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

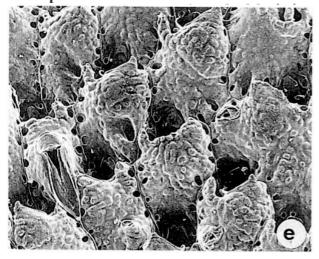
TYPE MATERIAL

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, Ushaped 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 uncinate 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 autozooid 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)): autozooid 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.

