

***Petraliella dorsiporosa* (Busk, 1884)**

Figs 6A-C

Lepralia dorsiporosa Busk, 1884: 143, pl. 18, figs. 4, 4b.

Lepralia dorsiporosa: Kirkpatrick, 1890: 612.

Hippopetraliella dorsiporosa: Stach, 1936: 369, fig. 11;

Harmer, 1957: 700, pl. 45, figs 1-3 (*cum syn*)

Mucropetraliella valdemunita Harmer, 1957: 711, pl. 46, figs 1, 2.

Material examined

HOLOTYPE: BMNH 1897.12.9.569, 'Challenger' Stn 186, Cape York, 10°30'S, 142°18'E, 15 m.

PARATYPES: BMNH 1897.12.9.568, BMNH 1944.1.8.274 (locality data as above).

OTHER MATERIAL EXAMINED: BMNH 1890.3.24.26, Albany Passage, Stn 8, Torres Strait (Kirkpatrick); BMNH 1890.7.23.52, Murray Islands, Torres Strait, 15-20 fathoms (27-36 m), A.C.Haddon; BMNH 1896.3.24.38, Murray Islands, Torres Strait; BMNH 1963.9.8.53,58, Torres Strait, Haddon Coll.; BMNH 1882.2.23.512-521, Port Darwin, 8-12 fathoms (15-30 m); BMNH 1892.1.28.64, Holothuria Bank, N.W. Australia, 24-34 fathoms (44-62 m), Bassett-Smith Coll.; BMNH 1963.9.8.55, 'Siboga' Stn 315, Paternoster Islands, N. of Sumbawa, Flores Sea, 0-36 m; BMNH 1963.9.8.54, 'Siboga' Stn 277, Damar Island, Banda Sea, 0-45 m.

Description

Colonies semi-encrusting, or erect, tubular, often extensive. Autozooids hexagonal or polygonal (c. 0.90 × 0.70 mm), frontal shield flat, uniformly perforate with large pores; marginal pores indistinct, lateral walls distinct. Primary orifice wider than long, constricted laterally one-third of the distance from a straight proximal border; condyles large, robust, conspicuous. Oral avicularia lateral, single or paired, small, oval, directed laterally; rostrum minutely serrated distally; mandibles small, rounded; robust complete crossbar. No frontal or sutural avicularia observed. Ovicells prominent, recumbent on frontal wall of distal autozooid, minutely porous and tuberculate, partially obscuring the maternal orifice. Basal radicular chambers, placed distally, often single, very large, although several very small chambers may accompany them.

Remarks

Petraliella dorsiporosa is distinguished from *P. magna* by its subrectangular orifice with an entire proximal border, prominent, well-developed condyles, and large radicular chambers. It is distinguished from *P. crassocirca* by its small, oval, laterally directed avicularia. *Petraliella crassocirca* has acute distally directed avicularia. *Petraliella dorsiporosa* is also characterised by the distal wall of each autozooid which meets the distal border of the orifice with a U-shaped proximal fold. *Petraliella buski*, *P. dentilabris* and *P. concinna* are distinguishable from this species as they all have lateral and or median denticles and associated sinuses.

Petraliella dorsiporosa was first described from Cape York, Queensland and was subsequently recorded from Albany Passage, Darnley Island and Murray Island, all from neighbouring localities in the Torres Strait. Specimens from Holothuria Bank and northwestern Australia are here assigned to *P. dorsiporosa*, as are those from the East Indies that had been referred to *P. dorsiporosa* by Stach (1936) and by Harmer (1957). Two of Harmer's (1957) specimens from Eastern Indonesia, BMNH 1963.9.8.54 (Damar Island, Banda Sea) and BMNH 1963.9.8.55 (Paternoster Island, Flores Sea) differ subtly from the normal form of *P. dorsiporosa* in having a small pair of lateral sinuses and denticles as well as obvious condyles. Leca & d'Hondt (1993: Fig. 2a) figured an operculum of the former specimen. These specimens also possess sutural avicularia and have smaller radicular chambers, attributes of *Mucropetraliella valdemunita* Harmer, 1957 from Waigeo Island, also in Eastern Indonesia. *M. valdemunita* is here regarded as a junior synonym of *P. dorsiporosa* (see generic remarks for *Petraliella* above).

Petraliella dorsiporosa is found from northeastern to northwestern Australia and Eastern Indonesia.

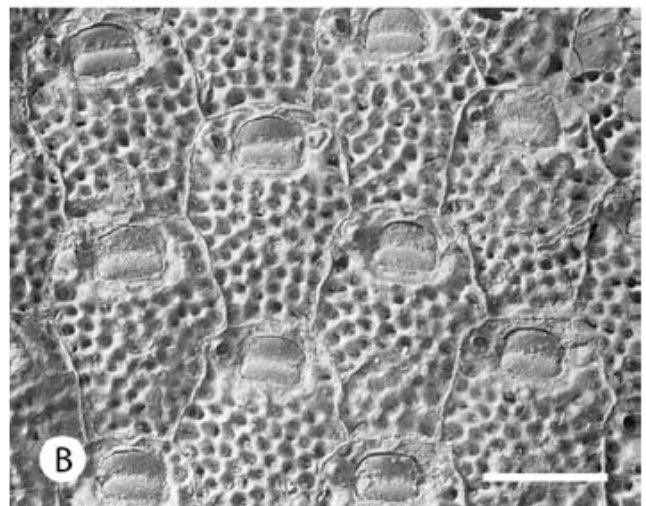
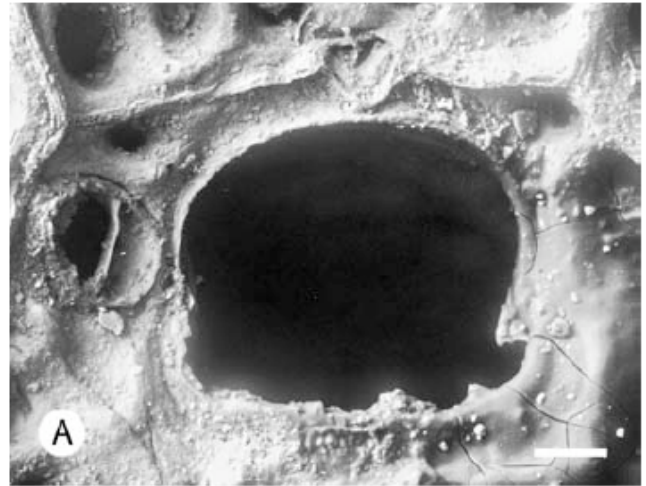




Figure 6 A–C, *Petraliella dorsiporosa* (Busk, 1884). A, Paratype BMNH 1944.1.8.274, ‘Challenger’ Stn 186, Cape York. B, C, Holotype BMNH 1897.12.9.569, ‘Challenger’ Stn 186, Cape York. A, primary orifice showing articulatory condyles and lateral oral avicularium. B, group of autozooids, frontal membrane and opercula intact. C, basal surface with radicular chambers of varying sizes. A, scale bar 50 μm ; B, C, scale bar 500 μm .