F–G

Synonymy and references: Spongia fulva Pallas (1766: 383), Wiedenmayer (1977: 66), Pinheiro et al. (2007: 14), and Muricy et al. (2011: 174); Aplysina aurea, Aplysina fragilis, [?]Aplysina higginsii, [?]Aplysina mollis, Luffaria cauliformis, Luffaria fulva, Verongia aurea, Verongia fistularis, and [?]Verongia thiona: see references compiled in Wiedenmayer (1977: 66); Aplysina fistularis f. fulva: Wiedenmayer (1977: 66); Aplysina fistularis, Aplysina aff. cauliformis: see references compiled in Pinheiro et al. (2007: 14), and Muricy et al. (2011: 174); Aplysina sp., Aplysina fistularis fulva, Verongia sp., Verongia fistularis f. fulva and Verongia fulva: see references compiled in Muricy et al. (2011: 173); Aplysina fulva: Pinheiro et al. (2007: 14), Rützler et al. (2009: 307), Hajdu et al. (2011: 230), Muricy et al. (2011: 174), Rützler et al. (2014: 98).

Type locality. Armação dos Búzios, RJ, Brazil.



FIGURE 82. *Aplysina fulva* (Pallas, 1766) (CNPGG-2361), skeleton and fibers: **A.** skeleton; **B.** detail of fibers near the surface; **C.** detail of fibers and pith of the choanosomal region. Scale bars: $A = 1000 \mu m$; $B-C = 200 \mu m$

Material examined. CNPGG-1210, Madagascar reef (21.4379°N, 90.2775°W), 18 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 09 August 2016; CNPGG-1325, Alacranes reef (21.43794°N, 90.27755°W), 8.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 30 June 2016; CNPGG-1961, Cayo Arcas reef (20.20208°N, 91.97905°W), 6 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 26 April 2016; CNPGG-2361, Banco Obispo Sur reef (20.42345°N, 92.22743°W), 9 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 14 September 2017; CNPGG-2382, Triangulo Este reef (20.90009°N, 92.23405°W), 10 m depth, coll. Omar Dominguez, 11 September 2017;. CNPGG-1417, Alacranes reef (22.5567°N, 89.7840°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 02 July 2012. **Distribution.** Mexico (González-Gándara *et al.* 2009; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; current records), Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Pinheiro *et al.* 2007).

Remarks. Up to now, in the GoM *A. fulva* has been reported from the northern sector (Rützler *et al.* 2009), and recently listed in an ecological study in Veracruz, SGoM by De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez (2016). However, neither authors described the specimens.

Aplysina insularis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 83A–B, 88H

Synonymy and references: *Luffaria insularis* Duchassaing & Michelotti (1864: 61), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176); *Aplysina fistularis* f. *fistularis*: see references compiled in Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 21), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176); *Aplysina fistularis insularis*: Green *et al.* (1986: 140), *Aplysina insulares* (misspelling), see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176); *Aplysina insularis:* Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 21), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 233), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176) Rützler *et al.* (2009: 307), Pérez *et al.* (2017: 9), and Van Soest (2017: 209).

Type locality. St. Thomas.

Material examined. CNPGG-2255, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.95178°N, 92.30963°W), 23 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 09 September 2017; CNPGG-2268, Triangulo Oeste reef (20.96073°N, 92.30751°W), 19 m depth, coll. Oscar Bocardo, 10 September 2017.



FIGURE 83. *Aplysina insularis* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2255), skeleton and fibers: **A.** skeleton; **B.** detail of fibers and pith. Scale bars: $A = 1000 \mu m$; $B = 200 \mu m$

Distribution. Mexico (Green *et al.* 1986 as *A. fistularis insularis*, De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016, current records), Bermuda, Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Pinheiro *et al.* 2007).

Remarks. Our specimens conform in all aspects to *Aplysina insularis*. The species with the closest morphology to *Aplysina insularis* is *Aplysina muricyana* Pinheiro, Hajdu & Custódio, 2007 from das Rocas atoll (off northeastern Brazil). Both consist of groups of short and anastomosed tubes with apical oscules up to 1 cm in diameter, and soft consistency. However, they differ in the contour of the tube, lobate, often widening toward their apices (somewhat infundibuliform) with fairly smooth surface in *A. insularis*, and tubes with a polygonal contour bearing edges extending longitudinally in *A. muricyana*. Color when alive, golden yellow or brown in *A. insularis*, turning black after preservation in ethanol. Beige in *A. muricyana*, but green, brown-beige and red tinges are also common, turning from beige to brown when preserved in ethanol.

Aplysina lacunosa (Lamarck, 1814)

Tables 6, 7; Figs. 84A–B, 88I

Synonymy and references: *Spongia lacunosa* Lamarck (1814: 434), Wiedenmayer (1977: 67), Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 25), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176); *Aplysina spongelii, Luffaria calyx, Luffaria archeri, Luffaria nuciformis, Luffarea sebae, Verongia archeri, Verongia lacunose*: see references compiled in Wiedenmayer (1977: 67) and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176); *Verongia* sp.: see references compiled in Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 25), and Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176); *Aplysina archeri, and ?Verongia tenuissima:* see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176); *Aplysina lacunosa*: Gómez (2002: 102); Pinheiro *et al.* (2007: 25), Hajdu *et al.* (2011: 224), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 176) Rützler *et al.* (2009: 307), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 9).

Type locality. Unknown.

Material examined. CNPGG-1395, Alacranes reef (22.39622°N, 89.67213°W), 25 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 01 July 2016. CNPGG-1117 Enmedio reef (19.1017°N, 95.9326°W), 12 m depth, coll. Patricia Gómez, 05 May 2006.



FIGURE 84. *Aplysina lacunosa* (Lamarck, 1814) (CNPGG-1395), skeleton and fibers: **A.** skeleton; **B.** detail of fibers and pith. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 100 \mu m$

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2002; current records), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), US (Florida, de Laubenfels 1953), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Brazil (Pinheiro *et al.* 2007).

Remarks. The wide distribution of *Aplysina lacunosa* from the GoM to Brazilian waters has been established by Pinheiro *et al.* (2007) on the basis of several samples examined. All of them, considered conspecific due to their external morphology of tubular habit and surface with rounded, irregular or meandering grooves. These two diagnostic characters are not observed in any other species of the genus (Pinheiro *et al.* 2007). The type locality of *A. lacunosa* is unknown (Pinheiro *et al.* 2007). Until now the only records from the GoM are located in Florida (Laubenfels 1953), and in the Campeche Bank in the south sector (Gómez 2002). The species is common in coral reefs in the SGoM, observed in Bajos del Norte, Alacranes, Cayo Arcas and Triangulos reefs.

Family Aplysinellidae Bergquist, 1980

Genus Suberea Bergquist, 1995

Suberea flavolivescens (Hofman & Kielman, 1992) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 85A–C, 88J

Synonymy: *Axinyssa flavolivescens*: Hofman & Kielman (1992: 210); *Suberea? flavolivescens*, Rützler *et al.* (2014: 100); *Suberea flavolivescens*: Pérez *et al.* (2017: 9).

Type locality. Santa Marta, Colombia.

Material examined. CNPGG-2169, Cayo Arcas reef (20.1956°N, 91.9599°W), 10 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde. 24 April 2018; CNPGG-2216, Cayo Arcas reef (20.1996°N, 91.9668°W), 4.1 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 22 August 2018.

Description. Encrusting habit with several papillae emerging from the bedrock (Fig. 88J). Papillae 0.7 cm in length, the encrusting endolithic body is 3 cm underground. Surface rugose. Oscules circular on top of papillae, 3 mm diameter. Color *in vivo* bright yellow, turning purple to black when exposed to air.

Skeleton. Fragments of coarse, dendritic fibers in which pith predominates, and filled with foreign material (Figs. 85A-C), $60-80 \ \mu m$ thick.



FIGURE 85. *Suberea flavolivescens* (Hofman & Kielman, 1992) (CNPGG-2216), skeleton and fibers: **A**–**B**. transversal section of the skeleton; **C**. detail of the spongin fibers. Scale bars: $A-C = 100 \ \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (current records), Colombia (Hofman & Kielman 1992 as *Axynyssa*), Belize (Rützler *et al.* 2014).

Remarks. Suberea flavolivescens was originally recorded in the Colombian Caribbean as Axinyssa flavolivescens by Hofman & Kielman (1992). It was recently recorded in Belize by Rützler *et al.* (2014), who tentatively reallocated it in *Suberea*. However, the genus allocation is still pending, awaiting Zea's study of the species. Our specimens fit with the description of Rützler *et al* (2014) in morphology, color, and the verongid fibers with debris. Our finding corresponds to an extension in the distribution of the species and a new record for the GoM.

Order Chondrillida Redmond, Morrow, Thacker, Diaz, Boury-Esnault, Cardenas, Hajdu, Lobo-Hajdu, Picton, Pomponi, Kayal & Collins, 2013

Family Chondrillidae Gray, 1872

Genus Chondrilla Schmidt, 1862

Chondrilla caribensis **Rützler, Duran & Piantoni, 2007** Tables 6, 7; Figs. 86A–B, 88K

Synonymy and references: *Chondrilla caribensis* Rützler, Duran & Piantoni (2007: 100), and Rützler *et al.* (2014: 53), Ugalde *et al.* (2015: 161), and van Soest (2017: 12); *Chondrilla caribensis* cf. *caribensis* and *Chondrilla caribensis* cf. *hermatypica*: Gómez (2007: 57), and Pérez *et al.* (2017: 9).

