

In memoriam: Leendert P. van Ofwegen (1953–2021), octocoral taxonomist

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Academic editor: James Reimer | Received 11 July 2021 | Accepted 13 July 2021 | Published 30 July 2021

<http://zoobank.org/41C241A6-A68F-43F9-8122-BD2ACDF2F161>

Citation: Hoeksema BW (2021) In memoriam: Leendert P. van Ofwegen (1953–2021), octocoral taxonomist. ZooKeys 1052: 157–187. <https://doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.1052.71435>

Leendert Pieter van Ofwegen passed away on 25 June 2021 at the age of 68 years. He had been diagnosed with lung cancer in late 2020, which in June this year appeared to be in complete remission. Tragically, there was a relapse. His health suddenly worsened while he was on holiday in Marbella (Spain) and the disease rapidly led to his death. With his passing, the scientific community loses a great and devoted octocoral taxonomist who was a good friend to his colleagues and a dedicated mentor to his students.

Leendert (“Leen”) was born in Leiden on 22 April 1953. From 1959 to 1965 he attended primary school (“Rozenlaanschool”) in Boskoop, a town in the province of South Holland, where he lived with his parents and elder brother while he grew up. Boskoop is famous for its woody plant and perennial nurseries, which employed many local people, including Leen’s father. Leen attended secondary school in Alphen aan den Rijn (“Christelijk Lyceum”) from 1965 to 1970, after which he studied biology at Leiden University from 1970 until 1980. His study was interrupted by military service, which was compulsory in the Netherlands at that time.

Leen obtained a BSc in 1975 with geology as second major and continued on to do an MSc, of which two projects stand out. Leen’s first research project concerned Devonian brachiopods, for which he excavated fossils in the Cantabrian mountains, north-western Spain. This research took more time than anticipated but eventually became

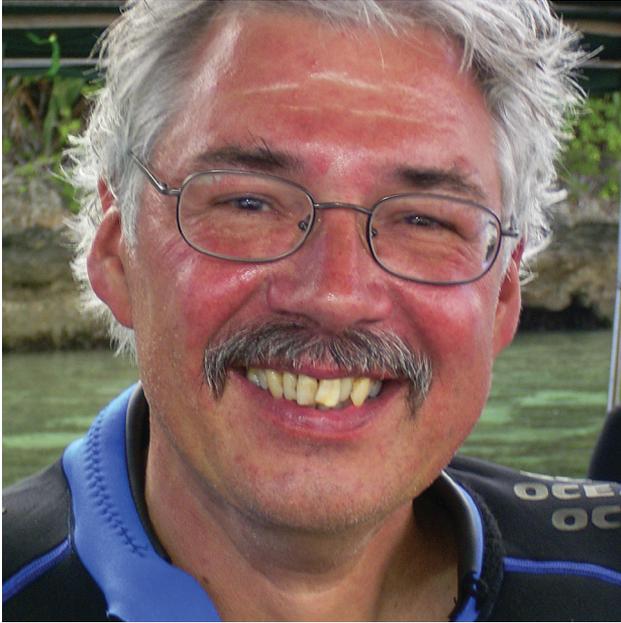


Figure 1. Portrait of Leen van Ofwegen during fieldwork in Indonesia (2003). Photograph credit: author.

part of Leen's first co-authored publication (Krans et al. 1982). Apparently, he did not consider this work relevant to his career because he always left it out of his CV (e.g., van Ofwegen 2007). For the second research project, Leen became an intern at the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie (RMNH, presently Naturalis Biodiversity Center), which at that time was a centre of systematic research on Cnidaria. He worked under supervision of Koos den Hartog (curator of “Coelenterata”), who proposed that Leen could work on the taxonomy of octocorals from the Saba Bank, which were collected during an expedition to the former Netherlands Antilles, currently the Dutch Caribbean (van der Land 1972; Hoeksema et al. 2017). The work was not published but the specimens were identified and are present in the RMNH.Coel collection in Leiden, where they are available for future research (Hoeksema et al. 2011). Leen's internship at the RMNH was the start of his interest and expertise in octocoral taxonomy.

