

The genus *Stauracantha* differs from its ancestral form, *Xiphacantha*, in the ramification of the four crossed apophyses on each spine. These bear either lateral branches, which are parallel to the cross axes of the radial spine itself (subgenus *Stauracanthonium*), or they are forked, with divergent branches not parallel to those cross axes (subgenus *Stauracanthidium*). Both subgenera may perhaps be better separated as genera. They form the transition to the *Stauraspida*.

Subgenus 1. *Stauracanthonium*, Haeckel.

*Definition*.—Apophyses of the radial spines not forked, but crossed by perpendicular branches, which are placed in tangential planes and parallel to the cross axes of the quadrangular spine itself.

1. *Stauracantha orthostaura*, n. sp. (Pl. 130, fig. 5).

Spines four-sided prismatic, with simple apex and small leaf-cross at the base; with four thin slender conical apophyses in the proximal third. Each apophysis represents a regular rectangular cross, being intersected in its middle by one perpendicular rod of its own length.

*Dimensions*.—Length of the spines 0.3, breadth 0.02; distance of the apophyses from the apex 0.15 to 0.2.

*Habitat*.—South Pacific, Station 169, surface.

2. *Stauracantha tetrastaura*, n. sp.

Spines four-winged prismatic, with four broad prominent edges, pyramidal apex, and large basal leaf-cross, with four broad compressed apophyses about in the middle. Each apophysis represents a vertical lamella (placed in a meridian) with convex distal and concave proximal edge, and is crossed in its apical part by one perpendicular short rod.

*Dimensions*.—Length of the spines 0.5, breadth 0.03; distance of the apophyses from the centre 0.2.

*Habitat*.—Central Pacific, Station 272, surface.

3. *Stauracantha diplostaura*, n. sp.

Spines four-sided prismatic, with truncated apex and broad basal leaf-cross; in the proximal half with four slender conical apophyses. Each apophysis is crossed in its apical half at right angles by two short parallel transverse rods.

*Dimensions*.—Length of the spines 0.32, breadth 0.012; distance of the apophyses from the centre 0.11.

*Habitat*.—South Pacific, Station 291, surface.