

## Research article

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# Two new species of cheilostomate Bryozoa from Iberian waters

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**Abstract.** Two new species of cheilostomate bryozoans are described from material preserved in museums: *Cradoscrupocellaria severoi* sp. nov., from Iberian Mediterranean waters, and *Setosella margaritae* sp. nov., from shallow waters along the Atlantic coast of Europe. Moreover, the Mediterranean species *Setosella cycloensis* Rosso, Di Martino & Gerovasileiou, 2020 is reported in Iberian waters for the first time.

**Keywords.** *Cradoscrupocellaria*, *Setosella*, *Setosella cycloensis*, Spain, Europe.

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## Introduction

Although no complete catalogue is currently available, we consider that the bryozoological fauna of the Iberian Peninsula is one of the best known in European waters, with approximately 540 recent species cited in this region (about 420 along the Atlantic coast and about 340 along the Mediterranean coast; own unpublished compilation). Nonetheless, our overall knowledge remains fragmentary and undoubtedly includes many taxonomic errors, which are gradually being corrected in various studies. The greater ease of access to original reference material and, above all, the use of the electron microscope enable better characterization of species, and makes possible to detect misidentifications and misinterpretations of the species concept as well. Revision of material stored in collections has thus become an essential part of the work of taxonomists, either to redescribe known species or to describe new ones.

The genus *Cradoscrupocellaria* Vieira, Spencer Jones & Winston, 2013 was recently described after a major revision of species originally ascribed to the genus *Scrupocellaria* s. lat. *Cradoscrupocellaria reptans* (Linnaeus, 1758) was redescribed by Vieira & Spencer Jones (2012). On the other hand, Rosso *et al.* (2020) also very recently redescribed the genus *Setosella* Hincks, 1877, and Souto *et al.* (2016) redescribed its type species, *S. vulnerata* (Busk, 1860). These taxonomic revisions made it necessary

to study and correct previous records in order to update the identification of certain specimens. Based on the revision of material preserved in museums, we present here two new species of cheilostomate Bryozoa belonging to the genera *Cradoscrupocellaria* and *Setosella*. We also report the Mediterranean species *Setosella cycloensis* Rosso, Di Martino & Gerovasileiou, 2020 in Iberian waters for the first time. This extends our knowledge of the bryozoan fauna in Iberian waters and in Europe as a whole.

## Material and methods

### Institutional abbreviations

Samples deposited in the collections of the following museums have been revised:

- MHNUSC = Museo de Historia Natural da Universidade de Santiago de Compostela  
MNCN = Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid  
MNHN = Muséum national d'histoire naturelle, Paris  
NHMUK = Natural History Museum, London

The samples were examined with stereomicroscopes and uncoated, clean specimens were selected to photograph with scanning electron microscopes: a Zeiss EVO LS15 (Santiago de Compostela, Spain) and an Inspect S50 (Vienna, Austria and Madrid, Spain), always with a back-scattered electron detector in low variable vacuum mode. Measurements were taken with the software ImageJ® on SEM photographs.

## Results

Order Cheilostatida Busk, 1852  
Suborder Flustrina Smitt, 1868  
Superfamily Buguloidea Gray, 1848  
Family Candidae d'Orbigny, 1851  
Genus *Cradoscrupocellaria* Vieira, Spencer Jones & Winston, 2013

*Cradoscrupocellaria severoi* sp. nov.

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Figs 1–2; Table 1

*Scrupocellaria reptans* – Templado *et al.* 2002: 203.

? *Scrupocellaria macrorhyncha* – Zabala 1986: 318, fig. 88, pl. 3 figs a–d.

? *Scrupocellaria reptans* – Zabala & Maluquer 1988: 97, figs 159–160, pl. 5 figs a–b.