Type locality. Belize.

Material examined. CNPGG-2405, Hornos reef (19.19083°N, 96.11777°W), 3 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 27 August 2018.



FIGURE 86. *Chondrilla caribensis* Rützler, Duran & Piantoni, 2007 (CNPGG-2405), skeleton and spicules: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** spherasters. Scale bars: $A = 500 \mu m$; $B = 50 \mu m$.

Distribution. Mexico (Gómez 2007; current records), Bermuda, Bahamas, US (Florida), other countries in the Caribbean Sea (Ugalde *et al.* 2015), Guyana to Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. *Chondrilla caribensis* has two intraspecific forms: forma *caribensis* mainly distributed in the mangroves habitat, and generally grayish to chestnut and purplish-brown color, and forma *hermatypica* mainly distributed in coral reef areas, distinguished by a yellowish brown to olive color and lighter areolas surrounding the oscules (Rützler *et al.* 2007a). Although both forms share similar sizes of spherasters, forma *caribensis* has spherasters with microspination on the tips, and *hermatypica* lacks the microspination. To distinguish between both forms it is necessary to examine SEM micrographs.

Up to now, *C. caribensis* has been reported it the northern sector of the GoM (Rützler *et al.* 2007a) and in the Campeche Bank reef by Ugalde *et al.* (2015).

Order Chondrosiida Boury-Esnault & Lopes, 1985

Family Chondrosiidae Schulze, 1877

Genus Chondrosia Nardo, 1847

Chondrosia collectrix (Schmidt, 1870) Tables 6, 7; Figs. 87A–B, 88L

Synonymy and references: *Cellulophana collectrix* Schmidt (1870:25), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 53), and van Soest *et al.* (2017:13); *Chondrosia* sp.: see references compiled in Muricy *et al.* (2011: 53); *Chondrosia collectrix*: Rützler *et al.* (2009: 297), Muricy *et al.* (2011: 53), and van Soest *et al.* (2017:13); *Chondrilla reniformis*: van Soest *et al.* (2017:13).

Type locality. Florida.

Material examined. CNPGG-2228, Cayo Arcas reef (20.19566°N, 91.95997°W), 0.5 m depth, coll. Diana Ugalde, 23 August 2018.

Distribution. Mexico (De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016, current record), Bermuda (de Laubenfels 1950), Bahamas (Wiedenmayer 1977), US (Florida, de Laubenfels 1936), other countries in the Caribbean Sea, Guyana, and Brazil (van Soest 2017).

Remarks. *Chondrosia collectrix* has been found in several localities in northeastern Brazil and the Caribbean region (Rützler *et al.* 2009; Muricy *et al.* 2011; van Soest 2017). Our specimen matches the description provided by

| IABLE 0. LISU OI SPON, of Mexico, ** new recoi | ge species (Fornera, Demospongiae) recorded in this rds for the Gulf of Mexico. 1. Hornos Reef, 2. Isla de | s survey e Enmed | and un io Ree | eir ais f, 3. Is | unouu sla Ver | on in t de Ree | ne co sf, 4. (| rai ret Cabez | u o u o Reef, | e sua 5. Tria | / area; ⁻ ngulo E | ste Re | ecora i ef, 6. Tr | or tne s iangulo | outnen o Oeste | Reef, |
|--|---|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|---------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------|
| 7. Banco Nuevo Reef, 8 | . Banco Obispo Norte Reef, 9. Banco Obispo Sur Re | ef, 10. B | anco F | era Ro | eef, 11 | . Cayo | Nuev | o Re | if, 12. C | ayo A | rcas Re | ef, 13. | Cayo Ai | cenas R | eef, 14 | . Sisal |
| Reef, 15. Chelem Lagoo | on, 16. Alacranes Reef, 17. Bajos del Norte Reef. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Family | Species | 1 | 6 | 4 | S | 9 | 5 | 8 | 9 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| Agelasidae | Agelas clathrodes | | | | | | | Х | | | | Х | | | x | |
| | $Agelas \ conifera^{**}$ | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | х | |
| | Agelas dispar* | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | x | |
| | Agelas schmidtii** | | ~ | | х | | | | x | | х | | | | | |
| | Agelas sventres | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | x | |
| | Agelas wiedenmayeri** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | × | |
| Hymerhabdiidae | Prosuberites carriebowensis** | | | | | x | | | | | x | | | | | |
| Raspailiidae | Ectyoplasia ferox | х | ~ | x | | x | | | | | х | | | | | |
| Axinellidae | Dragmacidon reticulatum | | | | × | | | | | | | | x | | | |
| | Ptilocaulis walpersii* | | | | | | x | х | | | x | | | | | |
| Heteroxyidae | Myrmekioderma rea* | | | Х | | х | | | | | | | | | | |
| Biemnidae | Neofibularia nolitangere* | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| Bubaridae | Desmanthus meandroides** | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| Clionaidae | Cliona aprica** | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | |
| | Cliona dioryssa** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | |
| | Cliona varians | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| | Cliona flavifodina | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | × | |
| Spirastrellidae | Spirastrella coccinea | | ~ | | | x | | | Х | | | | | | | |
| | Spirastrella mollis* | | ~ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Placospongiidae | Placospongia ruetzleri** | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Callyspongiidae | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armigera | × | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) fallax * | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | x | |
| Chalinidae | Chalinula aff. molitba | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| | $Haliclona~(Gellius)~megasclera^{stst}$ | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | |
| | Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | Х | | |
| | Haliclona (Reniera) portroyalensis** | | ~ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | : | continu | ed on th | ie next j | oage |

| amily | Species | 1 | 1 | с 4 | S | 9 | - | × | 9 1(| 1 | 1 | 2 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
|-----------------|--|---|---|--------|---|---|---|---|------|---|---|------|----|----|----|----|
| | Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea | Х | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Viphatidae | Amphimedon compressa | Х | | х х | | | | х | | | Х | | | | х | |
| | Amphimedon viridis | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | |
| | Niphates erecta | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | |
| etrosiidae | Neopetrosia proxima** | | | | | х | | | Х | | | | | | | |
| | Neopetrosia subtriangularis | | | ХХ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi | Х | | x x | | х | | | | | х | | | | | |
| | $Xestospongia\ arenosa^{**}$ | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | x |
| | Xestospongia muta | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| 'hloeodictyidae | Calyx podatypa** | | | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Siphonodictyon xamaycaense ^{**} | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aicrocionidae | Clathria (Clathria) foliacea | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | |
| | Clathria (Clathria) gomezae | | | | | | | Х | | | Х | | | | | |
| | Clathria (Thalysias) venosa | Х | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Clathria (Thalysias) virgultosa | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| Acarnidae | Acarnus innominatus** | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jrambeidae | Monanchora arbuscula | | | Х | Х | | | | | Х | Х | | Х | | Х | |
| Chondropsidae | Strongylacidon bermuda | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | |
| Jesmacididae | Desmapsamma anchorata | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| otrochotidae | $Iotrochota arenosa^{**}$ | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aycalidae | Mycale (Mycale) laevis | | | x x | x | | | | | | | | | | x | |
| | Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima | | | x | | x | | | | | | | х | | x | |
| olymastiidae | $Polymastia tenax^{**}$ | | | | Х | х | | Х | | | | | | | | |
| copalinidae | Scopalina ruetzleri | | | | | | | | | | Х | | х | | | |
| | Svenzea cristinae** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| | Svenzea flava** | | | | | | | х | Х | | | х | | | х | х |
| | Svenzea tubulosa** | | | | Х | | Х | | | | Х | | | | x | |

| IABLE 0. (Conunuea) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----|---|---|-----|-----|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|-----|------|---|
| Family | Species | 1 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 6 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 1 | 5 |
| | Svenzea zeai** | | | | × | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Halichondriidae | Hymeniacidon caerulea | | х | X | | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| | Topsentia ophiraphidites | | Х | | × | X 3 | | х | | | х | | | | | |
| Suberitidae | Suberites aurantiacus** | x | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| Tethyidae | Tectitethya crypta* | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| | $Tectitethya\ macrostella^*$ | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Tethya diploderma st | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| Timeidae | Timea stenosclera** | | | | x | | | x | | | | | | | | |
| Ancorinidae | Stellettinopsis megastylifera** | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Geodiidae | Geodia gibberosa | | | | × | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| | Geodia neptuni | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Erylus formosus | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| Tetillidae | Cinachyrella kuekenthali* | | | Х | | | | | | | Х | | | | x | |
| | Cinachyrella apion* | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | |
| Dictyodendrillidae | Igernella notabilis | | | | x | 4 | х | | | | | | х | | × | |
| Dysideidae | Dysidea etheria | | х | | | | х | | | | х | | | | | |
| | Dysidea variabilis | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | |
| Irciniidae | Ircinia strobilina | | | | × | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spongiidae | Hyattella cavernosa | | | | × | | | | | | х | | | | | |
| | Spongia (Spongia) obscura | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | |
| Aplysinidae | Aiolochroia crassa | | | | | | | | | | | | x | , , | x | |
| | Aplysina cauliformis | | | | × | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Aplysina fistularis | | | | x | Х | х | | | | | | х | | × | |
| | Aplysina fulva | | | | x | | | х | | | Х | | Х | | x | |
| | Aplysina insularis | | | | × | 4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Aplysina lacunosa | X | | | × | | | | | | | | | | × | |
| Aplysinellidae | Suberea flavolivescens** | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | X | |
| Chondrillidae | Chondrilla caribensis | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chondrosiidae | Chondrosia collectrix | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | |

