

***Beania pectinata* sp.nov.**
(Fig. 5C,D)

MATERIAL EXAMINED

HOLOTYPE: QMG304961, on *Sargassum* sp.

DESCRIPTION

Colony diffuse, consisting of tapered, fusiform autozooids, 0.6mm long, standing erect on an adherent stolon, 0.05mm wide, which comprises the proximal portions of the autozoid. Frontal membrane of autozoid entirely concealed by an almost flat shield formed from two comb-like rows of lateral spines, touching but not fusing along the midline of the autozoid. Operculum terminal, as wide as long; four short, slender processes spaced around the orifice rim: two distal and two lateral. Basal wall of autozoid smooth; no avicularia. Each autozoid has four basal connecting tubes: its own proximal portion, a distal tube representing the proximal portion of the next autozoid, and a short tube on each side, either or both of which may develop into a lateral autozoid. Ovicells were not present.

REMARKS

The four basal connecting tubes, comb-like frontal shield, smooth basal wall and lack of avicularia together distinguish this species from all other described species of *Beania*.

ETYMOLOGY

Latin *pectinatus*, comblike.

