Calyptotheca tenuata Harmer, 1957
Plate 48A-B

Calyptotheca tenuata Harmer, 1957 (part): 1016, pl. 68, figs 16, 17.

Calyptotheca tenuata: Ristedt & Hillmer, 1985: 137, pl. 4, fig. 1; Scholz, 1991: 311, pl. 15, figs 4,6; pl. 16, fig. 1; Liu, Yin & Ma, 2001: 650, pl. 63, figs 1-3.

Not *Calyptotheca tenuata*: Ryland & Hayward, 1992: 259, fig. 18b,c.

Calyptotheca rupicola: Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001 (part): 87.

Emballotheca impar: Canu & Bassler, 1929: 297, pl. 32, figs 3,4.

Type material

Holotype: NHM 1980.2.1.19, (325.F[3]/1077) "Siboga" Station 50, Badjo Bay, W. Flores, 0-40m.

Paratype: NHM 1980.2.1.19, (325.F[4]/1077) (as Holotype).

Other material examined

SBMNH 365646, **505-87**; NHM 1980.2.1.21, Sri Lanka; NHM 1980.2.1.20, (465. D/1079) "Siboga" Station 91, Muaras Reef, E. Borneo, 0-54 m; NHM 1931.5.6.1, Amboyna; NHM 1998.12.8.3, Singapore or Philippines; NHM 2000.4.11.675, Tide-way Reef, Great Barrier Reef, 10 m; NHM (unregistered), (672.C/1080) "Siboga" Station 181, Amboyna, 0-54 m; NHM 1997.10.6.60, Erakor Island, Vanuatu.

Description

Colony encrusting, light silvery grey-brown when dried. Autozooids hexagonal or irregularly polygonal (ca 0.70 x 0.55 mm), frontal shield perforated by small, round pores (90–110). Primary orifice oval, wider than long (ca 0.18 x 0.13 mm), shallow, with concave proximal sinus, condyles large, shallow, rounded. Avicularia large, sutural, at 45° to midline, lying along proximolateral edge of orifice, proximomedially directed, rostrum elongate, half width of zooid, triangular, medially directed. Ovicells prominent, wider than long, partially immersed in frontal of succeeding autozooid, with perforations smaller and less dense than that of frontal shield. No orifice dimorphism.

Remarks

Calyptotheca tenuata is characterised by its oval orifice with large condyles and large sutural avicularia, set at 45° to the midline, proximomedially directed along the proximolateral edge of the orifice.

Calyptotheca tenuata is distinguished from ***C. perpendiculata***, which has identically-shaped avicularia, by their positioning, i.e. in ***C. perpendiculata*** they lie perpendicular to the midline at the widest point of the zooid, whereas in *C. tenuata* they lie at 45° to the midline. The orificial sinus is relatively narrower and shallower in this species than it is in ***C. perpendiculata***, which also has far larger autozooids.

Canu & Bassler (1929) describe and illustrate a species they identify as *Emballotheca impar* (MacGillivray, 1890). The species they describe differs from MacGillivray's species which has short proximo-lateral oral avicularia with rounded mandibles, raised on an inflated cystid. Fortunately, Canu & Bassler's illustrations of this species have not undergone the excessive inking-in that many of their other illustrations have suffered allowing the correct specific assignation.

Distribution

Originally described by Harmer (1957) from Indonesia, *Calyptotheca tenuata* has an Indo-Pacific distribution, from Sri Lanka to the northern Great Barrier Reef. Some of the material cited by Harmer, however, belongs to **C. *perpendiculata*** and so *C. tenuata* does not stretch as far to the east as originally reported. A single small colony of this species was found at Renard Sound, off Yandina, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands.

Calyptotheca tenuata Harmer, 1957. Tilbrook, 2006, p.220, pl.48A-B