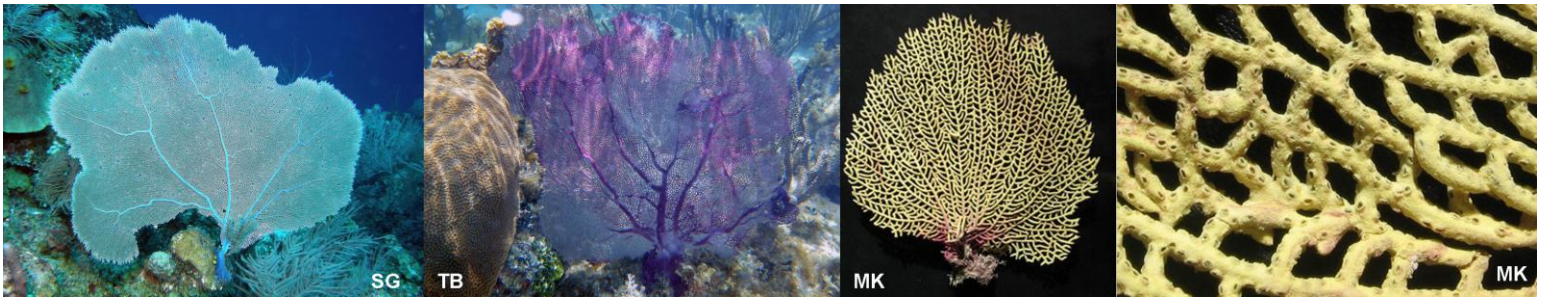
PICTURE GUIDE TO OCTOCORAL GENERA OF GLOVERS REEF ATOLL



***Gorgonia* SEA FANS** flat, web-like fans growing in single planes

***Briareum* SEA FINGERS** unbranched stalks rising from same base, or encrusting; purplish rind; "fuzzy" if polyps expanded

***Plexaurella* SLIT-PORE SEA RODS** tall, bushy; apertures slit-like or elliptical; polyp rims (calices) flat or slightly raised

***Plexaura* SEA RODS** bushy, candelabra-shaped; branched sections usually in one plane; calices flat or slightly raised

