Distribution of *Holothuria lentiginosa enodis* Miller and Pawson in relation to a deep-water Oculina coral reef off Fort Pierce, Florida (Echinodermata: Holothuroidea)

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A population of H. lentiginosa enodis is associated with a reef of the ahermatypic coral Oculina varicosa Lesueur in a depth of 75 m, approximately 30 km northeast of Fort Pierce Inlet, Florida. Using a research submersible, Johnson-Sea-Link, transects were run in 3 directions from each of 4 permanent markers placed near the reef, and holothurians occupying a 2 m wide by 80 m long area were counted in 10 m increments on each run. Runs were repeated 11 times over a 2-year period. Results confirm a patchy distribution pattern around the reef, with density maxima of $2.2/m^2$. There is no apparent correlation of distribution with prevailing current (Gulf Stream) pattern. Preliminary analyses show that the holothurians are usually restricted to areas where organic content of substratum averages 4.4% (dry weight); in areas where organic content averages 3.3% or less, holothurians are usually absent.

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