| d on the next page | ıtinuea | cor | · | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|-------------------|------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--|------------------|
| | | ~ | | | | | | | | | | | | | Aplysina muricyanna Pinheiro, Hajdu & Custódio, 2007 | 24 |
| Х | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | Aplysina lacunosa | 23 |
| Х | | × | ~ | | | | | | | | Х | | | | Aplysina insularis | 22 |
| Х | | ~ | ~ | | | | | | | | | | | | Aplysina fulva | 21 |
| х | | ~ | n | | | | ~ | x | | | | × | | | Aplysina fistularis | 20 |
| Х | | × | ~ | | | | | | | x | | | | | Aplysina cauliformis | 19 |
| Х | | | | | | | × | Х | | | Х | | | | Amphimedon viridis | 18 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | × | × | | Amphimedon nanaspiculata (Hartman, 1955) | 17 |
| x | | × | h | | | | × | X | | | Х | × | х | | Amphimedon compressa | 16 |
| | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | Amphimedon complanata (Duchassaing, 1850) | 15 |
| | | | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | Amphimedon caribica (Pulitzer-Finali, 1986) | 14 |
| х | | ~ | ~ | | | | × | x | | | х | | | | Aiolochroia crassa | 13 |
| x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Agelas wiedenmayeri ** | 12 |
| | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | Agelas tubulata Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 | 11 |
| Х | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | Agelas sventres | 10 |
| х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Agelas schmidtii ** | 6 |
| х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Agelas dispar | 8 |
| х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Agelas conifera ** | Г |
| х | | ~ | ~ | | | | × | x | | х | | | | | Agelas clathrodes (Schmidt, 1870) | 9 |
| | | | | | | | × | x | | | | | | | Acarnus nicoleae van Soest, Hooper & Hiemstra, 1991 | S |
| х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Acarnus innominatus ** | 4 |
| | | | | | | | × | | | | | | | | Acanthotetilla gorgonosclera van Soest, 1977 | ю |
| | | | | | | | × | | | x | x | | | | Aaptos pernucleata (Carter, 1870) | 0 |
| | | | | | | | × | | | | | | | | Aaptos duchassaingi (Topsent, 1889) | 1 |
| 15 16 17 | 14 | [3] | 5 | 1 1 | 0 1 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 9 | S | 4 | 3 | 7 | 1 | Species | |
| | | í. | | | | ted he | mmitt | are o | n, and | itatio | ärst c | heir 1 | l on t | ffered | co. Taxonomic authorities for species dealt with in the present work were o | Mexic |
| cords for Gulf of | new 1 | rk: ** | int woi | curre | 0). 17 | . (202 | z <i>et a</i> l | -Pére: | llanos | Caste | . 16 . 16 | 2019) 2019) | al. (| cía et | cisco & Bandala-Pérez (2016), 14 Cruz-Barraza <i>et al.</i> (2017), 15 Ávila-Gar | Franci |
| z (2006), / Gomez 6), 13 De la Cruz- | . (201) | 2), 0 (nzalez | z (200 ez-Gój | ónzal | 0), | . (198 incisco | n <i>et al</i> uz-Fra | Greei la Cri | 2 De | n (19. 15), 1 | Uree . (20 | 0), 5 et al | cello palde | tman 11 U | ged in chronologic order from 1889 to the present. 1 lopsent (1889), 2 Har 7). 8 González-Gándara et al. (2009). 9 Gómez (2011). 10 Gómez (2014). | arrang (2007) |
| The references are | umes. | ted na | naccep | s or ui | onym | le syn | excluc |)) to e | l. 202(| st <i>et a</i> | Soe | (van | WPD | the | rder; only Forcepia sp. is not identified. The species names were checked in | cal or |
| inged in alphabeti- | o) arra | Iexico | lf of N | he Gu | ithin t | one w | nic Zo | conor | sive E | Exclus | co's] | Mexi | ico (] | Mex | LE 7. Compiled list of species recorded historically in the southern Gulf of | TABI |

| TABL | .E.7. (Continued) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|--|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|----|----|----|----|---------|---------|----------|-----|
| | Species | 1 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 7 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 25 | Axinella corrugata (George & Wilson, 1919) | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | |
| 26 | Axinella polycapella de Laubenfels, 1953 | | | | | × | | × | | | | | | | | |
| 27 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) eschrichtii Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | |
| 28 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) fallax | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 29 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armigera | | | х | | x | | х | | | | х | | | | x |
| 30 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) aculeata (Linnaeus, 1759) | | | | | × | | Х | | | | | | | | |
| 31 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) strongylophora Hartman, 1955 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 32 | <i>Calyx podatypa</i> (de Laubenfels, 1934) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 33 | Chalinula molitba | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | × |
| 34 | Chelonaplysilla americana | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | |
| 35 | Chondrilla caribensis | | | | | × | | x | | x | | | | | x | x |
| 36 | Chondrosia collectrix | | | | | | | | | | | × | | | × | x |
| 37 | Cinachyrella apion | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 38 | Cinachyrella kuekenthali | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 39 | Clathria (Clathria) carteri Topsent, 1889 | × | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| 40 | Clathria (Clathria) foliacea | × | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | x |
| 41 | Clathria (Clathria) gomezae | | | | | | | Х | х | | | | | | | х |
| 42 | Clathria (Microciona) calla (de Laubenfels, 1934) | | | | | × | | x | x | | | | | | | |
| 43 | Clathria (Microciona) spinosa (Wilson, 1902) | | | | | | | | × | | | × | | | | |
| 44 | Clathria (Thalysias) venosa | | | | | × | | x | х | | | | | | | x |
| 45 | Clathria (Thalysias) virgultosa | хх | х | | | × | | x | х | | | х | | | | х |
| 46 | Clathria (Microciona) campecheae Hooper, 1996 | × | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 47 | Clathria (Thalysias) fascicularis Topsent, 1889 | × | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 48 | Cliona amplicavata Rützler, 1974 | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | |
| 49 | Cliona aprica ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 50 | Cliona celata Grant, 1826 | × | | | | | | | | | | | | | × | |
| 51 | Cliona delitrix Pang, 1973 | | | | | × | | x | | | | x | | | | |
| 52 | Cliona dioryssa ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | C | ontinue | d on th | e next p | age |

| TABL | E 7. (Continued) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|---|----|----|----|----|---------|----------|----------|-----|
| | Species | 1 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 7 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 53 | Cliona euryphylle Topsent, 1888 | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 54 | Cliona flavifodina Rützler, 1974 | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | |
| 55 | Cliona varians | | | | | | | | | x | | х | | | | x |
| 56 | Cliona vermifera Hancock, 1867 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 57 | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) raphidifera (Topsent, 1889) | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 58 | Cribrochalina dura (Wilson, 1902) | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | |
| 59 | <i>Cyamon agnani</i> (Boury-Esnault, 1973) | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 60 | Desmanthus incrustans (Topsent, 1889) | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 61 | Desmanthus meandroides ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 62 | Desmapsamma anchorata | | | x | | × | | х | | | | | | | | x |
| 63 | Dictyonella hirta (Topsent, 1889) | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 64 | Dragmacidon reticulatum | | | | | | | x | | x | | | | | | x |
| 65 | Dysidea etheria | | | | | × | | х | | | | х | | | × | x |
| 99 | Dysidea fragilis (Montagu, 1814) | | | х | | | | Х | | | Х | | | | | |
| 67 | Dysidea variabilis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | × | |
| 68 | Ectyoplasia ferox | | | | | × | | х | | | | х | | | | x |
| 69 | Erylus formosus | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | Х |
| 70 | Erylus trisphaerus (de Laubenfels, 1953) | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | |
| 71 | Eurypon toureti (Topsent, 1894) | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 72 | Forcepia sp. | | | | | | | × | | | | | | | | |
| 73 | Geodia gibberosa | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 74 | Geodia neptuni | | | | | x | | | | | | х | | | | x |
| 75 | Geodia papyracea Hechtel, 1965 | | | | | | | × | | | | | | | | |
| 76 | Halichondria (Halichondria) lutea Alcolado, 1984 | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | |
| LL | Halichondria (Halichondria) melanadocia de Laubenfels, 1936 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | × | |
| 78 | Haliclona (Gellius) megasclera ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| <i>4</i> | Haliclona (Gellius) tenerrima Burton, 1954 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | × | |
| 80 | Haliclona (Halichoclona) magnifica de Weerdt, Rützler & Smith, 1991 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | ontinue | d on the | e next p | age |

