

## Occurrence of *Dendostrea* Sp. In Egypt (Southeastern Mediterranean Sea)

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Short Communication

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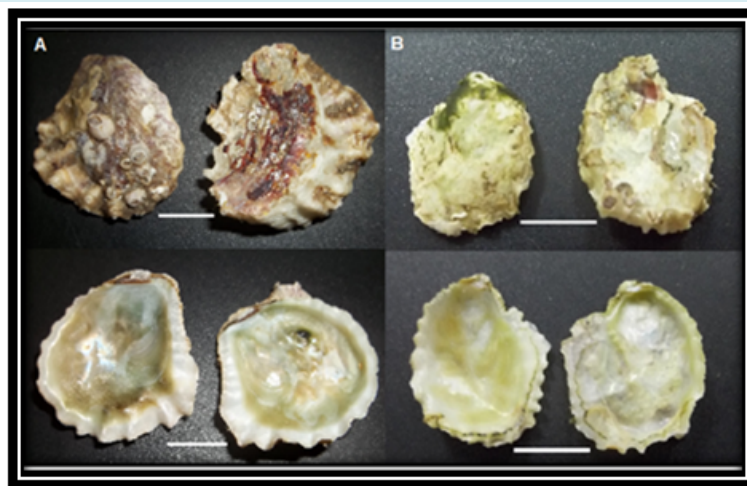
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### Short Communication

This work is the first confirmed record of *Dendostrea* sp. on the Egyptian coast, the Mediterranean Sea. The present genus has seven species; three of them were previously recorded in Mediterranean Sea; *Dendostrea folium* (Linnaeus, 1758) WoRMS MolluscaBase [1], *Dendostrea sandwichensis* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1871) WoRMS MolluscaBase [2] and *Dendostrea frons* (Linnaeus, 1758) according to the World Register of Marine Species [3]. *Dendostrea* sp. exhibits a limited geographic distribution within the Mediterranean

Sea. *D. folium* was recorded in Greece Crocetta L, et al. [4], and Israeli Ivkic' A, et al. [5], *D. sandwichensis* was reported in Israeli Sharon Y, et al. [6], while *D. frons* was reported in Turkey Çeviker D [7], Greece Manousis T [8].

On June 2022 a live specimen (Figure 1A) of *Dendostrea* sp. was caught by Scuba diving at coordinates (31.26514, 29.97998) at a depth of 5m which is located in Miami, Alexandria, Egypt. The specimen was collected from sandy habitat, where it was attached to a population of pearl oyster *Pinctada radiata*. Additionally, a live specimens of *Dendostrea* sp. (Figure 1B) was also collected at the same site similarly attached to population of *P. radiata* in August 2023.



**Figure 1:** External and internal shell valves of collected of *Dendostrea* sp. from Miami, Alexandria, Egypt. The scale is 1 cm.

The measurements of shell height and shell length were as follow: 28mm & 30mm for specimen A, and 21mm & 16mm for specimen B, respectively. Shell outline is oval.

The hinge line is straight and short. The margin is zigzagged or rounded undulating margin. The right valve is convex and the left valve is attached to hard substratum. Umbonal

cavity is shallow. Chomata are restricted to both sides of the ligament. Adductor muscle scar is large kidney-shaped. Interior is white with some green patches. The shells of the two specimens are similar. Further molecular markers analysis is needed for correct identification.

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