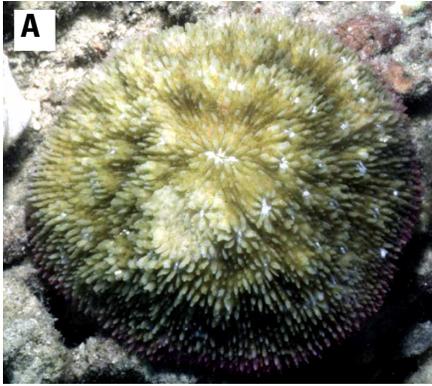
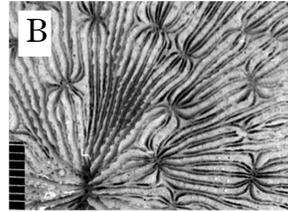


Free-living and attached colonial fungiids 27

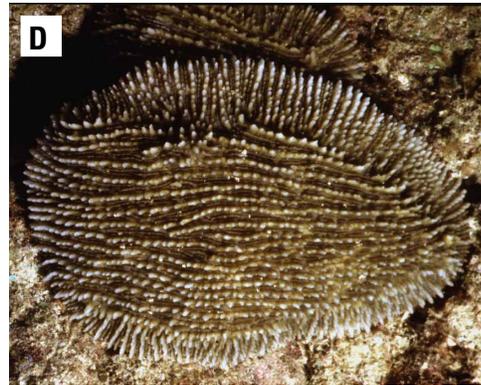
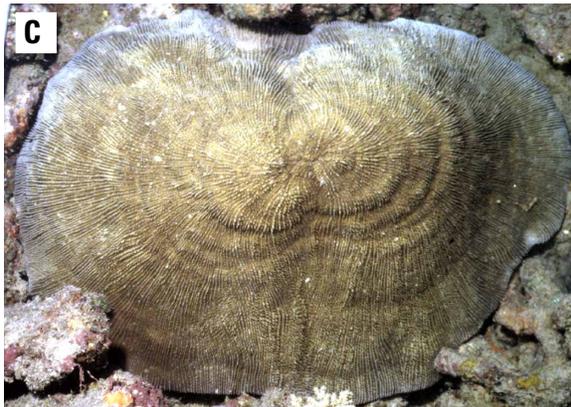


Halomitra ■ common name: Helmet Coral; Neptune's Cap

A) colonies thin-walled and delicate
colonies flat, form a central dome,
or colonies are bell-shaped
A-B) corallites face outwards



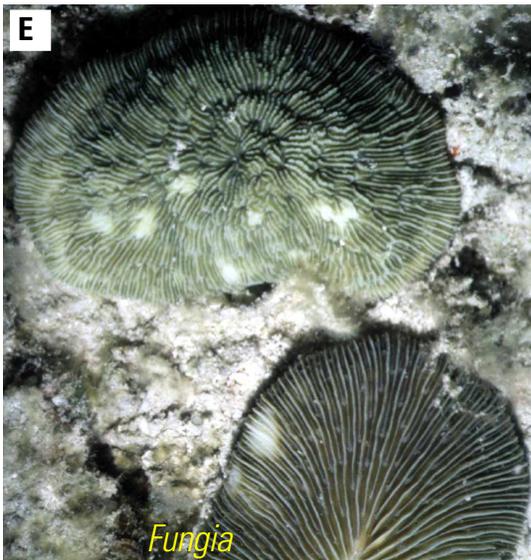
Zoopilus echinata (one species)



D) thin walled, dome-shaped colony
C) septo-costae radiate from central corallite or
D) septa perpendicular to colony margin

Sandalolitha (two species)

■ common name: Dome Coral
■ colonies flat, oval, circular or irregular shape



E) colonies heavy and lack axial furrow
F) numerous closely spaced corallites
corallites exsert and face out

Podabacia (four species)

G) encrusting or plating morphology; colony
may form tiers
corallites usually point out and down,
towards colony perimeter
underside of plate is pitted



Simplified key to coral genera in the wildlife trade (continued)