| TABL | .E.7. (Continued) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|--|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|-----------|---------|----------|----------|
| | Species | 1 2 | 3 | 4 | S | 9 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 1 | 5 16 | 17 |
| 81 | Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla | x | | | | | | | | | x | | | | х |
| 82 | Haliclona (Reniera) implexiformis (Hechtel, 1965) | | | | | | | | | | | | × | × | |
| 83 | Haliclona (Reniera) mucifibrosa de Weerdt, Rützler & Smith, 1991 | | | | | ~ | | х | | | | | | | |
| 84 | Haliclona (Reniera) portroyalensis ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 85 | Haliclona (Reniera) tubifera (George & Wilson, 1919) | | | | | | | | | | | | | × | |
| 86 | Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea | | | | | ~ | | Х | | | | | | | Х |
| 87 | Haliclona (Soestella) luciensis de Weerdt, 2000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | |
| 88 | Haliclona (Soestella) piscaderaensis (van Soest, 1980) | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 89 | Halisarca caerulea Vacelet & Donadey, 1987 | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | |
| 06 | Halisarca purpura Little, 1963 | | | х | | | | х | | | | | | | |
| 91 | Hyattella cavernosa | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | х |
| 92 | Hymeniacidon caerulea | | | | | | | | | × | | x | | | х |
| 93 | Hyrrios proteus Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | | |
| 94 | Hyrrios violaceus (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 95 | Igernella notabilis | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 96 | Iotrochota arenosa ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | × |
| 76 | Iotrochota birotulata (Higgin, 1877) | | | Х | | ~ | X | Х | | | | Х | | | |
| 98 | Ircinia campana (Lamarck, 1814) | х | х | | | ~ | | х | | | | | | | |
| 66 | Ircinia felix (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | x | | h | х | × | | | | x | | | |
| 100 | Ircinia strobilina | | x | | | | | × | | | | x | | | × |
| 101 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) carolinensis Wilson, 1911 | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 102 | Lissodendoryx (Anomodoryx) sigmata (de Laubenfels, 1949) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 103 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) isodictyalis (Carter, 1882) | | | x | | ~ | x | × | | | | x | | × | |
| 104 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) spinulosa Rützler, Piantoni & Díaz, 2007 | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 105 | Monanchora arbuscula | | | | | ~ | х | х | | | | х | | | х |
| 106 | Mycale (Naviculina) diversisigmata (van Soest, 1984) | | | | | | | | | | x | x | | | |
| 107 | Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima | | | | | ĥ | | х | | | | | | | х |
| 108 | Mycale (Mycale) laevis | | | x | | n | 2 | х | | | | | | | х |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>co</i> | ntinued | on the n | ext page |

| TABL | E 7. (Continued) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|--|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Species | 1 | 6 | 3 | 4 S | 9 | ٢ | × | 6 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 1 | [4] | 5 16 | 17 |
| 109 | Mycale (Carmia) magnirhaphidifera van Soest, 1984 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 110 | Mycale (Carmia) microsigmatosa Arndt, 1927 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 111 | Myrmekioderma rea | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X |
| 112 | Neofibularia nolitangere | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 113 | Neopetrosia proxima ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 114 | Neopetrosia subtriangularis | | | × | × | | x | x | х | | | | | | | х |
| 115 | Niphates amorpha van Soest, 1980 | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 116 | Niphates digitalis (Lamarck, 1814) | | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | |
| 117 | Niphates erecta | | | × | × | | x | | x | | | | x | | | x |
| 118 | Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | x |
| 119 | Pione carpenteri (Hancock, 1867) | × | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 120 | Pione lampa (de Laubenfels, 1950) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | |
| 121 | Placospongia ruetzleri ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 122 | Plakortis angulospiculatus (Carter, 1879) | | | | | | | | х | | | | x | | | |
| 123 | Polymastia tenax ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 124 | Prosuberites carriebowensis ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 125 | Ptilocaulis walpersii | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 126 | Rhabderemia minutula (Carter, 1876) | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 127 | Scalarispongia linteiformis (Lamarck, 1814) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 128 | Scopalina ruetzleri | | | | | | х | | х | | | | Х | | | х |
| 129 | Siphonodictyon coralliphagum Rützler, 1971 | | | | х | | | | | | | | х | | | |
| 130 | Siphonodictyon xamaycaense ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 131 | Spirastrella coccinea | | | | | | × | | x | | | | x | | | х |
| 132 | Spirastrella mollis | | | | | | | | | | x | | X | | | x |
| 133 | Spirastrella phyllodes (Schmidt, 1870) | × | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 134 | Spongia (Spongia) obscura | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 135 | Spongia (Spongia) obliqua Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | |
| 136 | Spongosorites siliquaria van Soest & Stentoft, 1988 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | <i>con</i> | ntinued | on the ne. | xt page |

| 137 | Carrier | • | , | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|------|---|---|---|------|----|
| 137 | Decres | 7 | 3 | 0 | 9 | ~ | 8 | 6 | 10 | 1 12 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 16 | 17 |
| 101 | Stellettinopsis megastylifera ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 138 | Strongylacidon bermuda | | | | | | | | × | | | | | | х |
| 139 | Suberea flavolivescens ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 140 | Suberites aurantiacus | | | | | | | x | | | | | | х | Х |
| 141 | Svenzea cristinae ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 142 | Svenzea flava ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 143 | Svenzea tubulosa ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 144 | Svenzea zeai ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 145 | Tectitethya crypta | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 146 | Tectitethya macrostella | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 147 | Tedania (Tedania) ignis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | x | | x | | | | | | х | |
| 148 | Terpios fugax Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | |
| 149 | Tethya actinia de Laubenfels, 1950 | | ĸ | | | x | | х | | | | | | | |
| 150 | Tethya diploderma | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 151 | Tethytimea carmelita Cruz-Barraza, Vega, Ávila & Vázquez-Maldonado, 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | × | | | |
| 152 | Timea stenosclera ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 153 | Topsentia bahamensis Diaz, van Soest & Pomponi, 1993 | | | | | | | х | × | | | | | | |
| 154 | Topsentia ophiraphidites | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | Х |
| 155 | Tylosigma campechianum (Topsent, 1889) | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 156 | Vansoestia caribensis Díaz, Thacker, Redmond, Pérez & Collins, 2015 | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | |
| 157 | Verongula gigantea (Hyatt, 1875) | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 158 | Verongula rigida (Esper, 1794) | | ~ | | | x | | х | | | | | | | |
| 159 | Xestospongia muta | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 160 | Xestospongia arenosa ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 161 | Yucatania sphaeroidocladus (Hartman & Hubbard, 1999) | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | |

van Soest (2017) in its smooth and shiny surface and color. In our specimen, we were able to record the presence of oscules with an elevated collar *in vivo*, as remarked upon in Wiedenmayer's (1977) description. According to van Soest (2017) *C. collectrix* should be reviewed due to morphological variability. Similarly, records of the Mediterranean *C. reniformis* Nardo, 1847 in the TNwA, also need reassessment.



FIGURE 87. *Chondrosia collectrix* (Schmidt, 1870) (CNPGG-2228), skeleton: **A.** transversal section of the skeleton; **B.** detail of the choanosomal region. Scale bars: $A = 250 \ \mu m$; $B = 100 \ \mu m$.

Discussion

The number of formally recorded species in the SGoM (Mexico's Economic Exclusive Zone) before this work was 127 species (Table 7), which are described/recorded in different works (Topsent 1889; Hartman 1955; Green 1977; Green *et al.* 1986; Gómez 2002, 2006, 2007, 2011, 2014; Rützler *et al.* 2009; González-Gándara *et al.* 2009; Ugalde *et al.* 2015; De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016; De la Cruz-Francisco & Gónzalez-Gónzalez 2016; Castel-lanos-Pérez *et al.* 2020). In the present work, we list 80 species, including 24 new records for the GoM, and another ten new records for its southern portion. Therefore, the richness of sponge species in the GoM region increased 21.2% with a new total of 161 species (Table 7). The main factor that helped increase species richness was exploring sites on reef areas not included in earlier surveys. However, historically well-studied areas in the southwestern GoM, such as the Veracruz Reefs, have increased their richness from 70 to almost 80 species, of which eight of them were not observed previously in the area.

Our findings include new geographical distribution insights for several sponge species that are herein recorded for the first time after their original descriptions: *Tectitethya macrostella, Prosuberites carriebowensis, Placospongia ruetzleri, Haliclona (Reniera) portroyalensis* and *Haliclona (Gellius) megasclera. Svenzea* was represented by four of its six known species. The only species of *Svenzea* not represented in our material are *S. devoogdae* Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 2002 (from Indonesia), and *S. germanyanezi* Gómez & Calderón-Gutiérrez 2020 (from a Caribbean anchialine cave).

The Order Haplosclerida had the higher representation in our material with 17 species, followed by the Poecilosclerida with 11 species, and the Clionaida, with seven. The species most widely distributed were *Amphimedon compressa*, *Monanchora arbuscula*, *Petrosia* (*P.*) *weinbergi*, *Svenzea flava*, and *Topsentia ophiraphidites* (Table 6).

This work has increased the knowledge of sponge diversity in the GoM, in remote areas such as the Campeche Bank reefs and the Veracruz Reef System. It is potentially feasible though, that sponge diversity in the GoM will more than double if further surveys explore other ecosystems such as cryptic reef habitats, coral rubble, mangroves, seagrass and rocky shores where a great diversity of small species is usually found. It has been demonstrated that cryptic habitats contain a high diversity of sessile invertebrates, including sponges (Meesters *et al.* 1991; Pearman *et al.* 2018). This community has not been taken into consideration in traditional diversity surveys and could provide new insights into sponge diversity in the Gulf of Mexico.



