

Rhynchozoon attina new species
Plate 66A-C

Type material Holotype: SBMNH 365787, **506-87**.
Paratypes: SBMNH 365788-789, **506-87**.

Other material examined SBMNH 365790-793, **411-84**; SBMNH 365794, **401-84**; SBMNH 365795, **410-84**.

Description Colony unilaminar. Autozooids irregularly polygonal (0.40–0.50 x 0.30–0.4 mm), distinct, separated by shallow grooves, lateral walls apparent throughout ontogeny. Frontal shield rather flattened, smooth but developing slight, rounded granulations in ontogeny, marginal pores relatively small and irregularly spaced. Primary orifice wider than long (ca 0.10 x 0.08 mm), distal denticulations stout, sinus short, bowl-shaped, occupying about half its width, condyles inconspicuous, rounded. No oral spines. Suboral avicularium in many autozooids, incorporated into the peristome, rostrum triangular, hooked distally, its proximal portion continuous with short, uncinate process projecting into peristome lumen, directed frontolaterally. Peristome completely encircling orifice, generally obscuring it, a short mucro developed on top of avicularium contributing to it. With ontogenetic thickening primary orifice becomes deeply immersed, an asymmetrical pseudosinus produced proximally. Frontal avicularia common, generally one, often two, per autozoid, or lacking, midway along lateral margin, directed laterally, rostrum triangular, pointed distally, acute to frontal shield, rostral palate lacking, opesia small, triangular, mandible acute, triangular, crossbar complete. Ovicell oval, wider than long, smooth frontally, completely immersed by ooecial calcification, small semi-elliptical area of endooecium, wide labellum, although not readily visible in frontal view.

Etymology From *attina*, L. stonewall boundary. Named for the obvious lateral autozooidal walls.

Remarks *Rhynchozoon attina* is characterised by its oval orifice, wider than long, short, bowl-shaped sinus, and small, inconspicuous, rounded condyles. The flattened frontal shield, irregularly spaced marginal pores, marginally placed frontal avicularia and deeply immersed ovicells are also characteristic. It is noteworthy that the lateral walls remain apparent throughout ontogeny in this species, whereas in most other species of *Rhynchozoon* the distinction of one zooid from another in later ontogeny is usually best seen using the lines of marginal pores.

Distribution *Rhynchozoon attina* is only known from the Solomon Islands, where it was found from several localities on Mbanika Island, Russell Islands and Mbokona Bay, Honiara, Guadalcanal.