### Differential diagnosis

*Cradoscrupocellaria* with erect, branched colonies, with internodes comprising 5–10 alternating autozooids. Chitinous joints passing across proximal gymnocyst of outer and inner zooids. Large scutum, stout and flat, highly branched, completely covering the opesia. Two inner spines and 3 outer spines. Small distolateral avicularium frequent. Large monomorphic frontal avicularium in outer zooids oriented upwards on the branch. Ovicells globular, wider than long, perforated by 10–18 rounded pores; ovicelled zooids with 2 inner and 2 outer spines.

### Etymology

This species is dedicated to Severo Ochoa de Albornoz (1905–1993), Spanish physician and biochemist, winner of the 1959 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of the mechanisms in the biological synthesis of nucleic acids.

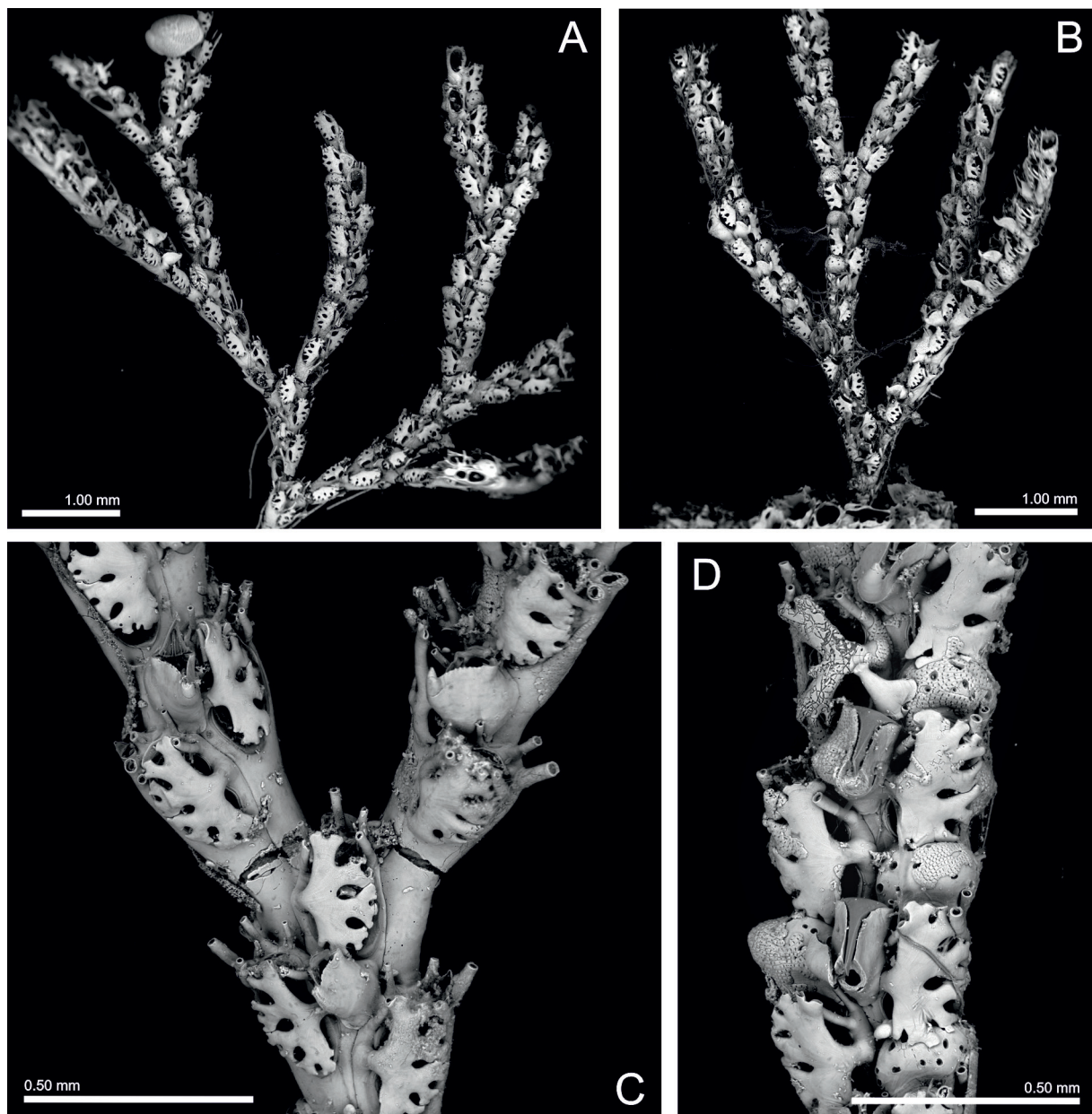
