CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL POUR L'EXPLORATION DE LA MER

Zooplankton.
Sheet 58.

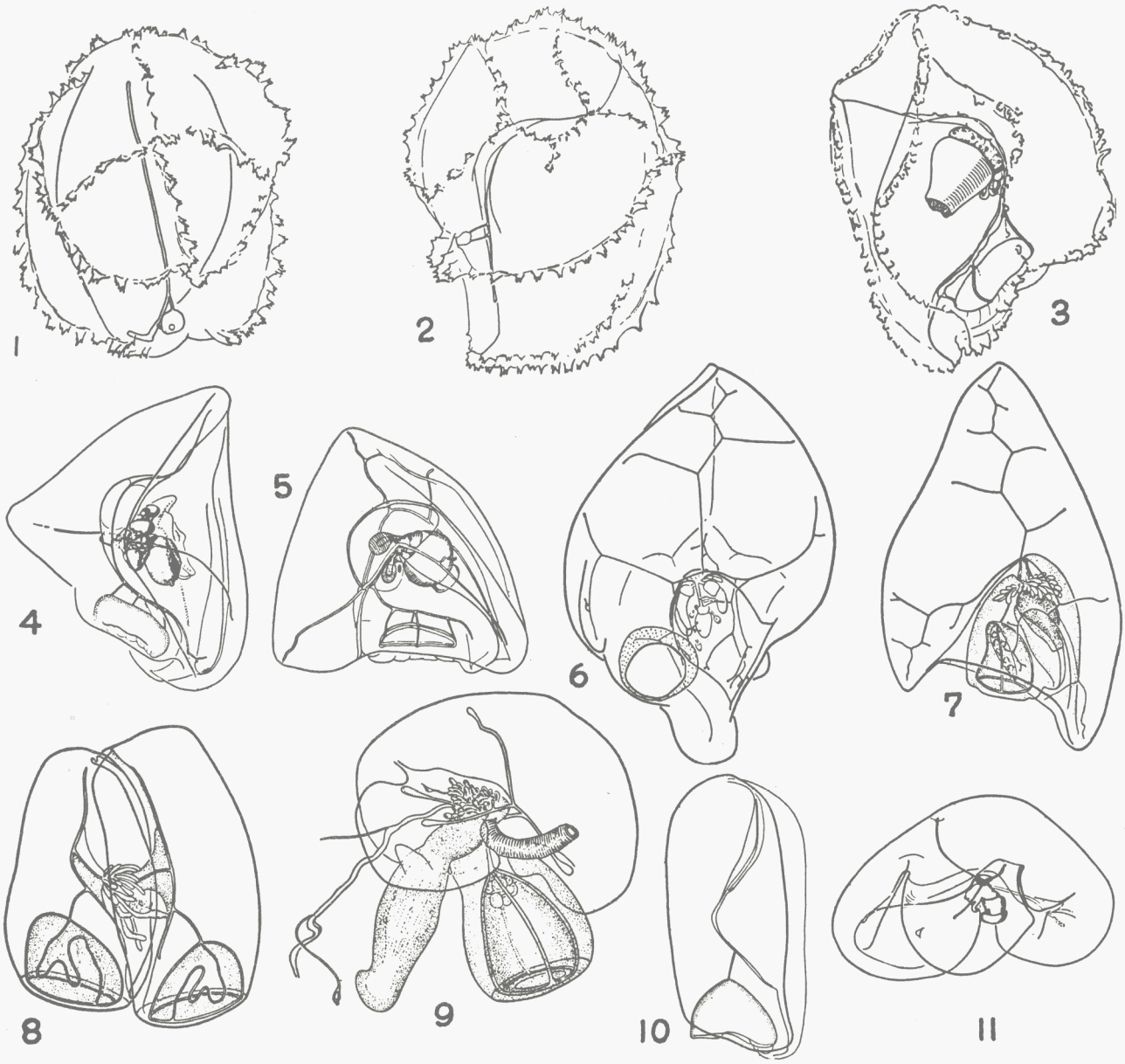
SIPHONOPHORA

SUB-ORDER: CALYCOPHORAE

Family: Prayidae

(By A. K. Totton and J. H. Fraser)

1955.