FIGURE 88. In situ photographs of species analyzed in the present study: A. Aiolochroia crassa (Hyatt, 1875) (CNPGG 2250);
B. Aiolochroia crassa (Hyatt, 1875) (CNPGG 2205);
C. Aplysina cauliformis (Carter, 1882), specimen from Alacranes reef (Campeche Bank), not collected;
D. Aplysina fistularis (Pallas, 1766) (CNPGG-1235);
E. Aplysina fistularis (Pallas, 1766) (CNPGG-1381);
F. Aplysina fulva (Pallas, 1766) (CNPGG-2361);
G. Aplysina fulva (Pallas, 1766) (CNPGG-1961);
H. Aplysina insularis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) (CNPGG-2255);
I. Aplysina lacunosa (Lamarck, 1814) (CNPGG-1395);
J. Suberea flavolivescens (Hofman & Kielman, 1992) (CNPGG-2169), arrows indicating specimens and surface detail zoomed in;
K. Chondrilla caribensis Rützler, Duran & Piantoni, 2007 (CNPGG-2405);
L. Chondrosia collectrix (Schmidt, 1870) (CNPGG-2228). Scale bars, A–L = 1

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ANEXO II- INVENTARIO DE ESPECIES DE LA COSTA ATLÁNTICA DE México

Anexo II. Especies registradas en la costa Atlántica de México, se hace referencia a los autores donde se han registrado: (Topsent 1889); 2 (Hartman 1955); 3 (Green 1977); 4 (Gómez, 1984); 5 (Green et al. 1986); 6 (Lehnert 1993); 7 (Gómez 2002); 8 (Maas-Vargas 2004); 9 (Gómez 2006); 10 (Gómez 2007); 11 (González-Gándara et al. 2009); 12 (Gómez 2011); 13 (Gómez 2014); 14 (Ugalde et al. 2015); 15 (De la Cruz-Francisco & Gónzalez-Gónzalez 2016); 16 (De la Cruz-Francisco & Bandala-Pérez 2016); 17 (Cruz-Barraza et al. 2017); 18 (Ávila-García et al. 2019); 19 (Castellanos-Pérez et al.2020); 20 (Avila et al 2022); 21 Presente trabajo ; ** nuevos registros para México.

| | Nombre científico | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | Aaptos aaptos (Schmidth, 1864) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 2 | Aaptos duchassaingi (Topsent, 1889) | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Aaptos pernucleata (Carter, 1870) | | | | | х | | х | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Acanthotetilla gorgonosclera van Soest, 1977 | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Acarnus innominatus Gray, 1867 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 6 | Acarnus nicoleae van Soest, Hooper & Hiemstra, 1991 | | | | | | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Agelas clathrodes (Schmidt, 1870) | | | | х | | х | х | х | | х | | х | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| 8 | Agelas citrina Gotera & Alcolado, 1987 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 9 | Agelas conifera (Schmidt, 1870) ** | | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 10 | Agelas dispar Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 11 | Agelas sceptrum (Lamarck, 1815) | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 12 | Agelas schmidtii Wilson, 1902** | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 13 | Agelas sventres Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 14 | Agelas tubulata Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | х |
| 15 | Agelas wiedenmayeri Alcolado, 1984 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 16 | Aiolochroia crassa (Hyatt, 1875) | | | | х | х | х | | | | х | | х | | | | х | | | | | х |
| 17 | Amphimedon caribica (Pulitzer-Finali, 1986) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | |
| 18 | Amphimedon complanata (Duchassaing, 1850) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | |
| 19 | Amphimedon compressa Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | х | х | х | х | | | х | | х | | х | | | | х | | | | | х |
| 20 | Amphimedon erina (de Laubenfels, 1936) | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | Amphimedon nanaspiculata (Hartman, 1955) | | х | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | Amphimedon viridis Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | х | | | х | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | Х |

| | Nombre científico | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 23 | Aplysina archeri (Higgin, 1875) | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | Aplysina cauliformis (Carter, 1882) | | | | х | | х | х | х | | | | | | | | х | | | | | х |
| 25 | Aplysina fistularis (Pallas, 1766) | | | х | | | | | | | х | | Х | | | | Х | | | | х | х |
| 26 | Aplysina fulva (Pallas, 1766) | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| 27 | Aplysina insularis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | х | х | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| 28 | Aplysina lacunosa (Lamarck, 1814) | | | | | | х | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 29 | Aplysina muricyana Pinheiro, Hajdu & Custódio, 2007 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | |
| 30 | Axinella corrugata (George & Wilson, 1919) | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | |
| 31 | Axinella polycapella de Laubenfels, 1953 | | | | | | | | | | х | | Х | | | | | | | | | |
| 32 | Batzella rosea van Soest, 1984 | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 33 | Biemna caribea Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 34 | Biemna tubulata (Dendy, 1905) | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 35 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) eschrichtii Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 36 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) fallax Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 37 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armigera (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | х | | | х | | х | | Х | | | | Х | | | | | Х |
| 38 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) aculeata (Linnaeus, 1759) | | | | | | х | | х | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | х |
| 39 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) plicifera (Lamarck, 1814) | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 40 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) pallida Hechtel, 1965 | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 41 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) strongylophora Hartman, 1955 | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 42 | Calyx podatypa (de Laubenfels, 1934) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 43 | Cervicornia cuspidifera (Lamarck, 1815) | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 44 | Chalinula molitba (de Laubenfels, 1949) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | х |
| 45 | Chalinula zeae de Weerdt, 2000** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 46 | Chelonaplysilla americana van Soest, 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | |
| 47 | Chondrilla caribensis Rützler, Duran & Piantoni, 2007 | | | | | | | | х | | х | | х | | Х | | | | | х | | Х |
| 48 | Chondrosia collectrix (Schmidt, 1870) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | х | | х |

| | Nombre científico | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
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| 49 | Cinachyrella arenosa (van Soest & Stentoft, 1988) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 50 | Cinachyrella apion (Uliczka, 1929) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | х |
| 51 | Cinachyrella kuekenthali (Uliczka, 1929) | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | х | х |
| 52 | Cinachyrella alloclada (Uliczka, 1929) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 53 | Clathria (Clathria) carteri Topsent, 1889 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | х | |
| 54 | Clathria (Clathria) foliacea Topsent, 1889 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | х | х |
| 55 | Clathria (Clathria) gomezae van Soest, 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | х | | | | | | | | х |
| 56 | Clathria (Microciona) calla (de Laubenfels, 1934) | | | | | | | | | | х | | х | х | | | | | | | | х |
| 57 | Clathria (Microciona) spinosa (Wilson, 1902) | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | х | | | | | |
| 58 | Clathria (Thalysias) venosa (Alcolado, 1984) | | | | | | | | | | х | | Х | х | | | | | | | | х |
| 59 | Clathria (Thalysias) virgultosa (Esper, 1806) | х | х | х | | | | | | | х | | Х | х | | | х | | | | | х |
| 60 | Clathria (Microciona) campecheae Hooper, 1996 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 61 | Clathria (Thalysias) fascicularis Topsent, 1889 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 62 | Clathria (Axosuberites) Topsent, 1893** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 63 | Cliona amplicavata Rützler, 1974 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | |
| 64 | Cliona aprica Pang, 1973** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 65 | Cliona celata Grant, 1826 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | х |
| 66 | Cliona caribbaea Carter, 1882 | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 67 | Cliothosa delitrix (Pang, 1973) | | | | | | х | | | | х | | Х | | | | х | | | | | х |
| 68 | Cliona dioryssa (de Laubenfels, 1950) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 69 | Cliona euryphylle Topsent, 1888 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 70 | Cliona paucispina Rützler, 1974 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 71 | Cliona flavifodina Rützler, 1974 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | |
| 72 | Cliona varians (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | х | | х | | х | | | | | | х | | х | | | | х | х |
| 73 | Cliona vermifera Hancock, 1867 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 74 | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) raphidifera (Topsent, 1889) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 75 | Cribrochalina dura (Wilson, 1902) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | Nombre científico | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
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| 76 | Cyamon agnani (Boury-Esnault, 1973) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 77 | Dendrilla Lendenfeld, 1883 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 78 | Desmanthus incrustans (Topsent, 1889) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 79 | Desmanthus meandroides van Soest & Hajdu, 2000 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 80 | Desmapsamma anchorata (Carter, 1882) | | | | х | х | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | х |
| 81 | Dictyonella hirta (Topsent, 1889) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 82 | Dragmacidon reticulatum (Ridley & Dendy, 1886) | | | | | | | | х | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | х |
| 83 | Dysidea etheria de Laubenfels, 1936 | | | | | | | | Х | | х | | х | | | | Х | | | Х | | х |
| 84 | Dysidea fragilis (Montagu, 1814) | | | | | х | | | х | | | | х | | | х | | | | | | |
| 85 | Dysidea variabilis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | Х | | |
| 86 | Echinochalina (Echinochalina) Thiele, 1903 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 87 | Ectyoplasia ferox (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | Х | | Х | | х | | х | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| 88 | Erylus formosus Sollas, 1886 | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | х |
| 89 | Erylus trisphaerus (de Laubenfels, 1953) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | |
| 90 | Eurypon toureti (Topsent, 1894) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 91 | Forcepia sp. | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | х |
| 92 | Geodia gibberosa Lamarck, 1815 | х | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 93 | Geodia neptuni (Sollas, 1886) | | | | | | Х | | Х | | х | | | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| 94 | Geodia papyracea Hechtel, 1965 | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 95 | Halichondria (Halichondria) lutea Alcolado, 1984 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | |
| 96 | Halichondria (Halichondria) melanadocia de Laubenfels, 1936 | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | х | | |
| 97 | Haliclona (Gellius) megasclera Lehnert & van Soest, 1996 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 98 | Haliclona (Gellius) tenerrima Burton, 1954 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| 99 | Haliclona (Halichoclona) magnifica de Weerdt, Rützler & Smith, 1991 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | |
| 100 | Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla Bispo, Correia & Hajdu, 2016 | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | х |
| 101 | Haliclona (Reniera) implexiformis (Hechtel, 1965) | | | | | | Х | | Х | | | | | | | | | | х | х | | |