Following his MSc, as no jobs were available in octocoral taxonomy, Leen did freelance work as a computer programmer but continued his research in his spare time, under the supervision of Koos den Hartog, while he also exchanged ideas with Hydrozoa specialist Prof. Willem Vervoort (Figure 2e). During this period, Leen started to work on a collection of gorgonians collected by the International Indian Ocean Expedition of *R/V Anton Bruun* (1963 and 1964). That collection belonged to the Invertebrate Zoology department of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. (USNM), and was on loan to the RMNH to make it available for research by octocoral expert Dr. Jacob Verseveldt. Verseveldt, however, was mostly interested in studies of fleshy octocorals (den Hartog 1987) rather than gorgonians, which may explain why

this collection remained untouched for several years. Someone had to do the job and Leen made himself available. After the study (van Ofwegen 1990), the collection was returned to Washington.

Following the suggestion of Koos den Hartog, Leen decided to follow Jacob Verseveldt in his work on the taxonomy of soft corals, for which the same methodology was used as in the taxonomy of gorgonians. This methodology consisted of morphological examination of the coral colonies and in particular analyses of their sclerites, being microscopic calcite skeletal elements embodied in the soft tissue of the animals. At first, Leen made hand drawings with a light microscope and a *camera lucida* but later he made extensive use of high-resolution scanning electronic microscopy (SEM). At a later stage, he also became involved in molecular analyses applied to the taxonomy of octocorals, as shown by co-authored publications with colleagues in Leiden and from abroad (e.g., McFadden et al. 2006; van Ofwegen and Groenenberg 2007; McFadden and van Ofwegen 2013; Reijnen et al. 2014).

In 1992, Leen got a position as manager of the editorial office of the RMNH museum journals, *Zoologische Mededelingen* and *Zoologische Verhandelingen*, and continued publishing papers on octocorals in his spare time. Owing to Leen's growing publication record, his reputation as world-renowned octocoral taxonomist began to attract attention and he was approached by several young scientists who wanted to be trained in his field of research. Leen's first student was Dr. Jayasree Vennam from the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) at Dona Paula, Goa, India (Figure 2e), who stayed six months in Leiden as a visiting scientist during 1989–1990 (den Hartog and Vennam 1993). One reason for this interest in octocorals was their major role as producers of novel chemicals for the design of medicinal compounds. This pharmacological application of octocoral taxonomy resulted in Leen's co-authorships of various publications on marine natural products derived from species that he undertook to identify (Appendix 2). In these projects, he mainly collaborated with Dr. R. Andersen (Canada), Dr. M. Jaspars (United Kingdom), Dr. Wenhan Lin (China), and Prof. Dr. P. Proksch (Germany).

In 2001, Leen became employed as curator of coelenterates at the Leiden museum, succeeding Koos den Hartog, who passed away in 2000 (van der Land 2003). Leen's main research was focused on (1) a taxonomic revision of the soft-coral genera *Litophyton*, *Nephthea*, and *Stereonephthya* (family Nephtheidae), which resulted in the establishment of *Chromonephthya* and many new species in that genus (Figure 5c; van Ofwegen 2005), and (2) on collections made in the Indo-West Pacific centre of maximum octocoral biodiversity. For this research he made use of the octocoral collection in the Leiden museum, but also those in Berlin and Washington, DC, which he visited in the company of stony-coral specialist and co-worker Bert Hoeksema. Various colleagues from abroad regularly came to Leiden to work with Leen on the octocoral collections, such as Dr. Yehuda Benayahu (Israel), Dr. Tatiana Dautova (Russia), Dr. Asako K. Matsumoto (Japan; Figure 2f), and Dr. Cathy McFadden (USA). These visits resulted in several co-authored publications (Appendix 2), covering a large variety of biogeographic regions. Undoubtedly, Leen has become a world authority on octocoral taxonomy and was approached by numerous colleagues for his expertise. His name is



Figure 2. Photographs of Leen in Leiden **a** receiving his PhD degree (2007) **b** in his office (1998) **c** in the wet “Coelenterata” collection with Yosphine Tuti from Indonesia (2013) **d** as co-supervisor of Kaveh Samimi-Namin (2016) **e** with Jayasree Vennam from India and Prof. Willem Vervoort (1990) **f** in his office with Asako Matsumoto from Japan (2012). Photograph credits **a** Jacques van Ofwegen **b** unknown **c** author **d** Livia Oliveira **e** unknown **f** Bastian Reijnen.

mentioned in many field guides, acknowledging his help in the identification of species illustrated in photographs.

