

Cucumaria sp. A
Family: Cucumariidae

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Synonymy: none

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DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS OF THE GENUS CUCUMARIA:

1. Cucumber shaped.
2. Body wall soft and pliable.
3. Tentacles 10-20. 10 dendritic tentacles equal in size or 2 ventral tentacles smaller.
4. Tube feet in 5 distinct rows or scattered all over body.
5. Calcareous ring with anterior processes only.

IDENTIFYING CHARACTERS OF SPECIES A:

1. Tube feet in five distinct rows only.
2. Color white/light yellow.
3. Supporting tables in tube feet variable but each with one large central hole in spire and irregular shaped projections emerging on top.
4. Irregular shaped supporting rods prevalent
5. Irregular and lattice shaped body wall plates present.

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES

The body wall plates are irregular in shape and perforated with large holes and scalloped edges, similar to those depicted for *Cucumaria frondosa japonica*, but without bumps on the surface. The ring canal, however, is most similar to the illustrations for *Cucumaria piperata*.

DEPTH RANGE:

102.3 meters

HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION:

Taken from the Channel Islands, sand substrate

LITERATURE:

Lambert, Philip. 1997. Sea Cucumbers of British Columbia, southeast Alaska and Puget Sound. UBC Press.

Cucumaria sp A

Haney 2004 §

This animal is white/yellow and 5.5 cm in length. There are ten dendritic tentacles of various sizes. The ring canal is characteristic of Cucumariidae and the specimen has retractable tube feet that look like dimples when retracted.



Whole Animal

Tentacle Mass

Body Wall Plate



Various styles of tube feet supporting tables



Various morphologies of plates found in the body wall