

SPONGIA FLABELLIFORMIS.

CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Animal ? fixum, flexile, polymorphum, torpidissimum, contextum vel e fibris reticulatis, vel e spinulis gelatina viva vestitis ;

Osculis seu foraminibus superficiei aquam respirantibus.

Soland. et Ellis zooph. p. 182.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

SPONGIA flabelliformis conformis orbiculata, fibris cartilagineis dense reticulatis.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 1296.

RETE philippense nigrum, telis quadrangulis.

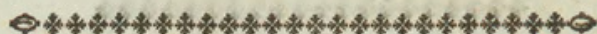
Pet. gaz. t. 32. f. 1.

FLABELLUM marinum aruenfe.

Rumph. amb. 6. t. 80. f. 1.

Elegantis hujus Spongiæ, Gorgoniis aliquibus reticulatis simillimæ, differt longe a plerisque congeneribus generalis aspectus. Nec aliter formatur et alia species, quam Linnæus Spongiam *Ventilabrum* nominavit. In maribus Indicis generatur Spongia flabelliformis, interdum major longe specimine quod depinximus.

FAN SPONGE.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Animal? fixed, flexible, torpid, of various forms; composed either of reticulated fibres, or masses of small spines interwoven together; clothed with a gelatinous flesh full of small mouths or foramina on its surface, by which it sucks in and throws out the water.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

Fan-shaped orbicular cartilaginous SPONGE,
with quadrangulary-reticulated fibres.

Blackish fan-shaped Indian SPONGE.

Cartilaginous Fan-Sponge.

This curious Sponge differs greatly in habit or general form from most of its congeners, bearing a strong resemblance to some of the reticulated *Gorgoniæ*: this is also the case with another species of sponge, viz. the *Spongia Ventilabrum* of Linnæus. The present species is a native of the Indian seas, and is sometimes found considerably larger than the specimen here represented.





Shaw, George. 1799. "Fan Sponge, *Spongia flabelliformis* [Pl. 380]." *The Naturalist's Miscellany* 10(CXVI), <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.304562>.

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