Octocoral material in museum collections is either stored in ethanol or dried, both of which cause specimens to lose their original shape and often their colour. In order to learn about the natural habitus of soft corals, Leen decided that he had to learn diving



Figure 3. Photographs of Leen (*) during fieldwork **a** with colleagues on board *R/V Tyro* in the Seychelles (1993) **b** with Bert Hoeksema in Ambon, Indonesia (1996) **c** with colleagues in Bali, Indonesia (2001) **d** in Cebu, the Philippines (1999). Photograph credits **a** Willem Kolvoort **b** unknown **c** unknown **d** author.

with the use of SCUBA. This enabled him to participate in fieldwork sampling during surveys and large-scale expeditions in the company of his colleagues of the Naturalis marine research team (“Naturalis Zeeteam”), even before he got a position as a curator (Figures 1, 3, 4): in the Seychelles (December 1992–January 1993), South Sulawesi (1994), North Sulawesi (1994), Ambon (1996), South Sulawesi (1998), Cebu, Philippines (1999), Bali (2001), East Kalimantan (2003), Thousand Islands (2005), Palau (2005), and Raja Ampat (2007).

Most of these expeditions were in Indonesia and in this way Leen established a close collaboration with two octocoral scientists from the Research Centre for Oceanography, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Jakarta: M.I.Y.T. Hermanlimianto (Yosephine Tuti), specialised in gorgonians, and Anna E.W. Manuputty, specialised in soft corals. Both of them also visited Leen and his collection; Yosephine did so several times (Figure 2c). All in all, Leen spent much time on collection work for which he collaborated with collection managers Chiel Slierings (who retired in October 2007) and Koos van Egmond until Leen’s own retirement on 31 December 2016.

In order to strengthen his international contacts, Leen attended several international conferences and workshops to meet with other octocoral workers (Figure 5),

