

***Celleporaria hesperopacifica* sp.nov.**  
(Fig. 9A,B)

*Celleporaria mamillata* Gordon, 1993b: 338, fig. 16c.

**MATERIAL EXAMINED**

HOLOTYPE: QMG304974, on *Sargassum* sp.

PARATYPE: QMG304970, on *Sargassum* sp.

**DESCRIPTION**

Colony an encrusting, multilaminar sheet; thickening and becoming distinctly mamillate with increasing size. Autozooids tumid, convex, smoothly calcified, with few, indistinct, marginal pores; boundaries distinct at the growing edge, elsewhere only newly budded autozooids clear. Primary orifice orbicular, the proximal border deeply concave between small, rounded condyles. Two long, widely spaced, distal oral spines present in earliest ontogeny only. Peristome well developed, deep and thick, incorporating a vertically-orientated, median suboral avicularium, of widely varying size, the cystid produced apically as a tapered, round-sectioned umbo. Adjacent to the orifice the peristome rim is deeply notched; with ontogenetic thickening the inner edges of this notch close slightly, to define a narrow channel. The avicularium may be very small, <0.05mm, with a spine-like mucro; or much larger, to about 0.2mm, with a thick, columnar mucro, with basal diameter about 0.1mm. In all cases the rostrum is oval, rounded and slightly hooded distally, with fine denticulations on the distal rim. Similar avicularia, equally variable in length, occur on the interstices between autozooids. Ovicell hemispherical, smoothly calcified, except for occasional short spines on the rim above the aperture. In some autozooids a second, slender, spine-like mucro develops on the lateral peristome rim.

**REMARKS**

This species is most similar to *C. fusca* (Busk)(see Ryland & Hayward, 1992) but differs in its orbicular primary orifice, with deeply concave proximal rim, in its smooth calcification, and in the range of avicularia present. The large vicarious avicularia of *C. hesperopacifica* have a broad, scaphoid, or asymmetrically tapered rostrum, and the crossbar is slender, lacking a columella. Those of *C. fusca* tend to have narrow spatulate rostra and the crossbar bears a stout columella. The suboral avicularia of *C. fusca* show a wider range of size than those of *C. hesperopacifica*, and in the largest the rostral rim is deeply and coarsely corrugate.

**ETYMOLOGY**

Latin, *hesperus*, west; *pacificus*, referring to the ocean.