**Material examined**

**Holotype**

MEDITERRANEAN SPAIN • colony; Columbretes Islands; 39°87.967' N, 0°66.817' E; stn 277B15; depth 3–40 m; 1996; Fauna Ibérica IV exped.; MNCN 25.03/3059 (Figs 1A, D, 2A, D).

**Paratypes**

MEDITERRANEAN SPAIN • 1 colony; Columbretes Islands; 39°85.450' N, 0°67.617' E; stn 285B1; depth 42 m; 1996; Fauna Ibérica IV exped.; MNCN 25.03/2999 • several fragments; Columbretes Islands; 39°87.967' N, 0°66.817' E; stn 277B14; depth 7.5 m; 1996; Fauna Ibérica IV exped.;



**Fig. 1.** *Cradoscrupocellaria severoi* sp. nov. **A.** View of the colony (MNCN 25.03/3059: holotype). **B.** View of the colony (MNCN 25.03/3200: paratype). **C.** Branching pattern (MNCN 25.03/4234: paratype). **D.** Detail of a branch with large frontal avicularia, ovicells and scuta (MNCN 25.03/3059: holotype).



MNCN 25.03/3057, 25.03/4234 (Figs 1C, 2C) • several fragments; Columbretes Islands; 39°89.800' N, 0°68.883' E; stn 275B5; depth 35 m; 1996; Fauna Ibérica IV exped.; MNCN 25.03/3200 (Figs 1B, 2B).