***Pseudoplexaura* POROUS SEA RODS** tall, bushy; branches dichotomous; apertures pore-like, round-oval; calices flat

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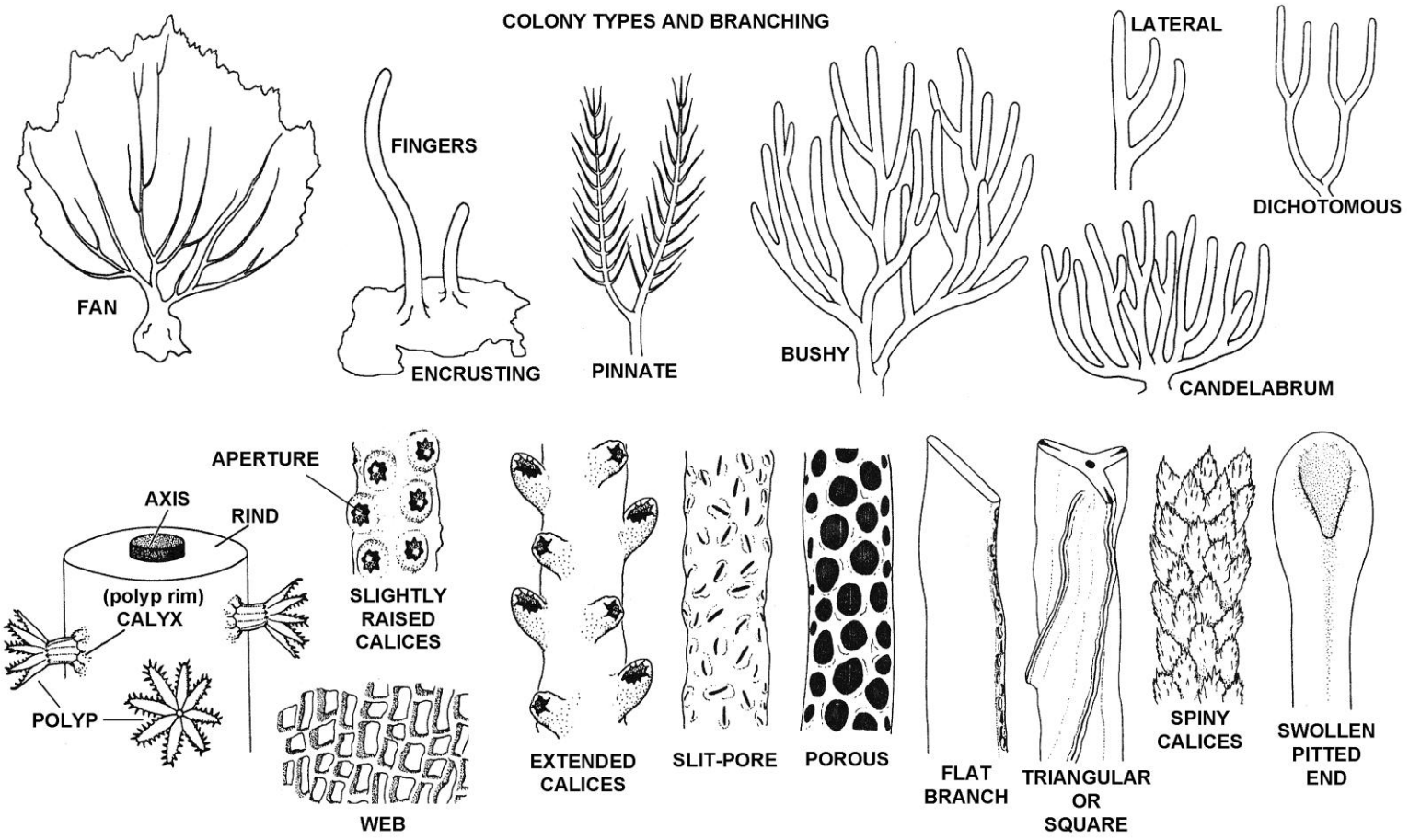
Eunicea **KNOBBY SEA RODS** bushy or scraggly; usually candelabrum-shaped; round branches; calices much extended

Pseudopterogorgia **SEA PLUMES** tall, bushy, feathery plumes; short pinnate branchlets in one plane



PICTURE GUIDE TO OCTOCORAL GENERA OF GLOVERS REEF ATOLL

This guide will help you recognize the genera of octocoral sea fans, rods and plumes known from Glover's Reef. The genera can usually be recognized but it is difficult and often impossible to distinguish between similar species in-situ or strictly from photographs. For more detailed descriptions and information on habitat and distribution, go to *"Coral Reef Identification: Florida, Caribbean, Bahamas"* by *Paul Humann & Ned DeLoach*, New World Publications, or *the web site "CORALPEDIA"* http://coralpedia.bio.warwick.ac.uk/ .

Species known from Glover's Reef: *Gorgonia ventalina* (Common sea fan), *Briareum asbestinum* (Corky sea finger), *Eunicea mammosa* (Swollen-knob candelarbrum), *Plexaura homomalla* (Black sea rod), *Plexaurella sp.* (Slit-pore sea rod), *Pseudoplexaura sp.* (Porous sea rod), *Pseudopterogogia bipinnata* (Bipinnate sea plume).

Genera probably present at Glover's Atoll but not pictured here because they haven't yet been recorded include:
***Muriceopsis* (stiff branchlets, close-set calices)**
***Muricea* (spiny, triangular calices with pointed hoods directed upward)**
***Pterogorgia* (branch cross-sections triangular, square or flat)**
***Iciligorgia* (branch ends enlarged, with shallow pit)**

Glover's Reef images by *Alex Tilley* (AT), *Marie Smedley* (MS), *Steve Gittings* (SG) and *Tom Bright* (TB).

Created for WCS by former Glover's Reef Research Station Manager *Dr. Tom Bright*

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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