

VOUCHER SHEET

Order Ceriantharia

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Specimen Code and Date Examined: OC 19, May 9, 1983

Keys Used: Very little literature that helps with our small cerianthid specimens.

Important Characters: (1) Red-brown dots at base of tentacles (which remain on margin even if marginal tentacles fall off). (2) Skin like a Nemertine-mottled purple, translucent.

Related Species and Character Differences: Cerianthids are poorly known and the number of species is indeterminable at the present time.

Variability: It is impossible to assess most cerianthids collected by boxcores, etc. - Large specimens may often have some characters if collected whole.

Aids to Identification: The tubes these animals manufacture can become entangled with everything else in the core. Many other phyla inhabit these tubes (amphipods, sipuncs, molluscs, etc.).

Station Data: Cerianthids of this size are frequently found in all benthic samples.

Comments: A poorly known group. Many new taxa occur in the borderlands and until someone can work them up they will continue to be one of the most confusing cnidarian groups.