

Plesiocleidochasma new species
septemspinosa Plate 64E-F

Type material Holotype: SBMNH 365779, **505-87**.

Description Colony encrusting, unilaminar. Autozooids small, irregularly polygonal (ca 0.30 x 0.30 mm), the frontal shield smooth, imperforate apart from three to six large marginal pores, the zooidal boundaries becoming obscured with ontogeny. Primary orifice clithridiate (ca 0.10 x 0.07 mm), anter deeply rounded, separated from the shallow, rounded poster by a pair of large, lateral condyles. Seven oral spines. Peristomial rim short, thick, produced proximally. Avicularia single or paired, proximal to orifice, large, the rostrum almost spatulate, the palate with triangular opesia and complete crossbar, thin, directed distolaterally; other smaller avicularia sometimes seen, similar in shape to those above but smaller and directed laterally. Ovicells globular, imperforate, becoming quickly immersed, frontal labellum proximally, short, incised laterally only slightly on both sides, not closed by maternal operculum.

Etymology From *septem*, L. seven; *spina*, L. thorn. Named for the number of oral spines.

Remarks *Plesiocleidochasma septemspinosa* is characterised by its seven oral spines and its almost spatulate avicularia directed distolaterally.

Distribution A single colony of *Plesiocleidochasma septemspinosa* was found from Renard Sound, off Yandina, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands.

