

Attached zoophytes, caulescent, and usually ramose; forming no coral secretions, except epidermic foot-secretions, which constitute the axis of the branches.

The Antipathidæ, like many Gorgonidæ, secrete a corneous axis, which is surrounded by a fleshy covering of polyps; and on this account the two groups have hitherto been placed together. An examination of the animals of two species has led to an arrangement of them among the Actinoidæ, as the tentacles have the naked character peculiar to this suborder, and the polyps closely resemble those of the Madreporæ in appearance and habit. The existence of genital lamellæ within the visceral cavity has not yet been proved by dissection, and as this is the deciding character, the propriety of the present arrangement, cannot be considered as fully established.

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#### GENUS ANTIPATHES.

*Antipathidæ axe corneo spinulosæ, polyporum crustâ omnino carnosâ.*

Antipathidæ having the corneous axis spinulous, and the polyp-covering wholly fleshy.

The Antipathes grow either in long stems, or branched in imitation of trees, spreading shrubs, or in fan-like fronds. The horny axis is covered with minute spinules, which character distinguish them from the axes of Gorgoniæ.

Though common in the tropics, they also occur in the temperate zone; they are not unfrequent in the Mediterranean, and have been found in the seas of Norway.

#### *Arrangement of the Species.*

##### I. Quite simple.

\*1. *A. spiralis.*

\*2. *A. anguina.*

##### II. Simple, with lateral pinnules.

3. *A. larix.*

4. *A. eupteridea.*