

Rhynchozoon scopulorum sp. nov.
(Figs 29e,f,30a)

TYPE MATERIAL

HOLOTYPE: GH5240, Heron Island, Stn 16, 13 Apr 1972.

ETYMOLOGY

Latin *scopulosus*, rocky.

DESCRIPTION

Colony forming broad, spreading sheets.

Autozooids at growing edge oval to hexagonal, convex, separated by distinct sutures. Primary orifice about as wide as long, with shallow, U-shaped sinus occupying about half proximal width; condyles rounded, distinct; distal and disto-lateral denticulations fine, closely spaced. No oral spines. Frontal wall distinctly nodular, with few, widely spaced, marginal pores. Lateral suboral avicularium large and prominent; rostrum acute to frontal plane, laterally directed, hooked distally; proximally, the rostral rim is produced as a stout, conspicuous uncinat process, almost reaching the opposite side of the peristome, delimiting a rounded pseudosinus. A small adventitious avicularium present on the frontal wall of most autozooids, the rostrum triangular, acute to frontal plane, usually directed proximally. Large frontal avicularia sporadic: 0.4mm long, occupying most of autozoid frontal wall, proximally directed; rostrum lanceolate, often asymmetrical, with upturned tip. Ovicell longer than broad, projecting well above peristomial rim and remaining distinct in later ontogeny; frontal surface slightly flattened, minutely tuberculate. In later ontogeny the suboral avicularium becomes submerged within the peristome, and the proximal peristomial rim bears a pair of short, conical umbones, with a shallow, U-shaped notch between.

Measurements (means and standard deviations, mm): autozoid length ($n = 20$) 0.56 ± 0.05 ; width 0.33 ± 0.03 ; orifice length ($n = 10$) 0.11 ± 0.005 ; width 0.14 ± 0.000 .

REMARKS

This species is similar to the Indonesian *R. detectum* Harmer, 1957, recently described and figured by Winston & Heimberg (1986). However, *R. detectum* is distinguished from *R. scopulorum* by its primary orifice, which is only very shallowly concave proximally, and by its large frontal avicularia, which are narrower and more distinctly pointed than in *R. scopulorum*. The large avicularia of the latter are in fact almost identical to those of *R. triangulare* Harmer, 1957, also described from Indonesia; the primary orifice of *R. triangulare*, however, has a slit-like proximal sinus. *Rhynchozoon scopulorum* seems to be common at Heron Island; large colonies were present in six of the samples studied.