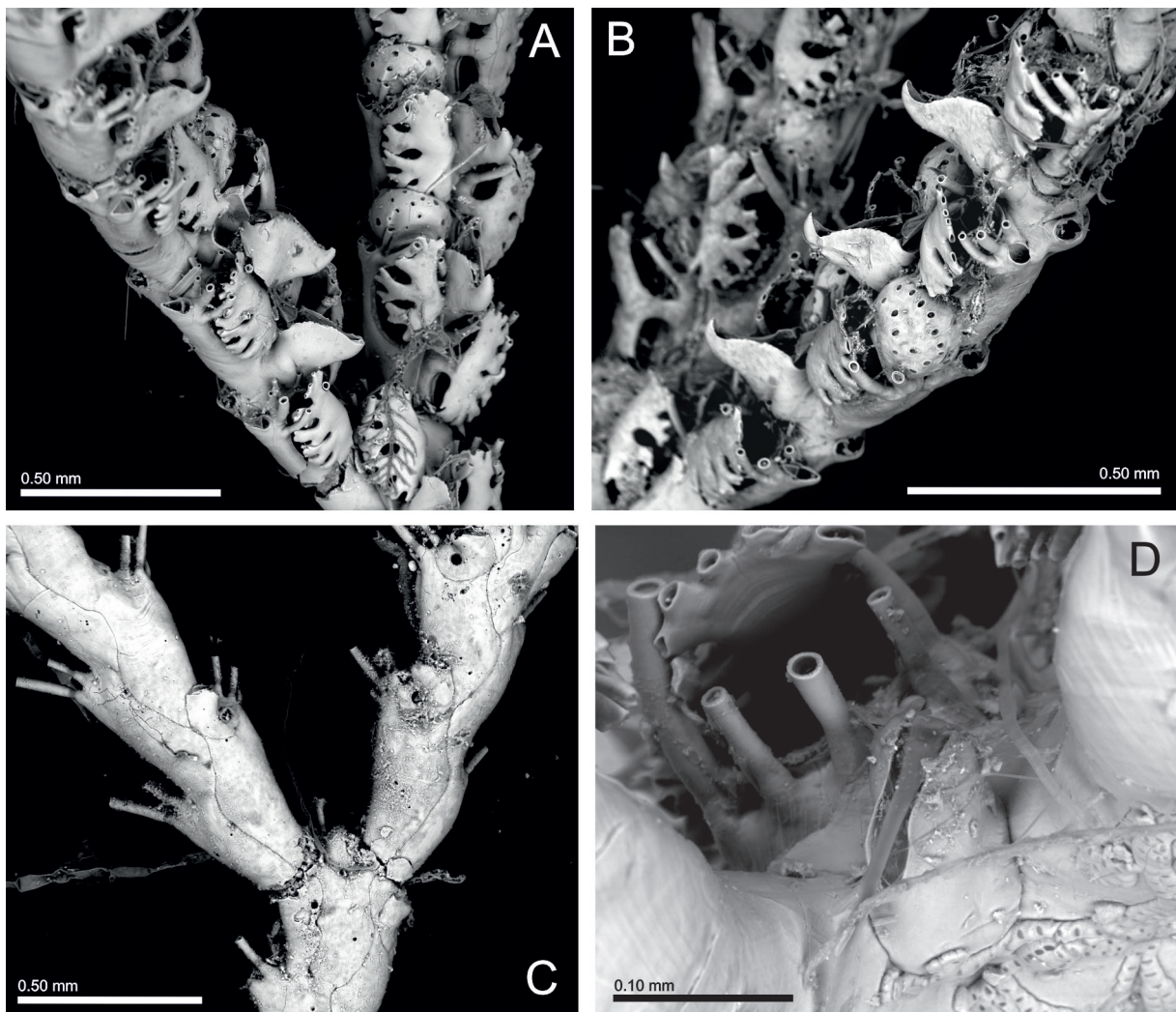
**Other material**

Paralectotypes of *Scrupocellaria macrorhyncha* Gautier, 1962 (here designated, see explanation below):

MEDITERRANEAN FRANCE • several fragments; Marseille, SW Cap Caveaux; stn 258; 1 Dec. 1952; Gautier leg.; MNHN-IB-2008-11319 • several fragments; same collection data as for preceding; MNHN-IB-2008-11321 (Fig. 3).

**Description**

Colony erect, up to 1 cm in height, branched, with internodes comprising 5–10 alternating autozooids. Internodes slender, almost straight, angled at axis, with acute bifurcating pattern; chitinous joints



**Fig. 2.** *Cradoscrupocellaria severoi* sp. nov. **A.** Detail of branches with large frontal avicularia, ovicells, scuta and a lateral avicularium (centre left) (MNCN 25.03/3059: holotype). **B.** Detail of a branch with large frontal avicularia, ovicells and a lateral avicularium (bottom left) (MNCN 25.03/3200: paratype). **C.** Basal view of the branching pattern (MNCN 25.03/4234: paratype). **D.** Single axial vibraculum (MNCN 25.03/3059: holotype).

passing across proximal gymnocyst of outer (C and D) and inner zooids (F and G) at bifurcation. Autozooids cylindrical with straight sides. Oval opesia occupying two thirds of zooidal length; cryptocyst reduced to narrow rim around opesia. Large scutum inserted at midline of the inner edge of opesia, stout but relatively flat, its tips highly branched, fully developed and completely covering entire opesia. Distal spines short, unbranched; 2 inner and 3 outer spines, with outer distal spines closer to scutum; axial zooid with 5 spines. Small distolateral avicularium frequent and easily visible in frontal view. Monomorphic frontal avicularium often present in outer zooids of each internode; large but variable in size, with elongate rostrum 0.22–0.28 mm long, with fringed edges, proximally upright, with strongly hooked tip; mandible long, hooked distally. Vibracular chamber laterally placed on the basal surface of each zooid, visible in frontal view; chamber of vibraculum almost trapezoidal, with a proximal rhizoidal foramen; setal groove transverse to internode axis, straight, with smooth seta longer than one autozooid. