

**Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme** Soule, Soule & Chaney, 1991  
Plate 64B

*Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme* Soule, Soule & Chaney, 1991: 481, pl. 1, fig. 6, pl. 5, figs 3, 4.

*Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme*: Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001: 98, fig. 21A,B ; Liu, Yin & Ma, 2001: 705, pl. 79, figs 1, 2, 6.

*Cleidochasma porcellanum*: Winston & Heimberg, 1986: 34, figs 85-87.

Material examined SBMNH 365780, **501-87**; SBMNH 365781, **506-87**.

**Description** Colony encrusting, unilaminar. Autozooids irregularly polygonal (0.35 x 0.30 mm), distinct, becoming obscured with ontogeny. Primary orifice clithriate, with a large, almost circular, smooth anter and a small, deep, arrow-shaped poster (ca 0.13 x 0.90 mm). Three oral spines in early ontogeny. Small nodular mounds appear on the frontal shield, one suborally, almost in the form of an umbo, others around zooidal margins, particularly associated with orifice. Avicularia, small, single or paired, rostrum acute triangular, with slightly raised acuminate tip, trifoliate opesia, crossbar complete, with short columella, distolaterally directed. Ovicell with deep, incised, labellum, the associated slit-like opening as wide as the labellum itself.

**Remarks** *Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme* is characterised by its acute avicularia and its frontal nodular mounds.

In the opinion of Soule *et al.* (1991), *Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme* has larger avicularia and ovicells than *Schedocleidochasma porcellanum* (Busk, 1860) and a slightly wider and shallower poster to the primary orifice. It differs from *S. immersum*, which has longer, thinner avicularia, and a deeper, more rounded poster.

Soule *et al.* (1991) noted that *Cleidochasma porcellanum sensu* Winston & Heimberg (1986), from Indonesia, should be placed in *Schedocleidochasma*. However, they did not recognise the similarities between Winston & Heimberg's (1986) species and their type species, *S. porcellaniforme*, in spite of the occurrence of the latter throughout the Indo-Pacific, and in spite of having noted its presence in the Winston Collection of material from Indonesia.

**Distribution** *Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme* has been recorded from the Maldives, Thailand, the China Sea, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tonga, French Polynesia, American Samoa and the Hawaiian Islands. Soule *et al.* (1991) noted this species from Guadalcanal and the Russell Islands and during this study it has been found in the Florida Islands associated with *Antropora subvespertilio*, *Poricella spathulata* and *Smittoidea pacifica*.