| | Nombre científico | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 102 | Haliclona (Reniera) mucifibrosa de Weerdt, Rützler & Smith, 1991 | | | | | | | | | | х | | x | | | | | | | | | |
| 103 | Haliclona (Reniera) portroyalensis Jackson, de Weerdt & Webber, 2006 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 104 | Haliclona (Reniera) tubifera (George & Wilson, 1919) | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| 105 | Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea (Hechtel, 1965) | | | | | | | | | | Х | | х | | | | | | | | х | х |
| 106 | Haliclona (Soestella) luciensis de Weerdt, 2000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| 107 | Haliclona (Soestella) piscaderaensis (van Soest, 1980) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| 108 | Haliclona (Soestella) cf. Melana Muricy & Ribeiro, 1999 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 109 | Halisarca caerulea Vacelet & Donadey, 1987 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | |
| 110 | Halisarca purpura Little, 1963 | | | | | х | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 111 | Hemigellius Burton, 1932 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 112 | Hyattella cavernosa (Pallas, 1766) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | х |
| 113 | Hymeniacidon caerulea Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | Х | | | | | х |
| 114 | Hymeniacidon heliophila (Wilson, 1911)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 115 | Hyrtios proteus Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 116 | Hyrtios violaceus (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | х | х |
| 117 | Igernella notabilis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 118 | Iotrochota arenosa Rützler, Maldonado, Piantoni & Riesgo, 2007 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 119 | Iotrochota birotulata (Higgin, 1877) | | | | Х | х | х | | Х | | Х | Х | х | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| 120 | Ircinia campana (Lamarck, 1814) | | х | х | х | | | | | | Х | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 121 | Ircinia felix (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | х | х | х | | | Х | Х | х | | | | Х | | | | | |
| 122 | Ircinia strobilina (Lamarck, 1816) | | | х | х | | х | | х | | | | х | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| 123 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) carolinensis Wilson, 1911 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| 124 | Lissodendoryx (Anomodoryx) sigmata (de Laubenfels, 1949) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 125 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) isodictyalis (Carter, 1882) | | | | | х | | х | | | Х | Х | Х | | | | Х | | | Х | | |
| 126 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) spinulosa Rützler, Piantoni & Díaz, 2007 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | |
| 127 | Monanchora arbuscula (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | | | Х | Х | х | | | | Х | | | | | х |

| | Nombre científico | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
|-----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 128 | Merlia deficiens Vacelet, 1980 | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 129 | Merlia normani Kirkpatrick, 1908 | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 130 | Melophlus sp Thiele, 1899 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 131 | Monanchora arbuscula (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 132 | Mycale (Zygomycale) angulosa (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | х | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 133 | Mycale (Naviculina) diversisigmata (van Soest, 1984) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | Х | | | | | |
| 134 | Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | х | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 135 | Mycale (Mycale) laevis (Carter, 1882) | | | | | х | Х | | Х | | Х | | Х | | | | | | | | | х |
| 136 | Mycale (Carmia) magnirhaphidifera van Soest, 1984 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| 137 | Mycale (Carmia) microsigmatosa Arndt, 1927 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| 138 | Myrmekioderma rea (de Laubenfels, 1934) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 139 | Neofibularia nolitangere (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 140 | Neopetrosia proxima (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 141 | Neopetrosia subtriangularis (Duchassaing, 1850) | | | х | | х | х | | | | х | х | Х | | | | | | | | | х |
| 142 | Neopetrosia carbonaria (Lamarck, 1814) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | |
| 143 | Niphates amorpha van Soest, 1980 | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 144 | Niphates digitalis (Lamarck, 1814) | | | | х | | х | | х | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | х |
| 145 | Niphates erecta Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | х | | х | х | | х | | х | | х | | | | Х | | | | | х |
| 146 | Oceanapia bartschi (de Laubenfels, 1934) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 147 | Phorbas amaranthus Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 148 | Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi van Soest, 1980 | | | | | | х | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | х |
| 149 | Pione carpenteri (Hancock, 1867) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 150 | Pione lampa (de Laubenfels, 1950) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | |
| 151 | Placospongia ruetzleri van Soest, 2017 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 152 | Plakortis angulospiculatus (Carter, 1879) | | | | | | | | х | | | | х | | | | х | | | | | Х |
| 153 | Plakortis simplex Schulze, 1880 | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | Nombre científico | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
|-----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 154 | Polymastia tenax Pulitzer-Finali, 1986 ** | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 155 | Prosuberites carriebowensis Rützler, Piantoni, van Soest & Díaz, 2014 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 156 | Ptilocaulis walpersii (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 157 | Raspailia (Raspailia) sp | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | |
| 158 | Rhabderemia minutula (Carter, 1876) | х | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 159 | Scalarispongia linteiformis (Lamarck, 1814) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | |
| 160 | Scopalina ruetzleri (Wiedenmayer, 1977) | | | | | | | | | | Х | | х | | | | х | | | | | х |
| 161 | Smenospongia aurea (Hyatt, 1875) | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 162 | Siphonodictyon coralliphagum Rützler, 1971 | | | | | | х | Х | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | х |
| 163 | Siphonodictyon xamaycaense Pulitzer-Finali, 1986** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 164 | Spirastrella coccinea (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | х | | Х | | х | | | | х | | | | | х |
| 165 | Spirastrella mollis Verrill, 1907 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | х | | | | | х |
| 166 | Spirastrella cunctatrix Schmidt, 1868 | | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 167 | Spirastrella phyllodes (Schmidt, 1870) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 168 | Spheciospongia vesparium (Lamarck, 1815) | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 169 | Spongia (Spongia) obscura Hyatt, 1877 | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | х |
| 170 | Spongia (Spongia) obliqua Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | | | | | Х | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 171 | Spongosorites siliquaria van Soest & Stentoft, 1988 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | |
| 172 | Stellettinopsis megastylifera (Wintermann-Kilian & Kilian, 1984) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 173 | Strongylacidon bermuda (de Laubenfels, 1950) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | х |
| 174 | Stylissa sp Hallmann, 1914 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 175 | Suberea flavolivescens (Hofman & Kielman, 1992) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 176 | Suberites aurantiacus (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | Х | | Х | | | | Х | | | | | | | Х | | х |
| 177 | Svenzea cristinae Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 2002** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 178 | Svenzea flava (Lehnert & van Soest, 1999) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 179 | Svenzea tubulosa (Alcolado & Gotera, 1986) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Nombre científico | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 180 | Svenzea zeai (Alvarez, van Soest & Rützler, 1998) ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 181 | Tectitethya crypta (de Laubenfels, 1949)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х |
| 182 | Tectitethya macrostella Sarà & Bavestrello, 1996** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 183 | Tedania (Tedania) ignis (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864) | | | | | | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | Х | | х |
| 184 | Tedania (tedania)sp | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 185 | Terpios fugax Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1864 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | |
| 186 | Tethya actinia de Laubenfels, 1950 | | | | | х | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 187 | Tethya diploderma1 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 188 | <i>Tethytimea carmelita</i> Cruz-Barraza, Vega, Ávila & Vázquez- Maldonado, 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | |
| 189 | Thrinacophora funiformis Ridley & Dendy, 1886 | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | х | |
| 190 | Timea sp Gray, 1867 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x |
| 191 | Timea stenosclera Hechtel, 1969 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 192 | Topsentia bahamensis Diaz, van Soest & Pomponi, 1993 | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | |
| 193 | Topsentia ophiraphidites (de Laubenfels, 1934) | | | | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | х | х |
| 194 | Tylosigma campechianum (Topsent, 1889) | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 195 | Vansoestia caribensis Díaz, Thacker, Redmond, Pérez & Collins, 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | |
| 196 | Verongula gigantea (Hyatt, 1875) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 197 | Verongula rigida (Esper, 1794) | | | | | х | | | | | х | | х | | | | | | | | | |
| 198 | Verongula reiswigi Alcolado, 1984** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 199 | Xestospongia muta (Schmidt, 1870) | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 200 | Xestospongia arenosa van Soest & de Weerdt, 2001 ** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |
| 201 | Yucatania sphaeroidocladus (Hartman & Hubbard, 1999) | | | | | | | | | х | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 202 | Leucetta floridana (Haeckel, 1872)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | х |

ANEXO III – ESPECIES DE ESPONJAS ARRECIFALES POR

ECORREGIÓN

Anexo III. Base de datos de riqueza por ecoregión utilizada para el análisis de diversidad taxonómica. Ecorregiones: Carolineana (CARO), Norte del Gofo de México (NGOM), Sur del Golfo de México (NGM), Sur del Golfo de México porción Banco de Campeche (NGM_BC), Sur del Golfo de México porción Verazruz (SGM_VER), Caribe Occidental (WCAR), Caribe Occidental mexicano (WCAR_MEX), Gran Antillas (GRA).