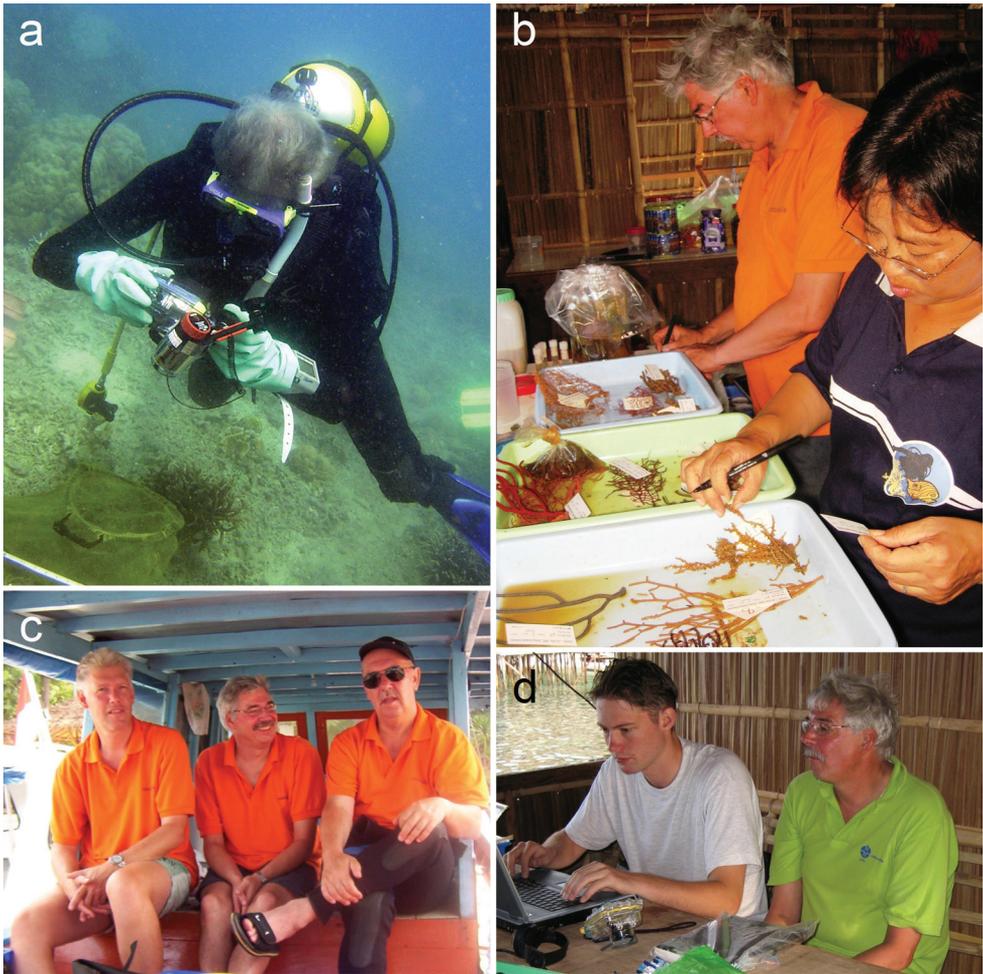


Figure 4. Photographs of Leen during fieldwork in Indonesia (continued) **a** photography and sampling underwater off Jakarta in the Java Sea (2005) **b** preparing specimens with Yosephine Tuti in Raja Ampat (2007) **c** with colleagues Charles Franssen and Chiel Slierings on board of a small wooden boat during a survey in the Thousand Islands, Indonesia (2005) **d** Processing data with Frank Stokvis on Kri Island, Raja Ampat (2007). Photograph credits **a** author **b** Stefano Draisma **c** Koos van Egmond **d** unknown.

such as the 6th International Conference on Coelenterate Biology, Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands (1996); the 9th International Coral Reef Symposium Bali, Indonesia (2000); the 2nd International Workshop on Octocoral Taxonomy, Darwin, Australia (2002); the 7th International Conference on Coelenterate Biology, Lawrence, Kansas, USA (2003); the 10th International Coral Reef Symposium, Okinawa, Japan (2004); the 1st Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium, Hong Kong (2006); the 2nd Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium, Phuket Thailand (2010); and the 8th International Conference on Coelenterate Biology, Eilat, Israel (2013). He acted as an instructor with other colleagues during two octocoral taxonomy workshops: in Trivandrum, Kerala, India (2005) and in Phuket, Thailand (2007).



Figure 5. Photographs of Leen (*) during conferences and workshops **a** with other participants of the 2nd International Workshop on Octocoral Taxonomy, Darwin, Australia (2002): Stephen Cairns, Götz Reinicke, Gary Williams, Jun-Im Song, Catherine McFadden, Manfred Grasshoff, Philip Alderslade **b** discussing octocoral samples with Anita George, Jaret Bilewicz, and Kaveh Samimi-Namin during the International Workshop on the Taxonomy of Octacorals in Trivandrum, Kerala, India (2005) **c** presenting a poster during the 1st Asia Pacific Coral reef Symposium, Hong Kong (2006) **d** with other participants during the 4th octocoral taxonomy workshop in Phuket, Thailand (2007). Photograph credits **a** museum and Art Galleries of the Northern Territories in Darwin **b** unknown **c** author **d** unknown.

Leen's study of the octocoral family Nephtheididae was also the subject of his PhD from Leiden University, obtained on 6 November 2007 (Figure 2a), under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Edi Gittenberger and Dr. B.W. Hoeksema (van Ofwegen 2007). He coached and supervised two PhD candidates himself and became co-supervisor in 2016 (together with Bert Hoeksema) for Kaveh Samimi-Namin (Samimi-Namin 2016; Figure 2d) and Bastian T. Reijnen (Reijnen 2016), both at Leiden University under supervision of Edi Gittenberger. Leen also supervised two MSc students from Leiden University, Frank R. Stokvis and Yee Wah Lau.

