

*Rhynchozoon ferocula* sp. nov.  
(Plate XIIIa-c)

*Material*

BMNH reg. no. 1987.1.18.18, Holotype, Flic en Flac, 25 m, on coral rubble.

*Description*

Colony encrusting, domed, discoid, with a conspicuous marginal lamina. Autozooids distinct only at growing edge, oval, convex; frontal calcification granular, with relatively few, irregularly spaced, marginal pores. Primary orifice orbicular, 0.1 mm diameter; denticulate rim extending from a small rounded sinus, delimited by distinct condyles. Peristome particularly well developed proximally, as a thickened projecting lip, sometimes with a few short processes on rim, lower laterally and distally; sometimes, but not invariably, incorporating a lateral, suboral avicularium; rostrum acute to frontal plane, directed almost perpendicularly to orifice. No uncinatous process, and generally few processes on peristome rim, giving orifice an open aspect, except for the proximal lip. Newly budded autozooids with four slender distal oral spines, and one or two slender, erect processes proximally. Additional small avicularia present on proximal frontal wall, variably orientated, but tending to point inwards towards the nearest peristome; rostrum elongate, triangular, with large palatal foramen, and slender crossbar, lacking a columella. Ovicell rather prominent, with short, broad labellum, developing a coarse-surfaced oocidal cover.

*Remarks*

*Rhynchozoon ferocula* resembles *R. discus* in its small, discoid colonies, and the extensive peripheral lamina. It is characterized by its almost circular primary orifice, with a small rounded sinus. The clusters of avicularia developed around the peristomial rim in later ontogeny are also very distinctive.