1. *Nectopyramis spinosa* (dorsal view).
2. *Nectopyramis spinosa* (lateral view with obsolescent nectosac).
3. *Nectopyramis spinosa* (lateral view with functional nectosac).
4. *Nectopyramis thetis* (polygastric stage).
5. *Nectopyramis thetis* (eudoxid stage).
6. *Nectopyramis diomedeae* (polygastric stage).
7. *Nectopyramis diomedeae* (eudoxid stage).
8. *Rosacea cymbiformis* (polygastric stage).
9. *Rosacea cymbiformis* (eudoxid stage).
10. *Rosacea plicata* (polygastric stage).
11. *Rosacea plicata* (eudoxid stage).

Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 and 11 from Totton (1954), Figs. 7, 8 and 9 from Bigelow (1911b).

Family PRAYIDAE

Calycophorae with two opposed gelatinous nectophores, or several arranged in a crown (*Stephanophyes*)[1]. Nectosac of a primitive type. Larval nectophore may be definitive and no secondary ones produced (*N. diomedeae*) or secondary one reduced (*Amphicaryon*)[1]; or larval nectophore may be caducous, followed by a succession of definitive nectophores. Eudoxids mostly with quadripartite, branched phyllocyst, set free at some stage, usually from a long stem. A non-sexual medusa often present in each eudoxid group enabling the whole stem with its dependent tentacles in long stemmed forms to be extended quickly, or in short stemmed forms (*Nectopyramis*) it propels the eudoxid.

In the area considered, members of this family can be used with certain other siphonophores to indicate the "Lusitanian" fauna, Fraser 1955.

Species	Shape of nectophore	Other characters
1. *Nectopyramis spinosa* Sears	With spinose ridges	Nectosac may be minute and obsolescent (Figs. 1 and 2) or larger and functional (Fig. 3)
2. *Nectopyramis thetis* Bigelow	Smooth, pyramidal	Dorsal and ventral radial canals of nectosac do not have a common origin with the laterals
3. *Nectopyramis diomedeae* Bigelow	Flattened, with low ridges	All four radial canals of nectosac have a common origin. Twisted so that nectosac opens to one side (Fig. 6)
4. *Rosacea cymbiformis* Delle Chiaje	Smooth, ovate	Hydroecial furrow long. In the eudoxid the dorsal unpaired hydroecial canal arises from the left (shorter) lateral canal proximal to the short spur canal (Fig. 9)
5. *Rosacea plicata* (Q. and G.) Bigelow	Smooth, ovate	Hydroecial furrow much shorter than in *R. cymbiformis* in young nectophores and older nectophores are much broader. In the eudoxid the dorsal canal arises distal to the spur canal (Fig. 11)

Further Information on Identification

1. *N. spinosa:* Sears, 1952; Totton, 1954, p. 86, Fig. 40; ? Moser, 1925, p. 425, Pl. 25 as *H. cuspidata.*
2. *N. thetis:* Bigelow, 1911a; Moser, 1925; Leloup, 1932; Bigelow & Sears, 1937, p. 5 and 73; Totton, 1954, pp. 78—82.
3. *N. diomedeae:* Bigelow, 1911b, pp. 191—4, Pl. 1; Totton, 1954, pp. 83—85, Pl. V.
4. *R. cymbiformis:* Bigelow, 1911b, p. 200 (as *Praya cymbiformis*); Moser, 1925; Leloup, 1933; Bigelow & Sears, 1937, p. 10 and 74.
5. *R. plicata:* Bigelow, 1911b, p. 201; Moser, 1925, p. 377 as *Praya diphyes:* Bigelow & Sears, 1937, pp. 11—3 and 76; Totton, 1954, pp. 89—92.

Distribution	Species (Species in brackets occur only exceptionally)
Gulf of Bothnia	—
Gulf of Finland	—
Baltic proper	—
Belt Sea	—
Kattegat	—
Skagerak	—
Northern North Sea	(2), 4, 5
Southern North Sea	—
English Channel (eastern)	—
English Cannel (western)	—
Bristol Channel and Irish Sea	—
South and West Ireland and Atlantic	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Faroe Shetland Area	(2), (3), 4, 5
Faroe Iceland Area	(4), (5)
Norwegian Sea	—
Barents Sea	—

References to Work on Biology

see references given opposite, especially Bigelow & Sears, 1937, (spp. 2, 4 and 5), and Totton, 1954 (all species).

[1]) Not included in this sheet.

References

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