

*Claviporella aurita* Busk, 1852. Gordon, 1989, p.20, pl.8A-C.

*Claviporella aurita* (Busk) (Plate 8, A-C)

*Catenicella aurita* Busk, 1852a: 8; Hutton 1873: 88; MacGillivray 1879a: 26 (*partim*); Hutton 1880: 180.

*Claviporella aurita*: MacGillivray 1887b: 65; Jelly 1889: 63; MacGillivray 1890a: [410]; Hutton 1891: 103; 1904: 104; Levinsen 1909: 243; Livingstone 1929: 98; Stach 1934a: 16; 1935a: 347; Macken 1958: 106; Wass & Yoo 1975: 810; 1976: 287; Wass 1977: 104; Banta & Wass 1979: 18; Wass & Banta 1981: 372 (*partim*); Bock 1982: 387; Wass 1983: 46.

**MATERIAL EXAMINED:** NZOI Stn B493. DPG: Mount Maunganui, Lyall Bay, Kaikoura, Stewart Island. Also BM(NH) slides 1899.7.1.242, 1899.7.1.365b (Busk collection), attributed to *C. aurita*, provenance in New Zealand unknown (= *C. pulchra*); and BM(NH) slides 1899.7.1.4868 (lectotype, here designated) and 1899.7.1.4869 (Busk collection), both of *C. aurita* (Busk) from Campbell Island, New Zealand.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Cape Maria van Diemen, Mount Maunganui, Cook Strait, Kaikoura, Fiordland, Stewart Island; 0-84 m. Also SE Australia (Victoria and Tasmania) Late Miocene to Recent, southern Australia.

**DESCRIPTION:** Colony erect, branching, comprising jointed segments of 1-2 zooids. Single zooids, including avicularian processes, 0.43-0.49 x 0.32-0.53 mm, shield-shaped. Frontal wall smooth, rising to a suboral inflated area in which is a slightly toothed slit-like to suboral ascopore; around the periphery of the inflated area is a semicircle of 3-5 small windows. Orifice with median sinus in inflated part of frontal wall and distinct condyles. Two pairs of tubercles typically present, a stout elongated distal pair and a shorter lateral pair; the distal rims of the distolateral avicularia sometimes also tubercular and projecting. The distolateral avicularia short or one greatly expanded along the length of one side, making the zooid wider than long. A pair of tiny pore-chambers proximolaterally; another pair proximal to the avicularia. Dorsal surface of zooid smooth. Bizooidal segment about 0.40-0.49 mm long, the daughter zooid nearly equally twinned with its parent, with a mid-distal avicularium facing laterally. Fertile segment unizoidal, with a tubercle either side of the orifice, the subglobular ovicell terminal, with scattered perforations.

**REMARKS:** Thanks to the courtesy of Patricia L. Cook, then of the British Museum (Natural History), I was able to examine what is very likely the material of *C. aurita* on which Busk (1852a) based his description and illustrations. Unfortunately, owing to a curatorial oversight dating from last century, Busk's slides of *C. aurita* were mixed up. What had been recorded as

'type' in the Museum register was from a locality not mentioned by Busk (1852a). An examination of Busk's slides has turned up what is almost certainly the figured material. It is on slide 1899.7.1.4868 from Campbell Island. Busk (1852a, pl.4, fig.1) showed a particular branch sequence that is not common, which can be identified on the slide. The depiction of individual zooids accords well with the actual specimen except for two details — Busk failed to show two avicularia — one at the inner distolateral corner of the proximal singlet in the right-hand branch, and the other between the two orifices of the doublet. Two ovicells on this slide are as shown in figure 3 of the same plate. I accordingly select this colony as the lectotype of *Catenicella aurita* Busk.

The ovicell illustrated by MacGillivray (1879a, pl. 24, fig. 16) belongs not to *C. aurita* as stated but rather to *C. imperforata* MacGillivray 1887b. [The reference of Jelly (1889) to *C. bicorne* Goldstein as a possible senior synonym of *C. imperforata* is a *nomen nudum* (Bretnall 1922). Goldstein never published his description of this species.] Wass (1983) has described the ancestrula of *C. aurita*. It has a large oval opesia bordered by nine stubby non-calcified spine-like protuberances; is proximally tapered, and is attached by a non-calcified disc to the substratum.

