

***Orthoscuticella fissurata* (Levinsen) (Plates 5,H-J; 6,B)**

[?] *Catenicella margaritacea*: Hutton 1873: 89; Hutton 1880: 180; Hutton 1891: 102.

Scuticella margaritacea var. *fissurata* Levinsen 1909: 231.

[?] *Scuticella margaritacea*: Macken 1958: 106.

Scuticella margaritacea: Uttley & Bullivant 1972: 53.

[?] *Scuticella fusiformis* Powell, 1967: 240.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: NZOI Stns B493, B498, E820; also NMNZ specimens Pz.19 and Pz.34, both ? Hutton material from Lyall Bay (no other information), Pz.163 from the Patea breakwater, coll. W.R.B. Oliver, 28 Feb. 1909; drift material from near the Wainuiomata River mouth, coll. DPG April 1979; colony from Lyall Bay, coll. R.C. Willan, Jan. 1980.

DISTRIBUTION: Three Kings Islands, Patea, Cook Strait, Fiordland, western approaches to Foveaux Strait; 0-22 m. Also Victoria.

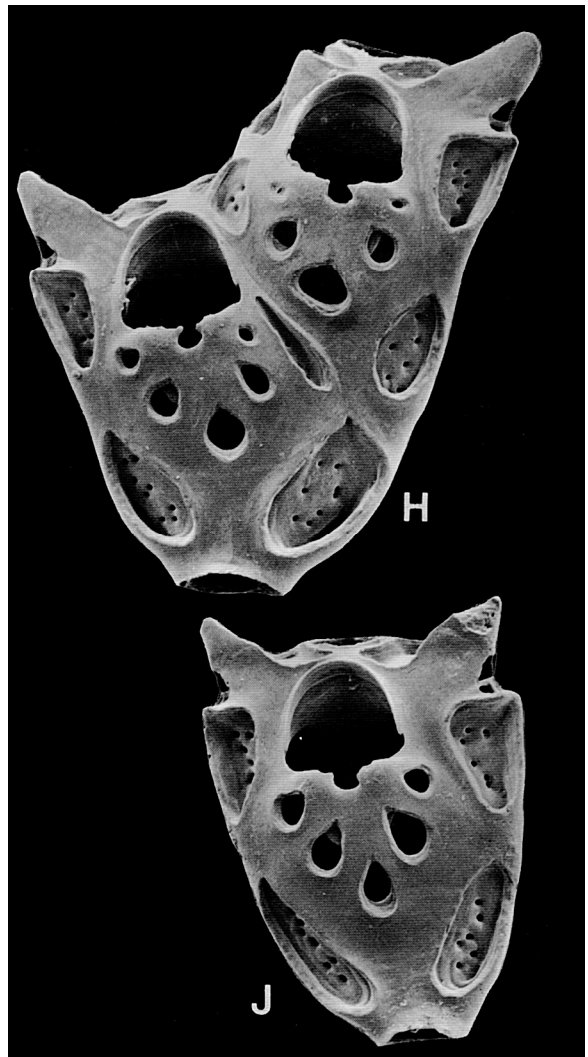
DESCRIPTION: Colony erect, branching, comprising jointed segments of 1-2 zooids. Single zooids 0.53-0.64 x 0.38-0.46 mm, shield-shaped, with the distolateral aviculiferous corners approximately equally developed. Frontal wall with a V-shaped arrangement of five windows, the distal ones smallest. Zooids of bizooidal segments with 4-5 windows. Orifice with a distinct U-shaped sinus or the entrance to the sinus constricted by denticles. Proximolateral and lateral pore-chambers facing mainly frontally. The groove between the zooids of a bizooidal segment with a narrow pore-chamber. Dorsal surface of zooid smooth. Ovicelled zooidal complex 0.87-0.92 x 0.53-0.58 mm; orifice wider than long, with a sinus not quite as broad as in *O. margaritacea*, five windows on the frontal wall, with a lumen pore in each of the incipient costae comprising the proximal or orificial rim on either side of the sinus; a pair of oval pore-chambers on each side laterally and proximolaterally; ovicell with an ectoocial fenestral band, proximally indented in the middle exposing a tubercular endoecium; ovicell with an apical bicuspid prominence with a pair of openings to kenozooidal chambers.

REMARKS: This species was well illustrated by Levinsen (1909: pl. 20, figs 3b, c) but has nevertheless been confused, at least in the New Zealand region, with *O. margaritacea* which also has five frontal windows in the autozooid.

In addition to the differences already noted between the two species (above), the calcified roof of the ascus is smaller in *O. margaritacea*, extending to the level of the distal frontal windows only, but often to the median proximal window in *O. fissurata*.

I have examined Uttley and Bullivant's (1972) material from Pitt Island in the Chatham Group — it is *O. fissurata*.

Scuticella fusiformis Powell, 1967a, whose ovicells were not found, may be this species also, although Powell described and illustrated an ascopore instead of a sinus and the dimensions are not quite in accord.



Orthoscuticella fissurata (Levinsen, 1909). Gordon, 1989, p.18, pl.5H-J, 6B.

