

Canda clypeata (Haswell, 1880). Tilbrook, 2006, p.52, pl.8A-B.

Canda clypeata (Haswell, 1880)
Plate 8A-B

Scrupocellaria clypeata Haswell, 1880: 37, Fig. 1, Fig. 6.

Canda clypeata: Harmer, 1926: 387, Fig. 26, figs 19,20; Larwood, 1969: 180, text-Fig. 7; Rho & Seo, 1984:9, Fig. 3, figs 5-7; Liu, 1991: 71.

Canda retiformis: Philipps, 1889 (part): 439, 441, Fig. 42, Fig. 1.

Not *Canda clypeata*: d'Hondt & Gordon, 1996: 75, figs 8a,b.

Type material Paratype: NHM 1910.6.16.1, Holborn Island, Queensland.

Other material examined SBMNH 365091-092, 413-84; NHM 1928.9.13.113, Sandal Bay, Lifu, Loyalty Islands, 30-40 fms; NHM 1889.8.21.125, Tizard Reef, China Sea, 27 fms; NHM 1928.3.6.204, Pulu Sarassa, Postillon Islands, 0-36m; NHM 1928.3.6.206, Kei Islands, 0-52m.

Description Colony erect with biserial, keeled branches. Autozooids rectangular (0.50 x 0.20 mm), with parallel-sided lateral walls, gymnocystal area minimal, cryptocyst smooth, well developed proximally, narrow laterally, wider on the side away from branch midline. Opesia tapering proximally. Scutum gracile, originating from inner mid-lateral edge of opesia, distal lobe long and thin, proximal lobe shorter and broader. A single spine on each side of orifice, short, although often two spines on inner margin. Large frontal avicularia, developed on branch midline, directed distofrontally or proximofrontally, rostrum triangular, rostral rim convex and serrated laterally, with a hooked tip, mandible triangular, concave, with a hooked tip. Ovicells with a broad fenestra, occurring in small groups, often with a vestigial avicularium distally. Two axial vibracula, other vibracular chambers triangular in shape, setal groove directed obliquely, setae short, curving across width of branch.

Remarks *Canda clypeata* is characterised by the shape of its gracile scutum, but more particularly by the large, frontal avicularia, distal to branch bifurcations, and the broad fenestra seen in ovicells.

Distribution Originally described from the Queensland coast of Australia, *Canda clypeata* has been found from the China Sea, throughout Indonesia and Queensland to the Loyalty Islands in the eastern Coral Sea. In the Solomon Islands this species was only found at West Bay, Russell Islands.

