

2. H. (*Selenkothuria*) *sinica* sp. nov.

*Holothuria lubrica*: Chang (non Selenka),  
1934. p.10, fig.4, pl.1, fig.4.

**Diagnosis:** Medium-sized form usually 200 mm long; with 20 bushy tentacles, often of unequal size; numerous cylindrical feet on the ventrum and slightly fewer papillae and tube feet on the dorsum; stone canal one; usually one Polian vesicle and small Cuvierian organs; calcareous ring stout, radial plates about twice as long as the interradial plates.

Spicules predominantly long flat rods often slightly curved, with a few terminal and numerous lateral holes; sizes about 0.065-0.110 mm in length, 0.015-0.018 mm in width (Fig.3).

**Colour:** Dull reddish-brown.

**Type locality:** Mei-dong, Hainan Island, China, littoral.

Notes: This is a very common species of sea-cucumber along the coast of Guangdong province, China. Originally, Chang (1934) had identified this species as *Holothuria lubrica* Selenka. Now we know that *Holothuria lubrica* is a Panamic species. From the zoogeographical point of view, it could not be found in China. A study of fairly numerous specimens has led me to the conclusion that the specimens identified by Chang as *Holothuria lubrica* represent a new species.

This new species is closely related to the Indo-Pacific species *Holothuria* (*Selenkothuria*) *erinaceus* Semper, but it is easily distinguished from the latter by its predominantly long flat rod-like spicules. Short flat rods like those of *H. erinaceus* are found only in a small portion of the middle of the ventrum.

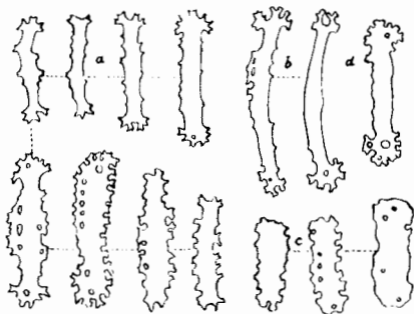


Fig.3. *H. (Selenkothuria) sinica* sp. nov.  
 a. Rods from skin; b. rods from tube feet;  
 c. rods from middle of ventrum; d. rod of  
 tentacle. (x270).