

*Calypthotheca inclusa* (Thornely, 1906). Tilbrook, 2006, p.226, pl.49C-D.

**Calypthotheca inclusa** (Thornely, 1906)  
**new combination** Plate 49C-D

*Schizoporella inclusa* Thornely, 1906: 450.

*Schizomavella inclusa*: Harmer, 1957 (part): 1028, pl. 64, figs 4, 6, 7 (cum syn.); Winston & Heimberg, 1986: 18, figs 43, 44; Hayward, 1988: 314, fig. 7f; Ristedt & Hillmer, 1985: 137, pl. 3, fig. 11; Scholz, 1991: 312, pl. 15, fig. 5, pl. 16, fig. 2; Ryland & Hayward, 1992 (part): 263, fig. 19c,d.

Type material Holotype: NHM 1998.6.18.15, Gulf of Manaar, Sri Lanka. Thornely Coll.

Other material examined SBMNH 365654-656, **501-87**; SBMNH 365657-658, **401-84**.

**Description** Colony encrusting unilaminar, forming thin, flat sheets. Autozooids rectangular or irregularly polygonal, slightly convex, separated by shallow grooves (commonly 0.40 x 0.30 mm). Frontal shield thick, nodular with numerous small, round pores, marginal pores larger and elongate, marginal wall sutures distinct and slightly raised. Primary orifice pear-shaped, as wide as long (ca 0.11 x 0.11 mm), broadest distally, with a U-shaped proximal sinus, condyles robust, rounded, denticulate, distal border inclined basally. Single suboral avicularium medially on every zooid, small, proximally directed, rostrum oval or bluntly triangular, slightly raised from frontal shield, proximal opesia oval, distal opesia trifoliate, crossbar complete. Rare vicarious avicularia, zooid similar in size and shape to autozooids, orifice, wider and much longer, occupying half length of frontal shield, mandible rounded distally, parallel-sided. Ovicell as wide as long, partially immersed, calcification similar to frontal shield only with smaller pores most densely distributed around edges, orifice dimorphic (wider), closed by maternal operculum.

**Remarks** *Calypthotheca inclusa* is characterised by its pear-shaped primary orifice, its nodular frontal shield and its small, oval median avicularium with a trifoliate opesia. Harmer (1957) noted the presence of vicarious avicularia in this species. These are present in the type material but were not found in the material described from the Solomon Islands.

In comparison, material examined from Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef, collected and examined by Ryland & Hayward (1992) also possesses vicarious avicularia (e.g. NHM 1996.2.23.101). However, these specimens differ from *Calypthotheca inclusa sensu stricto* in a number of characters. Although its primary orifice is pear-shaped, its frontal shield lacks the nodular appearance seen in Thornely's species and is perforated by many more pores. In addition, although the median avicularium is similar in shape to that seen in *C. inclusa* it is smaller relative to the size of the autozooids and has a semicircular distal opesia.

**Distribution** Originally described from Sri Lanka, *Calypthotheca inclusa* has been recorded from numerous locations subsequently; from the Red Sea and east African coast to Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Great Barrier Reef and Loyalty Islands. Many of these records must be re-examined before the true distribution of *C. inclusa* is known, although it is undoubtedly an Indo-Pacific species, known from Sri Lanka and the Solomon Islands. In the Solomon Islands this species was found at Mbokona Bay, Honiara, Guadalcanal and Anuha Reefs, Anuha Island, Florida Islands.

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