

Pleurocodonellina clavacula Ryland & Hayward, 1992
Plate 36A-B

Pleurocodonellina clavacula Ryland & Hayward, 1992: 276, fig. 24c,d.

Material examined SBMNH 365535, **407-84**; SBMNH 365536, **501-87**; NHM 1994.8.24.16, Station 7, Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef.

Description Colony a multilaminar sheet. Autozooids rectangular or irregularly polygonal (ca 0.55 x 0.40 mm), flat, separated by distinct, thickened marginal walls. Frontal shield thickly calcified, coarsely nodular, bordered by large marginal pores. Primary orifice longer than wide (ca 0.15 x 0.11 mm), with a deep, broad, U-shaped, proximal sinus occupying a third of overall length, separated from anter by condyles, these minutely denticulate, triangular, pointing proximally; encircled by a thin, low, peristomial rim. No oral spines seen. Small, paired avicularia lateral to orifice; short, twice as long as wide, slim, parallel-sided, rounded proximally and distally, slender crossbar, proximo-laterally directed. Further avicularia developed later along margins of autozooids, similar in size and shape to oral avicularia, directed proximally. Often a large avicularium present, extending length of autozoid, originating lateral to orifice, rostrum broadly spatulate, deeply cupped distally, with a coarsely denticulate, distal rim, rounded proximally, crossbar slender. Ovicell prominent, globular, wider than long, a thin, crescentic series of large, irregular pores (ca 15) distally.

Remarks *Pleurocodonellina clavacula* is characterised by its deep, wide sinus, paired avicularia lateral to the orifice and the thin distal crescent of pores on the ovicell.

The paired oral avicularia are unique to this species of *Pleurocodonellina*, all other species having a single avicularium situated suborally on one side or the other. The thin crescent of pores in the ovicell and deep, wide sinus are also worthwhile noting. None of the giant adventitious avicularia described by Ryland & Hayward (1992) were observed in the material from the Solomon Islands.

Distribution Originally described by Ryland & Hayward (1992) from Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef, *Pleurocodonellina clavacula* was found at Gibson Island, Hamilton Passage, Choiseul and Anuha Reefs, Florida Islands, in the Solomon Islands. This is only the second record of this species.

