

Key to Red Sea *Pavona* species (after Veron, 2000)*

Presented here as general illustration. The student is advised to use the original source (p. 447-459)

Family Agariciidae

Key for Genera

Colony not massive.

- Corallites centers discernible.
 - Polyps aligned between collines
 - Corallites without individual walls = **Genus *Agaricia***
 - Corallites with individual walls = **Genus *Leptoseris***
 - Polyps not aligned between collines = **Genus *Pavona***
- Corallites centers not discernible = **Genus *Pachyseris***

Colony massive

Corallites in concavities = **Genus *Gardinoseris***

Key for *Pavona*

Colonies leafy or plate-like

- Colonies upright plates
 - Plates short, thick
 - Corallites aligned vertically = ***P. danai***
 - Corallites aligned horizontally = ***P. frondifera*****
 - Plates not short, thick = ***P. cactus***
 - Colonies prostrate or encrusting
 - Corallites large and conspicuous = ***P. explanulata***
 - Corallites not large and conspicuous = ***P. varians***

Colonies not leafy

- Colonies not submassive or columnar
 - Corallites plocoid = ***P. maldivensis***
 - Corallites immersed = ***P. decussata***
- Colonies submassive to columnar
 - Corallites primarily submassive.
 - Colonies in short deep valleys = ***P. Venosa***
 - Corallites not in valleys.
 - colonies become nodular = ***P. diffluens***
 - Colonies become columnar.
 - columns mostly cylindrical = ***P. clavus***

* ***P. gardineri*** not in Veron's list

** Species reported from Sinai peninsula (Veron, 2000)