

*Torquatella duolamellata* (Scholz, 1991). Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001, p.79, fig.11A,B.

*TORQUATELLA DUOLAMELLATA* (SCHOLZ) COMB. NOV.  
(Fig. 11A,B)

*Osthimosia duolamellata* Scholz, 1991: 302, pl. 11, figs 1–6.

#### Description

Colony encrusting, multilaminar. Autozooids elongate polygonal, quincuncially arranged in early ontogeny, though obscured later in ontogeny by secondary calcification and irregularly orientated frontal budding; c. 0.36 × 0.21 mm. Frontal shield convex, granular, with up to a dozen fairly large pores, predominantly around the margin. Primary orifice suborbicular; anter large, smooth, rounded, separated from the wide, shallow poster by small, squared, lateral condyles. Peristome flared, with a small, rounded proximal avicularium on inner surface, laterally or fronto-laterally directed. Ovicell hyperstomial, globular, with a single, oval, transverse, frontal foramen.

#### Remarks

In his original description Scholz (1991) described the ancestrula as tatiform, pointing out that it is often difficult to observe, being obscured by the five periancestrular zooids. It is in fact schizoporelloid, with six oral spines around the D-shaped orifice.

Initially, the primary orifice sits within a slightly raised rim, however, this is superseded by a large chimney-like flared peristome. The peristome is connected to the parent autozooid via a multiporous septulum and seems to develop from the cystid producing the proximal oral avicularium (seen on the inner surface of the peristome), and originating from one of the two most distolateral pores. The avicularian cystid also appears to cover most of the autozooidal frontal shield in secondary calcification. This happens early in ontogeny. The ovicell seems to be formed in a similar way, as a polymorph which evaginates from the distal edge of the oral area (distal wall) of the maternal zooid. It rests on the frontal shield of the distal autozooid producing the distal part of the peristome and being incorporated into the secondary calcification of the distal autozooid.

*Torquatella duolamellata* is superficially similar to *Drepanophora longiuscula* Harmer, 1957. Both have a schizoporelloid ancestrula surrounded by five periancestrular zooids. The primary orifices are almost identical, as is the development of a flared peristome, and accompanying avicularium, from a distolateral pore. However, *D. longiuscula* has an ovicell with two fenestrae, while *T. duolamellata* has only one. More significantly, however, the frontal shield in *D. longiuscula* is entire with only about six areolar septular pores whereas *T. duolamellata* has up to a dozen pseudopores, mainly marginally placed (though some of these might function as septular pores). These two criteria, especially the latter, question their congeneric status. Gordon (1993b) doubted the assignment of Harmer's (1957) species to *Drepanophora* but in the absence of any other material this problem remains unresolved.

Examination of the inside of the frontal shield of *T. duolamellata* shows that this is not umbonuloid, i.e. no ring scar is present.

Scholz (1991) described the growth and ecology of this species.

#### Distribution

Found on coral rubble from Poanangisu Erakor and Iririki Islands, *T. duolamellata* was first described from the fringing reef flats of Cebu, the Philippines.

