

**Reptadeonella hystricosus**    new species  
Plate 22C-E

Type material            Holotype: SBMNH 265294 **407-84**.

Other material examined    SBMNH 265295-296, **411-84**; SBMNH 265297-298, **406-84**; SBMNH 265299, **506-87**; SBMNH 265300, **403-84**.

Description            Colony unilaminar. Autozooids large, hexagonal, very convex (0.80–0.90 x 0.60–0.70 mm). Frontal shield very finely granular, with a single, oval medial spiramen, in depression proximal of zooid centre, with slightly raised rim around distal border. Several series of medium-sized, closely-packed marginal pores surrounding an obviously imperforate area around avicularium and spiramen, one or two series proximally, three or four series laterally and distally, particularly around the peristome, many of those away from the margin itself bear, generally between five and ten, minute spinous processes pointing from their inner edge into the pore lumen. Primary orifice almost semicircular, shallow distal area separated from concave proximal border by short, rounded triangular lateral condyles, themselves connected by a narrow calcified shelf that runs around inner distal edge of orifice. Secondary orifice oval, wider than long, surmounting a tall, thin, tubular peristome. Avicularium medially on proximal side of peristome, rostrum acute, triangular, tapering to a point distally, proximal area round, directed distolaterally. Gonozooids appear almost identical to autozooids, distinguished by their inflated size and slightly larger secondary orifice placed more proximally than that of autozooids. Colony origin from a triad ancestrula complex, the zooids set at an angle of 120° to each other, one or two primary autozooids budded between each pair.

Etymology            From *hystricosus*, L. prickly, thorny. Named for the spinous processes in the lumens of the marginal pores.

Remarks            *Reptadeonella hystricosus* is characterised by the large size of its autozooids, its primary orifice with condyles and distal-oral ledge, and its oval secondary orifice atop a tall, thin peristome with associated avicularium. The number of series of marginal pores and the fact that many have spinous processes in their lumens is also characteristic. Spinous processes such as these have not been described before in a species of *Reptadeonella*. The pores are in discrete series rather than randomly positioned (cf. *R. joloensis*). The oval shape of the gonozooid's secondary orifice is also unusual; most other species of *Reptadeonella* have a shorter, wider, almost sausage-shaped orifice.

The autozooids of *Reptadeonella hystricosus* are larger and far more convex than those seen in any of the other *Reptadeonella* species described herein.

Distribution            *Reptadeonella hystricosus* has only been found from the Solomon Islands, where it was recorded from Ilailon, Linggatu Cove and Raun Island, Yandina, on Mbanika Island, Russell Islands as well as Gibson Island, Hamilton Passage, Choiseul.