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|----|------------------------------|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 1 | Aaptos bergmanni | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | Aaptos duchassaingi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 3 | Aaptos pernucleata | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | Acanthotetilla gorgonosclera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | Acarnus deweerdtae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 6 | Acarnus innominatus | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 7 | Acarnus nicoleae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 8 | Aciculites cribrophora | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 9 | Aciculites higginsii | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 10 | Agelas cerebrum | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 11 | Agelas citrina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 12 | Agelas clathrodes | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 13 | Agelas conifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 14 | Agelas dilatata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 15 | Agelas dispar | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 16 | Agelas repens | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 17 | Agelas sceptrum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 18 | Agelas schmidtii | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 19 | Agelas sventres | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 20 | Agelas tubulata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 21 | Agelas wiedenmayeri | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 22 | Aiolochroia crassa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 23 | Alectona jamaicensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 24 | Amphibleptula madrepora | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 25 | Amphimedon caribica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 26 | Amphimedon complanata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 27 | Amphimedon compressa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 28 | Amphimedon erina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 29 | Amphimedon nanaspiculata | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 30 | Amphimedon spiculosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 31 | Amphimedon viridis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 32 | Amphoriscus oviparus | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|----|--|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 33 | Amphoriscus testiparus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 34 | Annulastrella schmidti | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 35 | Antho (Acarnia) penneyi | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 36 | Aplysilla sp4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 37 | Aplysina alcicornis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 38 | Aplysina archeri | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 39 | Aplysina bathyphila | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 40 | Aplysina cauliformis | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 41 | Aplysina fistularis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 42 | Aplysina fulva | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 43 | Aplysina insularis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 44 | Aplysina lacunosa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 45 | Aplysina muricyana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 46 | Aplysina ocracea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 47 | Aplysina sciophila | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 48 | Artemisina melana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 49 | Ascaltis agassizii | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 50 | Ascaltis panis | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 51 | Asteropus albus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 52 | Asteropus brasiliensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 53 | Asteropus ketostea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 54 | Aulospongus samariensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 55 | Axinella corrugata | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 56 | Axinella digitiformis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 57 | Axinella meandroides | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 58 | Axinella polycapella | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 59 | Axinella pomponiae | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 60 | Axinella sp1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 61 | Axinella sp2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 62 | Axinella waltonsmithi | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 63 | Axinyssa ambrosia | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 64 | Batzella rosea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 65 | Batzella rubra | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 66 | Biemna caribea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 67 | Biemna cribaria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 68 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) densasclera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 69 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) eschrichtii | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 70 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) fallax | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|---|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 71 | Callyspongia (Callyspongia) strongylophora | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 72 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) aculeata | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 73 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) armigera | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 74 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) plicifera | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 75 | Callyspongia (Cladochalina) tenerrima | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 76 | Callyspongia (Toxochalina) multiformis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 77 | Callyspongia arcesiosa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 78 | Callyspongia aurantiaca | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 79 | Calthropella (Pachataxa) lithistina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 80 | Calyx podatypa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 81 | Ceratoporella nicholsoni | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 82 | Ceratopsion rugosum | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 83 | Cervicornia cuspidifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 84 | Chalinula sp | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 85 | Chalinula molitba | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 86 | Chalinula zeae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 87 | Characella connectens | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 88 | Chelonaplysilla americana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 89 | Chondrilla caribensis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 90 | Chondrocladia (Chondrocladia) amphactis | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 91 | Chondrocladia (Chondrocladia) concrescens | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 92 | Chondrosia collectrix | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 93 | Cinachyrella | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 94 | Cinachyrella alloclada | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 95 | Cinachyrella apion | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 96 | Cinachyrella arenosa | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 97 | Cinachyrella kuekenthali | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 98 | Cinachyrella minuta | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 99 | Clathria (Axosuberites) sp1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 100 | Clathria (Axosuberites) sp2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 101 | Clathria (Clathria) carteri | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 102 | Clathria (Clathria) foliacea | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 103 | Clathria (Clathria) gomezae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 104 | Clathria (Clathria) prolifera | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 105 | Clathria (Microciona) bulbotoxa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|--|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 106 | Clathria (Microciona) calla | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 107 | Clathria (Microciona) campecheae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 108 | Clathria (Microciona) echinata | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 109 | Clathria (Microciona) ferrea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 110 | Clathria (Microciona) rarispinosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 111 | Clathria (Microciona) spinosa | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 112 | Clathria (Thalysias) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 113 | Clathria (Thalysias) curacaoensis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 114 | Clathria (Thalysias) fascicularis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 115 | Clathria (Thalysias) minuta | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 116 | Clathria (Thalysias) oxeota | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 117 | Clathria (Thalysias) sp2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 118 | Clathria (Thalysias) venosa | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 119 | Clathria (Thalysias) virgultosa | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 120 | Clathria sp1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 121 | Clathria sp2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 122 | Clathrina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 123 | Clathrina hondurensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 124 | Cliona amplicavata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 125 | Cliona aprica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 126 | Cliona caribbaea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 127 | Cliona celata | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 128 | Cliona dioryssa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 129 | Cliona euryphylle | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 130 | Cliona flavifodina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 131 | Cliona janitrix | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 132 | Cliona mucronata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 133 | Cliona paucispina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 134 | Cliona peponaca | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 135 | Cliona raphida | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 136 | Cliona subulata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 137 | Cliona tenuis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 138 | Cliona varians | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 139 | Cliona vermifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 140 | Cliothosa delitrix | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 141 | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 142 | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) barbadensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 143 | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) biclavata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|--|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 144 | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) fistula | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 145 | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) hechteli | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 146 | Coelosphaera (Coelosphaera) raphidifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 147 | Collectella avita | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 148 | Columnitis squamata | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 149 | Corticium quadripartitum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 150 | Craniella insidiosa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 151 | Crella (Crella) papillosa | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 152 | Crella (Pytheas) chelifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 153 | Cribrochalina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 154 | Cribrochalina dura | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 155 | Cribrochalina vasculum | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 156 | Cryptosyringa membranophila | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 157 | Cyamon agnani | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 158 | Daedalopelta nodosa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 159 | Darwinella rosacea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 160 | Dendrilla | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 161 | Dendrilla camera | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 162 | Dercitus (Halinastra) luteus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 163 | Desmacella jania | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 164 | Desmacella polysigmata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 165 | Desmacella vagabunda | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 166 | Desmacidon infestum | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 167 | Desmanthus incrustans | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 168 | Desmanthus meandroides | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 169 | Desmapsamma anchorata | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 170 | Desmoxya | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 171 | Dictyonella | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 172 | Dictyonella arenosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 173 | Dictyonella foliaformis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 174 | Dictyonella funicularis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 175 | Dictyonella hirta | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 176 | Didiscus oxeatus | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 177 | Diplastrella | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 178 | Diplastrella megastellata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 179 | Discodermia dissoluta | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 180 | Discodermia inscripta | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|-----------------------------------|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 181 | Discodermia polydiscus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 182 | Dragmacidon grayi | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 183 | Dragmacidon alvarezae | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 184 | Dragmacidon reticulatum | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 185 | Dragmaxia undata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 186 | Dysidea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 187 | Dysidea etheria | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 188 | Dysidea fragilis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 189 | Dysidea janiae | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 190 | Dysidea lehnerti | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 191 | Dysidea variabilis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 192 | Echinochalina (Echinochalina) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 193 | Echinoclathria arcifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 194 | Ectyoplasia ferox | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 195 | Endectyon (Hemectyon) hamatum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 196 | Erylus alleni | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 197 | Erylus formosus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 198 | Erylus goffrilleri | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 199 | Erylus incrustans | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 200 | Erylus ministrongylus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 201 | Erylus transiens | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 202 | Erylus trisphaerus | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 203 | Eurypon toureti | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 204 | Eurypon viride | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 205 | Euryspongia lankesteri | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 206 | Exsuperantia clava | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 207 | Fangophilina submersa | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 208 | Forcepia (Forcepia) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 209 | Forcepia (Forcepia) grandisigmata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 210 | Forcepia (Leptolabis) vermicola | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 211 | Gastrophanella cavernicola | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 212 | Gastrophanella implexa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 213 | Gellioides | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 214 | Geodia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 215 | Geodia cribrata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 216 | Geodia cumulus | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 217 | Geodia gibberosa | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 218 | Geodia megastrella | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 219 | Geodia neptuni | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|--|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 220 | Geodia papyracea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 221 | Geodia spherastrea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 222 | Geodia thomsonii | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 223 | Goreauiella auriculata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 224 | Halichondria (Halichondria) diazae | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 225 | Halichondria (Halichondria) lutea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 226 | Halichondria (Halichondria) magniconulosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 227 | Halichondria (Halichondria) melanadocia | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 228 | Halichondria (Halichondria) modesta | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 229 | Halichondria (Halichondria) poa | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 230 | Halichondria (Halichondria) solidior | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 231 | Haliclona (Gellius) megasclera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 232 | Haliclona (Gellius) tenerrima | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 233 | Haliclona (Halichoclona) albifragilis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 234 | Haliclona (Halichoclona) stoneae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 235 | Haliclona (Halichoclona) vansoesti | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 236 | Haliclona (Reniera) chlorilla | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 237 | Haliclona (Reniera) implexiformis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 238 | Haliclona (Reniera) mucifibrosa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 239 | Haliclona (Reniera) portroyalensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 240 | Haliclona (Reniera) strongylophora | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 241 | Haliclona (Reniera) tubifera | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 242 | Haliclona (Soestella) caerulea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 243 | Haliclona (Soestella) lehnerti | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 244 | Haliclona (Soestella) luciensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 245 | Haliclona (Soestella) piscaderaensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 246 | Haliclona (Soestella) sp1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 247 | Haliclona (Soestella) sp2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 248 | Halisarca caerulea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 249 | Halisarca purpura | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 