	Go To:
11. a. flattened or concave, discoid or elongate with two distinct surfaces, one bearing calices and septa, and the other lacking calices	12
b. single or multiple large, oval to round corallites, each on a long stalk	17
12. a. circular or discoid with a single mouth (solitary)	13
b. oval or elongate with convex oral side and concave aboral side and more than one mouth (colonial)	14
14. a. central row of calices forming an axial furrow	15
b. mouths scattered over oral surface, no axial furrow; oval to round, concave .	<i>Halomitra</i>
15. a. calices form lateral rows on each side of axial furrow	<i>Polyphyllia</i>
b. small calices with thick septa, not arranged in lateral rows	<i>Ctenactis</i>
16. a. septa have prominent teeth	<i>Herpolitha</i>
b. septa lack prominent teeth	

Slipper corals

Ctenactis, *Herpolitha* and *Polyphyllia* (1999: 12,000 pieces in trade, most live)

- slipper corals are elongate, may be contorted with distinct oral and aboral surface
- mouths primarily located in a longitudinal groove (axial furrow); pronounced in *Herpolitha*

Polyphyllia

- short (< 1 cm) tentacles that cover the corallum and are always extended
- septa are petal-shaped

Herpolitha:

- septa radiate from axial furrow
- colonies may have forked axial furrows

Ctenactis:

- septa radiate from axial furrow and have prominent evenly spaced triangular teeth;
- costae have well developed spines

Family Fungiidae: colonial corals

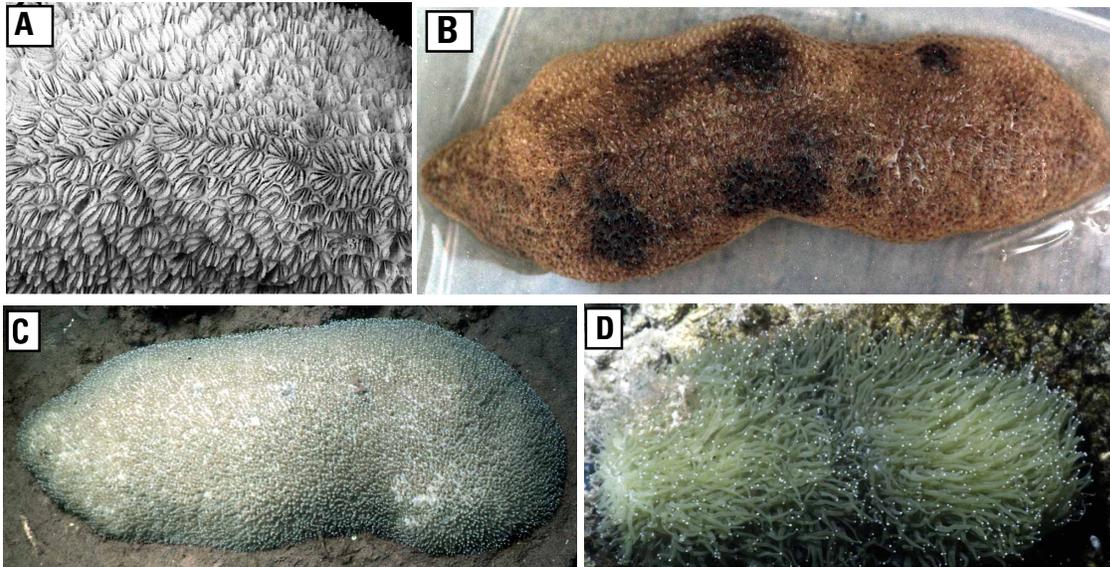
- colonies are free living
- colonies have distinct oral and aboral side

A-I) common name: Slipper Coral (3 genera shown below)
colonies oval and elongate, may have contorted shape

Polyphyllia (2 species)

- common name: Tongue, Mole or Slipper Coral

- A) septa elliptical, petaloid shape
- B) axial furrow not distinct
- C-D) tentacles short, always extended



Ctenactis (3 species)

- common name: Tongue Coral

- E) axial furrow prominent with one to several mouths
- F) septo-costae radiate from furrow
- G) septa have teeth



Herpolitha (2 species)

- common name: Tongue Coral

H) colonies elongate with prominent axial furrow; may develop forked axial furrows and become Y, T or X-shaped

I) septa radiate from furrow; septa large, with fine teeth; tentacles expanded at night