In 2001, Leen also succeeded Koos den Hartog in his capacity of editor-in-chief of the two zoological museum journals until these ceased publication. In 2004, *Zoologische Verhandlungen* became incorporated in *Zoologische Mededelingen*, which

stopped publication in 2014. In 2008, Leen became an associate editor for ZooKeys (with a focus on octocorals and other anthozoans). In the same year he also became editor of *Octocorallia* for the World Register of Marine Species, now also accessible through the World List of Octocorallia (Cordeiro et al. 2021), with which he first collaborated with Dr. Gary Williams, who oversaw the sea pen data (Pennatulacea). After his retirement, Leen stopped his editorial tasks, but he continued publishing papers until his death. His dedication and expertise in octocoral taxonomy is demonstrated by an impressive series of publications and a large collection of specimens. In honour of Leen's octocoral expertise one species was named after him, *Fasciclia ofwegeni* Janes, 2008, based on type material collected by Leen in the Seychelles (Janes 2008).

Leen described many new taxa himself or with co-authors, including seven families, 25 genera, and 214 species, ranging in publication years from 1987 until the present (Appendix 1). Various new species were named after Naturalis colleagues (*Chromonephthea egmondi*, *C. franseni*, *C. goudi*, *C. hoeksemai*, *C. slieringsi*, *Dendronephthya vervoorti*, *Lignella hartogi*, *Sinularia vanderlandi*), and several others were named after octocoral specialists (*Chromonephthea aldersladei*, *C. bayeri*, *C. benayahui*, *C. cairnsi*, *C. grasshoffi*, *C. tentoriae*, *C. williamsi*, *Sinularia verseveldti*, *Wrightella stiasnyi*). Having known Leen for more than 35 years, it is beyond doubt that he will be missed by his colleagues and students, who will remember him not only for his life-time dedication to octocoral taxonomy and his vast knowledge on that topic, but also for his characteristic smile (Figures 1–5), unique sense of humour, and heartfelt friendship.

Acknowledgments

The following people helped by sharing photographs, publications, or other information: Hans Adema, Phil Alderslade, Clovis Barreira e Castro, Hudi Benahayu, Dawei Chen, Ralf Cordeiro, Ariyanti Dewi, Koos van Egmond, Jeroen Goud, Charles Franssen, Anita George, Vreni Häussermann, Michael Janes, Andreas Kunzmann, Daowan Lai, Yee Wah Lau, Asako Matsumoto, Cathy McFadden, Tina Molodtsova, Susan Nielsen, Erik van Nieuwerkerken, Oscar Ocaña Vicente, Jacques van Ofwegen, Livia Oliveira, James Reimer, Götz Reinicke, Kaveh Samimi-Namin, Íris Sampaio, Nadia Santodomingo, Michael Scleyer, Yosephine Tuti, and Gary C. Williams. I want to thank the following colleagues for their comments on an early draft of the manuscript: Phil Alderslade, Hudi Benayahyu, Charles Franssen, Kaveh Samimi-Namin, and Gary Williams.

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Appendix I

Octocoral taxa described by Leen P. van Ofwegen (and co-authors). Source: Cordeiro et al. (2021)

Number of families: 7

2010

Acanthoaxiidae van Ofwegen & McFadden, 2010

2012

Aquaumbridae Breedy, van Ofwegen & Vargas, 2012

Arulidae McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012

2013

Parasphaerascleridae McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2013

2017

Acrophytidae McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017

Corymbophytidae McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017

Leptophytidae McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017

Number of genera: 25

1991

Pseudothellogorgia van Ofwegen, 1991

1997

Leptophyton van Ofwegen & Schleyer, 1997

2003

Canarya Ocaña & van Ofwegen, 2003

Denhartogia Ocaña & van Ofwegen, 2003

2005

Chromonephthea van Ofwegen, 2005

2006

Ceeceenus van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 2006

2007

Incrustatus van Ofwegen, Häussermann & Försterra, 2007

2010

Acanthoaxis van Ofwegen & McFadden, 2010

2011

Stragulum van Ofwegen & Haddad, 2011

2012

Aquaumbra Breedy, van Ofwegen & Vargas, 2012

Arula McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012

Inconstantia McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012

2013

Parasphaerasclera McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2013

Sphaerasclera McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2013

2014

Complexum van Ofwegen, Aurelle & Sartoretto, 2014

2017

Circularius McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017

Corymbophyton McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017

Porphyrophyton McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017

Tenerodus McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017

2018

Caementabunda Benayahu, van Ofwegen & McFadden, 2018

Conglomeratusclera Benayahu, van Ofwegen & McFadden, 2018

Hana Lau, Stokvis, van Ofwegen & Reimer, 2018 [accepted as *Hanah* Lau, Stokvis, van Ofwegen & Reimer, 2020]

