**Scupocellaria longispinosa** Harmer, 1926
Plate 10A-C

*Scrupocellaria longispinosa* Harmer, 1926: 381, Fig. 25, figs 26-34.
*Scrupocellaria longispinosa*: Dumont, 1981: 635.

**Type material** Holotype: NHM 1928.3.6.188-190, (108.AI) "Siboga" Station 144, South of Halmahera, Indonesia, 45m (three slides from same colony).

**Other material examined** SBMNH 365109, **515-87**; SBMNH 365110-112, **501-87**; NHM 1928.9.13.106, Singapore, 9-18 m; NHM 1928.3.6.191, "Siboga" Station 274, off Jedan Island, Aru Islands, 57 m.

**Description** Colony erect. Autozooids (0.40 x 0.20 mm) with large, smooth, proximal gymnocystal area, cryptocyst around opesia very narrow and smooth. Scutum originating from inner distal corner of oval opesia, of which it covers almost 30%, lobe broad and rounded, approximately 60% of lobe proximal to point of scutal spine insertion. Two inner orificial spines, three outer orificial spines, most distal spines of each side very short, most proximal, very long (approximately four to five times that of distal spines) directed frontally and bifurcating. Two types of avicularia occur: small lateral avicularia on distolateral corner of each autozooid, distolaterally directed, aquiline, rostrum serrated laterally, with a hooked tip, mandible triangular, curved basally with a sharp, hooked tip; frontal avicularia seen only around branch bifurcations and of two types, on axial zooid, a raised avicularium, cystid large, almost columnar in shape, originating proximal to cryptocystal rim, directed laterally, rostrum minimal, mandible digitate, on those autozooids just prior to and succeeding the joint, a small avicularium, similar in morphology to lateral avicularia but much smaller in dimensions, on a relatively long columnar cystid. Ovicells smooth with many circular pores. Single axial vibracula, other vibracula projecting laterally, visible frontally, somewhat squared in shape, setal groove directed slightly obliquely, setae very long, curving across length of two autozooids. A rhizoid foramen is present in proximal wall of all lateral vibracula, not on axial vibracula, however, rhizoids usually only present at base of branch.

**Remarks** *Scrupocellaria longispinosa* is characterised by its scutum shape, its long, bifurcating oral spines and the digitate mandible of some avicularia, in particular on the frontal wall of the axial zooid.

**Distribution** Originally described from Indonesia by Harmer (1957), this species has only been recorded once since, by Dumont (1981) from the Red Sea. In the Solomons, a number of colonies of *Scrupocellaria longispinosa* were collected at two stations in the Florida Islands on coral rubble. This is only the third record of this species.

*Scrupocellaria longispinosa* Harmer, 1926. Tilbrook, 2006, p.61, pl.10A-C.