

Natural spawning observation of *Actinopyga mauritiana*

From: Katsuki Oki,¹ Coralie Taquet,² and Nina Yasuda³

¹ Tida Design Limited Company, Amami Island, Japan.

² JSPS Post-doctoral fellow, National Research Institute of Fisheries and Environment of Inland Sea, Hiroshima, Japan.

³ Post-doctoral fellow, Department of Mechanical and Environmental Informatics, Graduate School of Information Science and Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan. Email: coralie.taquet@gmail.com.

Species: *Actinopyga mauritiana* (Kuriironamako), Quoy and Gaimard 1833.

Location: Kise (28°25'41.60"N, 129°39'21.65"E), Kasari-town, Amami-city, in Amami Island (Kagoshima-Prefecture), located between the four main islands of Japan and Okinawa Archipelago (Japan). The climate is tropical.

Date and time: 11 July 2010, day time (around noon, local time).

Moon phase: New moon.

Observer: Katsuki Oki (unfortunately, it was not possible to take a picture of spawning individuals).

Depth: ~ 1 m; the area is never exposed, even during a spring tide.

Bottom: Shallow, sandy (coral rubble and sand) bottom with some sea algae.

Tide: High tide (spring tide), almost no tidal current at that time.

Note: Fine day with almost no cloud cover; seawater was also clear and bright. There were four individuals (possibly all males) spawning at the same time in this area. They curved their bodies, and spawned (i.e. emitted a white string that gradually muddied the water) from the tip of the vertical part of their bodies, which were slowly rocking.

PIMRIS is a joint project of five international organisations concerned with fisheries and marine resource development in the Pacific Islands region. The project is executed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the University of the South Pacific (USP), the Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), and the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). This bulletin is produced by SPC as part of its commitment to PIMRIS. The aim of PIMRIS is to improve the



availability of information on marine resources to users in the region, so as to support their rational development and management. PIMRIS activities include: the active collection, cataloguing and archiving of technical documents, especially ephemera ('grey literature'); evaluation, repackaging and dissemination of information; provision of literature searches, question-and-answer services and bibliographic support; and assistance with the development of in-country reference collections and databases on marine resources.