2020

Hanah Lau, Stokvis, van Ofwegen & Reimer, 2020

2021

Rhodolitica Breedy, van Ofwegen, McFadden & Murillo-Cruz, 2021

Unomia Benayahu, van Ofwegen, Allais & McFadden, 2021

Number of species: 214**1987**

Acabaria andamanensis van Ofwegen, 1987 [accepted as *Melithaea andamanensis* (van Ofwegen, 1987)]

Clathraria maldivensis van Ofwegen, 1987 [accepted as *Melithaea maldivensis* (van Ofwegen, 1987)]

Clathraria omanensis van Ofwegen, 1987 [accepted as *Melithaea omanensis* (van Ofwegen, 1987)]

1989

Wrightella stiasnyi van Ofwegen, 1989 [accepted as *Melithaea stiasnyi* (van Ofwegen, 1989)]

1990

Lignella hartogi van Ofwegen, 1990 [accepted as *Pseudothelogorgia hartogi* (van Ofwegen, 1990)]

1991

Dendronephthya bruuni Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1991

Dendronephthya hystricosa Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1991

Dendronephthya pyriformis Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1991

Dendronephthya staphyloidea Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1991

Dendronephthya vervoorti Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1991

Sinularia abhishiktae van Ofwegen & Vennam, 1991

1992

Alcyonium compactofestucum Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1992

Alcyonium rudyi Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1992 [accepted as *Discophyton rudyi* (Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1992)]

Alcyonium senegalense Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1992

Alcyonium spitzbergense Verseveldt & van Ofwegen, 1992

Cladiella daphnae van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 1992

Sinularia platylobata van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 1992

1994

Sinularia slieringsi van Ofwegen & Vennam, 1994

1996

Sinularia verseveldti van Ofwegen, 1996

1997

Alcyonium grandis Casas, Ramil & van Ofwegen, 1997

Alcyonium paucilobulatum Casas, Ramil & van Ofwegen, 1997

Alcyonium southgeorgiensis Casas, Ramil & van Ofwegen, 1997

Leptophyton benayahui van Ofwegen & Schleyer, 1997

1999

Lobophytum jasparsi van Ofwegen, 1999

2001

Astrogorgia bayeri van Ofwegen & Hoeksema, 2001

Sinularia vanderlandi van Ofwegen, 2001

2003

Denhartogia hartogi Ocaña & van Ofwegen, 2003

2005

Chromonephthea aldersladei van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea bayeri van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea benayahui van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea braziliensis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea brevis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea cairnsi van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea cobourgensis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea egmondi van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea exosis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea franseni van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea frondosa van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea fruticosa van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea goudi van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea grandis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea grasshoffi van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea hoeksemai van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea hornerae van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea imaharai van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea imperfecta van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea levis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea megasclera van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea minor van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea muironensis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea obscura van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea ostrina van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea palauensis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea rotunda van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea simulata van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea singularis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea slieringsi van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea spinosa van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea tentoriae van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea variabilis van Ofwegen, 2005

Chromonephthea williamsi van Ofwegen, 2005

2006

Alcyonium megasclerum Stokvis & van Ofwegen, 2006

Alcyonium profundum Stokvis & van Ofwegen, 2006

Alcyonium rubrum Stokvis & van Ofwegen, 2006 [accepted as *Alcyonium burmedju* Sampaio, Stokvis & van Ofwegen, 2016]

Astrogorgia balinensis Hermanlimianto & van Ofwegen, 2006

Ceeceenus levis van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 2006

Ceeceenus pannosus van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 2006

Ceeceenus quadrus van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 2006

Ceeceenus torus van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 2006

2007

Alcyonium glaciophilum van Ofwegen, Häussermann & Försterra, 2007

Alcyonium jorgei van Ofwegen, Häussermann & Försterra, 2007

Alcyonium roseum van Ofwegen, Häussermann & Försterra, 2007 [accepted as *Alcyonium varum* McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2013]

