Iodictyum mamillatum sp.nov. (Figs 15E,F, 16A)

MATERIAL EXAMINED

HOLOTYPE: QMG304957, Stn. 27. PARATYPE: QMG304958, Stn. 27.

DESCRIPTION

Colony an irregular, repent fan shape, supported two or three mm above the substratum by columnar processes developed on its basal surface; area exceeding 20 x 30mm, the edge irregularly folded but not enrolled. Colour dull white. Fenestrulae small, oval, commonly 1.0 x 0.5mm; trabeculae stout, consisting of three or four alternating, longitudinal autozooid series, doubled at points of trabecular fusion. Autozooids hexagonal, becoming irregularly polygonal in later ontogeny, rather flat, separated by distinct raised sutures; 0.3-0.4 x 0.15-0.2mm. Frontal shield finely granular, with two to four, rarely more, large and distinct pores close to its proximal margins; typically, each autozooid bears a pair of prominent, smoothly conical umbones proximolateral to the peristome. Primary orifice orbicular, as wide as long, the proximal border shallowly concave; condyles bluntly rounded, conspicuous; distal rim with relatively large denticulations. No oral spines. A mid-proximal pseudospiramen forms in early ontogeny, developing as a clearly defined tube as the peristome forms; peristome encircling and obscuring primary orifice, with an orbicular secondary aperture, its rim produced into about ten short, blunt, spikes, but without clear internal ridges. Frontal avicularia sporadic, shoe-shaped, normal to frontal plane, with varying orientation; 0.1mm long. Less frequently, slightly larger avicularia occur, 0.1-0.15mm long, with narrow triangular rostrum, acute to frontal plane. Larger avicularia with irregularly spatulate rostrum, 0.2-0.25mm long, occasional, usually borne by autozooids on the margins of the fenestrulae. Ovicells not developed in the present material.

REMARKS

Two colonies only were found. Both had developed as irregular spreading fans with their frontal surfaces more or less parallel to the substratum surface, and attached to it by the thickened base of the colony, and by short, stoutly calcified processes developed from the basal surfaces.

ETYMOLOGY

Latin, mamillatus, breast-shaped.





