



A revision of the comatulid genus *Stephanometra* AH Clark with a rediagnosis of the genus *Lamprometra* AH Clark (Echinodermata: Crinoidea)

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Abstract

Several genera in the comatulid crinoid family Mariametridae are currently ambiguously distinguished on the basis of variations in length and robustness of oral pinnules. Previous descriptions have suggested that at least the genera *Stephanometra* and *Lamprometra*, both common and widespread on Indo-western Pacific reefs, are imperfectly distinguishable. A detailed morphological re-examination supports distinct *Stephanometra* and *Lamprometra*. The five currently recognized species of *Stephanometra* are reduced to two: *S. echinus* under *S. tenuipinna*, and *S. spicata* (including *S. oxyacantha*) and *S. spinipinna* under *S. indica*. Of specimens examined in the *indica-spicata-oxyacantha* series, 20% are intermediates that cannot be satisfactorily assigned to species based on current diagnoses. In *Lamprometra*, *L. klunzingeri* and *L. palmata gyges* are formally reduced to infrasubspecific variants of *L. palmata*.

Key words: Crinoidea, comatulid, *Stephanometra*, *Lamprometra*, taxonomy, Mariametridae