

Prayidæ, and are probably derived from this subfamily of Diphyidæ. The two genera of the former correspond to those of the latter.

Desmalia, the first genus, is in general appearance very similar to *Praya* (Pls. XXXI., XXXII.); and possesses, like it, eudoxiform cormidia. Each eudoxome is composed of two medusomes, a sterile and a fertile. The sterile medusome exhibited in the only species observed nearly the same shape as that of *Praya galea*, figured in Pl. XXXII. The cavity of the helmet-shaped bract contained a single siphon with a tentacle, and on the ventral side of the former a single gonophore with a well-developed umbrella. All gonophores of the single specimen observed were female. The corm of *Desmalia* may be, therefore, diœcious.

Desmophyes, the second genus, is described in the sequel (Pl. XXX.). It is in general composition and special structure very similar to *Lilyopsis*, and possesses, like this Prayid, ersæiform cormidia. Each ersæome is composed of two sterile and one or several fertile medusomes. The first sterile medusome consists of a bract (an umbrella with four radial canals), a manubrium (siphon), and a tentacle. The second sterile medusome is represented by a well-developed "special nectophore," a medusiform umbrella with four radial canals and a ring canal, muscular subumbrella and velum, but without manubrium. The umbrellar margin of this Medusa was beset (in the only species observed) with a corona of rudimentary tentacles and ocelli (almost as in some species of *Lilyopsis*). The group of sexual medusomes was represented by several clustered fertile gonophores; one large, and a number of small vicarious buds. The corm was monœcious and diclinic, the cormidia alternately males and females.

The development of the Desmophyidæ is not known; but it will probably be found to be hypogenesis, the gonophores ripening whilst sessile on the stem; as is also the case in the closely allied Polyphyidæ.

Synopsis of the Genera of Desmophyidæ.

Cormidia eudoxiform, composed of two medusomes (one sterile and one fertile), without special nectophore,	32A. <i>Desmalia</i> .
Cormidia ersæiform, composed of three or more medusomes, with a special nectophore,	32B. <i>Desmophyes</i> .

Genus 32A. *Desmalia*,¹ n. gen.

Definition.—Desmophyidæ with rounded edgeless nectophores, arranged in a biserial nectosome. Cormidia without special nectophores.

The genus *Desmalia* is represented by a polygastric Calyconect, which is in general very similar to the common forms of the well-known genus *Praya*, but differs from

¹ *Desmalia* = Marine chain, δίσκος, ἄλιος.