

Phylum Echinodermata  
Class Asteroidea  
Order Forcipulatida  
Family Asteriidae

***Sclerasterias heteropaes***

**Coloration:** Chocolate brown w/ beige bands and cream colored spines

**Number of Arms:** Five Unequal Rays

**Defining Characteristics:**

- All cushions touching each other
- Rays constricted at base and tapering at ends
- One thick spine inserted into each round flesh cushion
- Cushion surrounding spine is scaled
- Large rows of cushions and spines in center of arm
- Smaller rows of cushions and spines in between large cushions
- Arms cleaved sharply
- Cushions large and conspicuous

**Illustration**

