

*Drepanophora tuberculata* (Osburn, 1914). Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001, p.73, fig.10D.

*DREPANOPHORA TUBERCULATA* OSBURN

(Fig. 10D)

*Rhynchozoon tuberculatum* Osburn, 1914: 200, text-fig. 9.

*Rhynchozoon tuberculatum*: Osburn, 1940: 442; 1947: 39; 1952: 461, pl. 54, fig. 6.

*Drepanophora tuberculata*: Cook, 1968: 205; Cook, 1985: 70, 180, text-fig. 47, pl. 20, fig. F.

*Description*

Colony encrusting, unilaminar. Autozooids oval, convex, distinct, separated by deep grooves. Primary orifice longer than wide, wider distally, proximal border with a single transversely orientated denticle below a single frontally facing avicularium on the edge of the thin entire peristome; avicularium rostrum acute triangular. Frontal shield slightly nodular, imperforate except for large marginal pores. Ovicell prominent, globular, recumbent on distal autozoid, a large elliptical foramen, perpendicular to frontal plane, either side of midline.

*Remarks*

*Drepanophora tuberculata* is very similar to *D. indica*, but it appears less robust and the frontal shield is less granular, the peristome is taller and thinner, and it has a frontally facing, rather than transversely facing, avicularium. Also, the ovicell foramina are angled to the frontal plane differently; perpendicular in *D. tuberculata* and more acute in *D. indica*.

Cook (1985) described and figured the ancestrula of *D. tuberculata* from her Ghanaian material.

*Distribution*

*Drepanophora tuberculata* appears to have an almost circum-tropical distribution: Gulf of Mexico, West Indies, West Africa, Southwest and eastern Pacific. Found on coral rubble from Iririki Island and Poanangisu, Efate, this was the commonest of the *Drepanophora* species and was found associated with *Torquatella duolamellata* (Scholz, 1991) comb. nov.