Alcyonium yepayek van Ofwegen, Häussermann & Försterra, 2007

Alertigorgia hoeksemai van Ofwegen & Alderslade, 2007

Incrustatus comauensis van Ofwegen, Häussermann & Försterra, 2007

Sinularia acuta Manuputty & van Ofwegen, 2007

Sinularia corpulentissima Manuputty & van Ofwegen, 2007

Sinularia curvata Manuputty & van Ofwegen, 2007

Sinularia kotanianensis Manuputty & van Ofwegen, 2007

Sinularia longula Manuputty & van Ofwegen, 2007

2008

Sinularia babeldaobensis van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia bisulca van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia bremerensis van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia confusa van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia crebra van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia diffusa van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia digitata van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia finitima van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia flaccida van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia foliata van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia humilis van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia linnei van Ofwegen, 2008

Sinularia luxuriosa van Ofwegen, 2008
Sinularia papula van Ofwegen, 2008
Sinularia siaesensis van Ofwegen, 2008
Sinularia sublimis van Ofwegen, 2008
Sinularia tumulosa van Ofwegen, 2008
Sinularia ultima van Ofwegen, 2008
Sinularia uniformis van Ofwegen, 2008
Sinularia verruca van Ofwegen, 2008
Sinularia woodyensis van Ofwegen, 2008

2009

Astrogorgia fruticosa Samimi Namin & van Ofwegen, 2009
Euplexaura plana Samimi Namin & van Ofwegen, 2009
Lobophytum mortoni Benayahu & van Ofwegen, 2009
Sarcophyton minusculum Samimi Namin & van Ofwegen, 2009
Sarcophyton tumulosum Benayahu & van Ofwegen, 2009

2010

Acanthoaxis wirtzi van Ofwegen & McFadden, 2010
Bebryce inermis Samimi Namin & van Ofwegen, 2010
Sinularia capricornis Dautova, van Ofwegen & Savinkin, 2010
Sinularia multiflora Dautova, van Ofwegen & Savinkin, 2010
Sinularia pumila Dautova, van Ofwegen & Savinkin, 2010
Sinularia sarmentosa Dautova, van Ofwegen & Savinkin, 2010
Sinularia torta Dautova, van Ofwegen & Savinkin, 2010
Sinularia uva Dautova, van Ofwegen & Savinkin, 2010

2011

Lobophytum hsiehi Benayahu & van Ofwegen, 2011
Sinularia choui Benayahu & van Ofwegen, 2011
Sinularia daii Benayahu & van Ofwegen, 2011
Sinularia soongi Benayahu & van Ofwegen, 2011
Stragulum bicolor van Ofwegen & Haddad, 2011

2012

Aquaumbra klapferi Breedy, van Ofwegen & Vargas, 2012
Arula petunia McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012
Cornularia pabloi McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012
Eunephthya celata McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012
Eunephthya ericius McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012
Eunephthya granulata McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012
Eunephthya shirleyae McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012
Inconstantia exigua McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012

Inconstantia pannucea McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012

Inconstantia procera McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2012

Sinularia penghuensis van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 2012

Sinularia shlagmani Benayahu & van Ofwegen, 2012

Sinularia tessieri Benayahu & van Ofwegen, 2012

Sinularia wanannensis van Ofwegen & Benayahu, 2012

2013

Alcyonium varum McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2013

Incrustatus niarchosi McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2013

Sinularia australiensis van Ofwegen, Benayahu & McFadden, 2013

Sinularia eilatensis van Ofwegen, Benayahu & McFadden, 2013

2014

Complexum pusillum van Ofwegen, Aurelle & Sartoretto, 2014

Melithaea hendersoni Reijnen, McFadden, Hermanlimianto & van Ofwegen, 2014

Melithaea mcqueeni Reijnen, McFadden, Hermanlimianto & van Ofwegen, 2014

Melithaea shanni Reijnen, McFadden, Hermanlimianto & van Ofwegen, 2014

Melithaea thorpeae Reijnen, McFadden, Hermanlimianto & van Ofwegen, 2014

Melithaea wrighti Reijnen, McFadden, Hermanlimianto & van Ofwegen, 2014

2015

Melithaea boninensis Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea doederleini Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea isonoi Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea keramaensis Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea oyeni Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea ryukyuensis Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea sagamiensis Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea satsumaensis Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea suenonoi Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea tanseii Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

