

\* *Predanophora longiuscula* (Harmer, 1957)  
new combination Plate 63A-C

*Rhynchozoon corrugatum*: Waters, 1909: 158, pl.12, figs 14-16.

*Drepanophora longiuscula* Harmer, 1957:1081.

*Drepanophora longiuscula*: Dumont, 1981: 636.

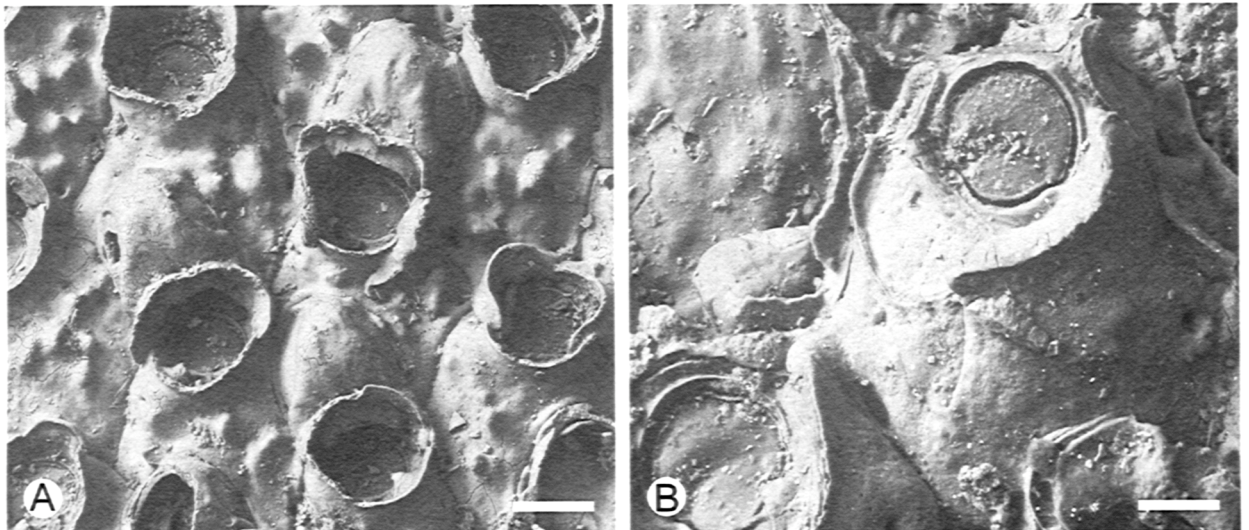
Type material Holotype: NHM 1899.7.1.2012, Bay of Suez, 13m.

**Description** Colony encrusting, unilaminar. Autozooids small, oval to hexagonal (ca 0.38 x 0.26 mm), distinct, separated by shallow grooves. Frontal shield convex, smooth with up to a dozen large tubercles, and up to six small pores around the margin. Primary orifice suborbicular, wider than long (ca 0.09 x 0.08 mm), anter large, rounded, separated from the wide, shallow poster by small, triangular condyles. Flared peristome bears a small, oval, suboral avicularium in most autozooids, laterally or frontolaterally directed, rostrum denticulate distally, mandible almost semicircular, crossbar complete. Ovicell longer than wide, paired, lozenge-shaped longitudinal foramina, reaching almost the entire length of the ovicell, not closed by maternal operculum, opening into peristome above primary orifice. Peristome entire over the proximal rim of ovicell. Aperture of ancestrula surrounded by five spines.

**Remarks** *Predanophora longiuscula* is characterised by its entire, tuberculate frontal shield, its flared peristome with associated suboral avicularium and by the paired lozenge-shaped foramina through the ectooecium.

The development of the peristome, frontal-shield calcification and ovicell in this species is identical to that described by Tilbrook *et al.* (2001) for *Torquatella duolamellata*. To summarise, the primary orifice initially sits within a raised rim, but this is superseded by the flared peristome. The peristome is developed from the cystid producing the oral avicularium and originating from one of the two distolateral pores. The avicularian cystid also appears to cover most of the autozooidal frontal shield in secondary calcification. The ovicell seems to be formed in a similar fashion, i.e. as a polymorph that evaginates from the distal edge of the oral area of its maternal zooid. It then rests on the frontal shield of the distal autozooid producing the distal part of the peristome.

**Distribution** Originally described as Thornely's (1905) *Rhyncopora corrugata* by Waters (1909) from the Bay of Suez, *Predanophora longiuscula* has not been found since. Only a single specimen exists of this distinct species. An abraded and poorly preserved specimen from Sri Lanka (NHM unregistered, ex. 1936.12.30.60B) appears to be similar to this species and if not conspecific is undoubtedly congeneric.



*Predanophora longiuscula* (Harmer, 1957). Tilbrook, 2006, p.283, pl.63A-C

