

***Celleporaria desperabilis* sp. nov.**  
(Fig. 15e,f)

TYPE MATERIAL

HOLOTYPE: GH5228, Heron Island, Stn 14, 12 Apr 1972.

PARATYPE: GH5229, as for holotype.

ETYMOLOGY

Latin *despero*, *desperabilis*, hopeless.

DESCRIPTION

Colony forming a multilaminar, encrusting sheet. Autozooids 0.6-0.7 × 0.4-0.5mm; frontal wall convex, finely nodular or wrinkled, with few, relatively large, marginal pores. Primary orifice wider than long, about 0.12 × 0.17mm, the proximal border gently concave, bearing three denticles within its edge: lateral denticles stout, pointed; median denticle variable, quadrate, or anvil-shaped, its free edge often notched or bifid, sometimes completely divided to give two separate, slender denticles. No oral spines. Peristome developing early in ontogeny, enclosing and obscuring proximal and lateral borders of orifice; a single median suboral avicularium, columnar, the rostrum perpendicular to plane of orifice, elongate triangular, about 0.15mm long, with finely toothed distal edge; crossbar slender, with a conspicuous columella; apically, the avicularium is produced as a tapered umbo. Adjacent to the proximal end of the avicularium, the peristome is deeply notched. Tiny adventitious avicularia, with oval rostrum, often frequent along margins of autozooids. Vicarious avicularia rare, apparently absent from many colonies; small, rostrum 0.15-0.25mm long, parallel-sided, deeply cupped distally. Ovicell a simple hemisphere, widely open frontally, lightly calcified, but thickening slightly in later ontogeny.

REMARKS

This species is distinguished from *C. tridenticulata* by its large, columnar suboral avicularium, deep peristome, and lack of oral spines. *C. vagans* (q.v.) has three thin, pointed denticles within the proximal edge of the orifice; its suboral avicularium is proportionately much smaller than that of *C. desperabilis*, and the ovicell larger, with a granular surface, and an asymmetrical aperture which may bear a small avicularium on its rim.

