

*Hippomenella lateralis* (MacGillivray, 1891). Tilbrook, 2006, p.258, pl.57A-B.

**Hippomenella lateralis** (MacGillivray, 1891)  
Plate 57A-B

*Lepralia lateralis* MacGillivray, 1891: 80, pl. 10, fig. 3.

Type material Holotype: MOV F45801, Nichol Bay, north Western Australia. Mr W.H. Wooster.

Other material examined SBMNH 365722, 406-84.

**Description** Colony encrusting. Autozooids very large (ca 1.40 x 0.90 mm), hexagonal or irregularly polygonal, convex, separated by deep grooves. Frontal shield cryptocystidean, thick and smooth, three or four series of small pores distributed around periphery of zooid, imperforate area proximal to orifice. Primary orifice almost clithridiate, longer than wide (ca 0.43 x 0.26 mm), anter deeply arched, a narrow distal platform set below distal rim, poster concave, bowl-shaped, condyles pointed, proximomedially directed. Approximately ten evenly spaced oral spines. Adventitious avicularia on frontal shield, proximolateral to orifice, generally paired, small, rostrum slightly raised from frontal, spatulate, crossbar complete, proximo-medially directed. Ovicells hyperstomial, globular, thickly calcified and tuberculate, imperforate proximally and centrally, two thinly calcified lateral areas with numerous perforations, opening slit-like, above distal rim of primary orifice, not closed by maternal operculum. Ovicellate zooids bear six spines. Numerous basal pore-chambers present.

**Remarks** *Hippomenella lateralis* is characterised by its large size, clithridiate primary orifice with ten oral spines and distal-oral platform, several series of peripheral pores, and small spatulate avicularia.

*Hippomenella lateralis* is much larger, with more peripheral pores, and fewer oral spines than *H. rudicula*. *H. avicularis* produces spatulate avicularia, but these are larger and distolaterally directed. It also produces small triangular avicularia appearing to radiate from the primary orifice and only has six or seven oral spines.

Originally described from Nichol Bay, north Western Australia, *Hippomenella lateralis* appears to have been overlooked as a species since MacGillivray's (1891) original record. The discovery from the Solomon Islands of two species of

*Hippomenella*, both very similar to MacGillivray's illustrations of *H. lateralis*, could have led to either being considered conspecific with MacGillivray's (1891) species, if found in isolation. Fortunately, the holotype of MacGillivray's species was available for examination.

**Distribution** *Hippomenella lateralis* was originally described from north Western Australia. This record from Ilailon, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands, Solomon Islands is only the second for this species.

