

September 29, 1966

Dr. Milton L. Forbes
Biology Department
Lamar State College of Technology
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Dr. Forbes:

I have read your interesting two articles on Ostrea pecumollis. There is one thing that perturbs me no end. It is that this animal is supposed to be an Ostrea. If it is, it seems to be the only Ostrea species known that lives commensally in a sponge. Have you ever checked the Family Volsellidae, which are said to be commensal in sponges and look very much like oysters?

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:mpd

Enclosures - separates

Shell Development Company
Exploration and Production Research Division