

Calypotheca reniformis new species
Plate 50A-C

Type material Holotype: SBMNH 365662, **506-87**.
Paratypes: SBMNH 365663-664, **506-87**.

Other material examined NHM 2003.5.13.29, 413-84, Solomon Islands.

Description Colony encrusting unilaminar. Autozooids rectangular or irregularly polygonal, flattened, separated by very shallow grooves (ca 0.50 x 0.40 mm). Frontal shield thin, with numerous small, kidney-shaped pores, becoming less distinct with ontogenetic thickening, marginal pores much larger and elongate, marginal wall sutures distinct and slightly raised. Primary orifice pear-shaped, longer than wide (ca 0.10 x 0.09 mm), broadest distally, with a U-shaped proximal sinus, condyles robust, rounded, denticulate. Single very small, avicularium centrally on every zooid, proximally directed, rostrum oval, raised from frontal shield, proximal area semicircular, proximal opesia circular, distal opesia trifoliate, mandible semicircular, crossbar complete. Ovicell as wide as long, deeply immersed, calcification identical to frontal shield, pores most densely distributed around the edges, orifice dimorphic (wider), closed by maternal operculum.

Etymology From *renis*, L. kidney; *forma*, L. shape. Named for the shape of the frontal shield pores.

Remarks *Calypotheca reniformis* is characterised by its pear-shaped primary orifice, its very small, oval, central avicularium, kidney-shaped frontal pores and large, elongate marginal pores. The distinctive pores are best seen in areas of new calcification, i.e. younger zooids or ovicells.

Calypotheca reniformis differs from *C. inclusa*, and the other species described above, in having a primary orifice which is longer than wide, a smoother, flattened frontal shield, perforated by kidney-shaped pores and more elongate distinct marginal pores which obviously surround each zooid. The adventitious avicularia are also more centrally positioned in this species than in *C. inclusa*.

Distribution *Calypotheca reniformis* is only known from the Solomon Islands where it was found in the Russell Islands at West Bay and Linggatu Cove, Mbanika Island.



