

The two known spicules on which *A. rusticum* was based apparently lack proximal and distal rays, and may well be from a *Gondekia*, although they could equally well represent surficial spicules of a species of *Astraeospongium*. Description of species based on isolated spicules should be discontinued, although occurrences of such spicules should be noted because they commonly are the only evidence in many assemblages of the presence of heteractinid sponges.

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