Natural spawning observation of *Actinopyga mauritiana*

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**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.