Thalamoporella hamata Harmer, 1926. Tilbrook, 2006, p.88, pl.12E.

Thalamoporella hamata Harmer, 1926
Plate 12E

Thalamoporella hamata Harmer, 1926: 301, Fig. 20, figs 17-20.

Thalamoporella hamata: Canu & Bassler, 1929: 151, Fig. 16, figs 4, 5; Liu, 1991: 68; Soule, Soule & Chaney, 1999: 7, figs 4, 5.

Type material

Holotype: NHM 1928.3.6.109, "Siboga" Station 164, W. of N. end of New Guinea, 32m.

Other material examined

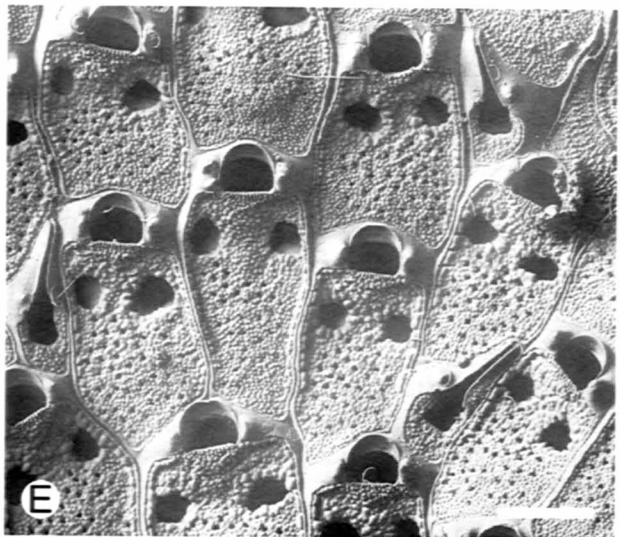
SBMNH 365199, **409-84**; NHM 1931.12.30.54, "Albatross" Station 5151, off Si-run Island, Tawi-tawi Islands, the Philippines, 24 fms; NHM 1928.3.6.108, "Siboga" Station 99, N. Ubian, Sulu Archipelago, 16-23 m; NHM 1882.2.23.485-9, Prince of Wales Channel, Torres Strait, 8 fms; NHM 1959.11.4.2 (pt), Karachi, Pakistan.

Description

Colony unilaminar, encrusting. Autozooids rectangular, distinct, separated by shallow grooves (0.55 x 0.30 mm). Gymnocyst reduced, visible only around distal orificial rim, tubercles always present, one on each side of orifice, at contact with cryptocyst. Cryptocyst with a flat, granular surface, reaching the proximal border of the orifice, punctured frontally by small, irregularly spaced pores with beaded rim, a very small, raised, beaded mural rim proximally and laterally. Opesiules oval, of approximately equal size. Orifice horseshoe-shaped, longer than wide, distal rim raised slightly, anter deeply arched, proximal border straight, condyles not visible in frontal view. Autozooid longer than avicularium (ratio 1:0.72). Avicularia common, torqued away from sibling zooid, rostrum acutely triangular, angled, constituting two-thirds total length, raised laterally, with a tubercle, distal to condyle on gymnocyst nearest to sibling zooid, distally directed, mandible acutely triangular with long, thin, almost parallel sides, cryptocyst imperforate, granular, single, central, square opesia, condyles not visible in frontal view. Ovicellate zooids unseen. Three types of spicules present: small C-shaped callipers, larger more open callipers and medium to large compasses.

Remarks

Thalamoporella hamata is characterised by its acute avicularia, torqued away from its sibling zooid, and the straight proximal border to its orifice.

Distribution

Originally described from off New Guinea, *Thalamoporella hamata* has been recorded from a number of sites in the Indonesia/Philippines region as well as Pakistan and Torres Strait. A single colony of this species was found from Hamilton Passage, Choiseul.