Melithaea tokaraensis Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2015

2016

Alcyonium burmedju Sampaio, Stokvis & van Ofwegen, 2016

Bebryce asteria Bayer & van Ofwegen, 2016

Bebryce cofferi Bayer & van Ofwegen, 2016

Bebryce otsuchiensis Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2016

Bebryce rotunda Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2016

Bebryce satsumaensis Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2016

Briareum cylindrum Samimi-Namin & van Ofwegen, 2016

Euplexaura yayoi Matsumoto & van Ofwegen, 2016

Litophyton curvum van Ofwegen, 2016

Melithaea davidi Samimi-Namin, van Ofwegen & McFadden, 2016
Sinularia levi van Ofwegen, McFadden & Benayahu, 2016
Trimuricea bicolor Samimi-Namin & van Ofwegen, 2016
Trimuricea flava Samimi-Namin & van Ofwegen, 2016
Trimuricea omanensis Samimi-Namin & van Ofwegen, 2016
Trimuricea persica Samimi-Namin & van Ofwegen, 2016
Trimuricea spinosa Samimi-Namin & van Ofwegen, 2016
Trimuricea tuberculosa Samimi-Namin & van Ofwegen, 2016

2017

Alcyonium dolium McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017
Lampophyton spinatum McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017
Leptophyton fustis McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017
Sinularia mesophotica Benayahu, McFadden, Shoham & van Ofwegen, 2017
Tenerodus pollex McFadden & van Ofwegen, 2017

2018

Dendronephthya perezii Cordeiro & van Ofwegen, 2018
Hana hanagasa Lau, Stokvis, van Ofwegen & Reimer, 2018 [accepted as *Hanah hanagasa* (Lau, Stokvis, Ofwegen & Reimer, 2018)]
Hana hanataba Lau, Stokvis, van Ofwegen & Reimer, 2018 [accepted as *Hanah hanataba* (Lau, Stokvis, Ofwegen & Reimer, 2018)]

2019

Calcigorgia gigantea Matsumoto, van Ofwegen & Bayer, 2019
Calcigorgia gracilis Matsumoto, van Ofwegen & Bayer, 2019
Calcigorgia pacifica Matsumoto, van Ofwegen & Bayer, 2019

2020

Litophyton acutum van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton brachiatum van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton brewerensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton burfordensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton carnatum van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton cockburnensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton darleyensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton daviesensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton dipensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton elfordensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton folium van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton fusum van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton graafae van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton grandis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton horseshoeensis van Ofwegen, 2020

Litophyton myrmidonensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton obtusum van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton oxleyensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton pandoraensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton projectum van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton pseudorowleyensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton rowleyensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton sanctuaryensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton simplex van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton snakeensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton spinulosum van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton squamatum van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton swainensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton territoryensis van Ofwegen, 2020
Litophyton verrucosum van Ofwegen, 2020

2021

Rhodolitica occulta Breedy, van Ofwegen, McFadden & Murillo-Cruz, 2021
Unomia complanatis Benayahu, van Ofwegen, Allais & McFadden, 2021

Appendix 2

Publications by Leen van Ofwegen (and co-authors). Sources: van Ofwegen (2007), Google Scholar Citations (<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Leen-Ofwegen/research>, accessed 5 July 2021), ResearchGate (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=DVwTdoAAAAAJ&hl=en>, accessed 5 July 2021).

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1987

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1989

van Ofwegen LP (1989) On *Wrightella coccinea* (Ellis & Solander, 1786) and *Wrightella stiasnyi* spec. nov. (Anthozoa: Gorgonacea: Melithaeidae). *Zoologische Mededelingen* 63(3): 27–34. <https://repository.naturalis.nl/pub/317963/ZM1989063003.pdf>

1990

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1991

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1992

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