
Bacterial Flora of the Sea Urchin *stomopneustes variolaris* (Lamarck1816) from St Mary's Island, West Coast of India.

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ABSTRACT

The paper reported the first record of isolation of bacterial flora from the sea urchin *stomopneustes variolaris* (Lamarck 1816) from St Mary's Island, West Coast of India. Gut, gonads and coelomic fluid of this invertebrate has been explored by simple spread plate technique on zobell's marine agar. TVC count for gonad (5×10^4 CFU/ml), gut (3×10^7 CFU/ml) and coelomic fluid (1×10^7 CFU/ml) were recorded. Only 4 different types of isolates have been retrieved from all the three samples of *stomopneustes variolaris*. Gram staining results showed three gram negative very small short rods and one slender gram negative short rods, 16S rRNA sequencing revealed all the four belonged to vibro genera.