250 | Hamacantha (Hamacantha) johnsoni | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 251 | Hamacantha (Vomerula) tenda | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 252 | Hemigellius | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 253 | Hippospongia gossypina | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 254 | Hippospongia lachne | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 255 | Hispidopetra miniana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 256 | Hyattella cavernosa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|--|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 257 | Hymedesmia (Hymedesmia) agariciicola | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 258 | Hymedesmia (Hymedesmia) caribica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 259 | Hymedesmia (Hymedesmia) curacaoensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 260 | Hymedesmia (Hymedesmia) jamaicensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 261 | Hymedesmia (Hymedesmia) nummota | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 262 | Hymeniacidon | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 263 | Hymeniacidon caerulea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 264 | Hymeniacidon heliophila | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 265 | Hyrtios proteus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 266 | Hyrtios violaceus | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 267 | Igernella notabilis | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 268 | Igernella vansoesti | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 269 | lotrochota agglomerata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 270 | lotrochota arenosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 271 | Iotrochota atra | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 272 | Iotrochota birotulata | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 273 | Ircinia campana | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 274 | Ircinia felix | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 275 | Ircinia hummelincki | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 276 | Ircinia strobilina | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 277 | Jaspis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 278 | Julavis jamaicensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 279 | Kaliapsis cidaris | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 280 | Leiodermatium deciduum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 281 | Leiodermatium pfeifferae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 282 | Leucaltis clathria | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 283 | Leucandra barbata | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 284 | Leucetta floridana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 285 | Leucettusa corticata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 286 | Leucosolenia horrida | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 287 | Lipastrotethya strongyloxea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 288 | Lissodendoryx (Anomodoryx) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 289 | Lissodendoryx (Anomodoryx) amphispinulata | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 290 | Lissodendoryx (Anomodoryx) sigmata | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 291 | Lissodendoryx (Ectyodoryx) acanthostylota | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|---|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 292 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) carolinensis | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 293 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) colombiensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 294 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) isodictyalis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 295 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) microraphida | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 296 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) spinulosa | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 297 | Lissodendoryx (Lissodendoryx) strongylata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 298 | Melophlus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 299 | Merlia deficiens | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 300 | Merlia normani | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 301 | Monanchora arbuscula | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 302 | Mycale | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 303 | Mycale (Aegogropila) arndti | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 304 | Mycale (Aegogropila) carmigropila | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 305 | Mycale (Aegogropila) citrina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 306 | Mycale (Aegogropila) escarlatei | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 307 | Mycale (Arenochalina) laxissima | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 308 | Mycale (Carmia) magnirhaphidifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 309 | Mycale (Carmia) microsigmatosa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 310 | Mycale (Grapelia) unguifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 311 | Mycale (Mycale) arenaria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 312 | Mycale (Mycale) laevis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 313 | Mycale (Naviculina) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 314 | Mycale (Naviculina) diversisigmata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 315 | Mycale (Zygomycale) angulosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 316 | Myrmekioderma | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 317 | Myrmekioderma gyroderma | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 318 | Myrmekioderma laminatum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 319 | Myrmekioderma rea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 320 | Myxilla (Myxilla) mucronata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 321 | Neofibularia nolitangere | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 322 | Neopelta amphiaster | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 323 | Neopelta imperfecta | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 324 | Neopetrosia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 325 | Neopetrosia carbonaria | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 326 | Neopetrosia proxima | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|-----------------------------------|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 327 | Neopetrosia subtriangularis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 328 | Niphates alba | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 329 | Niphates amorpha | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 330 | Niphates arenata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 331 | Niphates caycedoi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 332 | Niphates digitalis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 333 | Niphates erecta | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 334 | Niphates lutea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 335 | Niphates recondita | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 336 | Niphates sp1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 337 | Niphates sp2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 338 | Oceanapia bartschi | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 339 | Oceanapia fistulosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 340 | Oceanapia nodosa | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 341 | Oceanapia oleracea | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 342 | Oceanapia peltata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 343 | Oceanapia stalagmitica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 344 | Oscarella | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 345 | Pachastrella abyssi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 346 | Pandaros acanthifolium | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 347 | Paratimea galaxa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 348 | Petrosia (Petrosia) cretacea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 349 | Petrosia (Petrosia) incrustata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 350 | Petrosia (Petrosia) massiva | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 351 | Petrosia (Petrosia) pellasarca | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 352 | Petrosia (Petrosia) weinbergi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 353 | Petrosia (Strongylophora) davilai | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 354 | Phakellia bettinae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 355 | Phakellia folium | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 356 | Phorbas amaranthus | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 357 | Phorbas aurantiacus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 358 | Pione carpenteri | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 359 | Pione lampa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 360 | Placospherastra antillensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 361 | Placospongia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 362 | Placospongia caribica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 363 | Placospongia cristata | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 364 | Placospongia ruetzleri | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 365 | Plakina tetralophoides | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|--------------------------------|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 366 | Plakinastrella | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 367 | Plakinastrella onkodes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 368 | Plakortis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 369 | Plakortis angulospiculatus | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 370 | Plakortis halichondrioides | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 371 | Plakortis simplex | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 372 | Plakortis zyggompha | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 373 | Pleroma torquilla | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 374 | Plocamione clopetaria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 375 | Polymastia fordei | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 376 | Polymastia nigra | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 377 | Polymastia tenax | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 378 | Prosuberites carriebowensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 379 | Prosuberites laughlini | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 380 | Prosuberites psammophilus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 381 | Protosuberites | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 382 | Pseudosuberites sulphureus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 383 | Pseudotrachya amaza | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 384 | Ptilocaulis aulopora | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 385 | Ptilocaulis marquezii | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 386 | Ptilocaulis walpersii | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 387 | Racodiscula | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 388 | Racodiscula asteroides | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 389 | Radiella sol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 390 | Raspailia (Raspaxilla) pearsei | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 391 | Rhabderemia minutula | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 392 | Rhaphidhistia belizensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 393 | Samus anonymus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 394 | Scalarispongia linteiformis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 395 | Sceptrella regalis | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 396 | Scolopes megastra | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 397 | Scopalina ruetzleri | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 398 | Setidium obtectum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 399 | Siphonidium ramosum | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 400 | Siphonodictyon brevitubulatum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 401 | Siphonodictyon coralliphagum | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 402 | Siphonodictyon densum | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 403 | Siphonodictyon occultum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 404 | Siphonodictyon ruetzleri | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|-------------------------------|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 405 | Siphonodictyon siphonum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 406 | Siphonodictyon xamaycaense | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 407 | Smenospongia aurea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 408 | Smenospongia cerebriformis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 409 | Smenospongia conulosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 410 | Smenospongia echina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 411 | Spheciospongia vesparium | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 412 | Spirastrella coccinea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 413 | Spirastrella hartmani | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 414 | Spirastrella mollis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 415 | Spirastrella phyllodes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 416 | Spiroxya spiralis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 417 | Spongia (Spongia) anclotea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 418 | Spongia (Spongia) barbara | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 419 | Spongia (Spongia) graminea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 420 | Spongia (Spongia) obliqua | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 421 | Spongia (Spongia) obscura | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 422 | Spongia (Spongia) sterea | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 423 | Spongia (Spongia) tampa | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 424 | Spongia (Spongia) tubulifera | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 425 | Spongionella foliascens | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 426 | Spongosorites siliquaria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 427 | Stelletta carolinensis | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 428 | Stelletta fibrosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 429 | Stelletta globulariformis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 430 | Stelletta pudica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 431 | Stelletta solidissima | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 432 | Stelletta variabilis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 433 | Stellettinopsis fenimorea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 434 | Stellettinopsis megastylifera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 435 | Stellettinopsis ruber | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 436 | Stellitethya repens | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 437 | Stromatospongia norae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 438 | Stromatospongia vermicola | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 439 | Strongylacidon bermuda | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 440 | Strongylacidon griseum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 441 | Strongylacidon rubrum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 442 | Strongylacidon unguiferum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 443 | Stylissa caribica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|-------------------------------|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 444 | Stylissa sp1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 445 | Stylissa sp2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 446 | Suberea flavolivescens | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 447 | Suberites aurantiacus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 448 | Sulcastrella clausa | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 449 | Svenzea cristinae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 450 | Svenzea flava | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 451 | Svenzea tubulosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 452 | Svenzea zeai | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 453 | Sycon acanthoxea | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 454 | Tectitethya crypta | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 455 | Tectitethya macrostella | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 456 | Tedania (Tedania) ignis | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 457 | Tedania (Tedania) klausi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 458 | Terpios belindae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 459 | Terpios fugax | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 460 | Tethya actinia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 461 | Tethya aurantium | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 462 | Tethya diploderma | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 463 | Tethya maza | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 464 | Tethytimea carmelita | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 465 | Tetilla laminaris | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 466 | Tetilla sigmophora | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 467 | Tetralophophora mesoamericana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 468 | Thenea fenestrata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 469 | Thoosa armata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 470 | Thrombus jancai | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 471 | Timea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 472 | Timea diplasterina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 473 | Timea hechteli | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 474 | Timea micraster | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 475 | Timea oxyasterina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 476 | Timea perastra | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 477 | Timea sp1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 478 | Timea sp2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 479 | Timea stellata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 480 | Timea stelligera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 481 | Timea stenosclera | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 482 | Timea unistellata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

| | Especie | CARO | NGM | FLO | SGM_CB | SGM_VER | SGM | WCAR_MEX | WCAR | GRA |
|-----|----------------------------|------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----|----------|------|-----|
| 483 | Topsentia bahamensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 484 | Topsentia ophiraphidites | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 485 | Tribrachium schmidtii | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 486 | Tylosigma campechianum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 487 | Vansoestia caribensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 488 | Verongula gigantea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 489 | Verongula reiswigi | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 490 | Verongula rigida | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 491 | Xestospongia arenosa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 492 | Xestospongia caminata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 493 | Xestospongia deweerdtae | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 494 | Xestospongia menzeli | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 495 | Xestospongia muta | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 496 | Xestospongia portoricensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 497 | Xestospongia purpurea | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 498 | Xestospongia rampa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |