

Revision of the Red Algal Genus *Galaxaura* with Special Reference to the Species Occurring in the Western Indian Ocean

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Abstract

A study of *Galaxaura* (Nemaliales, Chaetangiaceae) from East Africa (especially Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa and Malagasy Republic) and Mauritius has revealed that the following nine taxa are represented: *G. diesingiana* Zanardini, *G. fasciculata* Kjellman, *G. lapidescens* (Ellis et Solander) Lamouroux, *G. lenta* Kjellman, *G. margifata* (Ellis et Solander) Lamouroux, *G. oblongata* (Ellis et Solander) Lamouroux, *G. obtusata* (Ellis et Solander) Lamouroux, *G. rugosa* (Ellis et Solander) Lamouroux and *G. subverticillata* Kjellman. The species recognized include seven of the 62 treated by Kjellman in 1900 and two species not treated by him. The nine species encompass 38 species reported by various authors for the region. A key to the species, comments on their morphology, illustrations of their growth habit and structure, and discussions of their taxonomy and nomenclature are presented.