



Ophiuroids from the Caiwei(Pako) guyot in the northwest Pacific

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The Caiwei(Pako) guyot is a table mount located in the middle of the Magellan seamount trail in the northwest Pacific. Ophiuroids samples were collected from different sides and depths (1660~2785 m) of the guyot by manned submersible vehicle “Jiaolong” with RV Xiangyanghong 9 during cruises DY31 and DY35. The Ophiuroid fauna is poor in number of species and diversity. Five deep sea species from 19 specimens including *Ophioplinthaca plicata* (Lyman, 1878), *Ophioplinthaca defensor* Koehler, 1930, *Ophioleila elegans* A.H. Clark, 1949 and *Asteroschema edmondsoni* A.H. Clark, 1949 were identified. Three of them (*Ophioplinthaca defensor*, *Ophioleila elegans* and *Asteroschema edmondsoni*) were first recorded in the northwest Pacific, especially, the *Ophioleila elegans*, which was first discovered in the Hawaiian islands, was the second records all of the world. One specimen might belong to a new species of *Astrodia* and another specimen might be a new species of *Ophiacanthidae*. Most of these Ophiuroids showed a symbiotic relationship with sponges or corals. Ophiuroids fauna showed a higher diversity from shallow sites (<2000m) than deep sites (>2000m). This study provides more information about deep sea ophiuroid which may help us in understanding their diversity and biogeographic patterns.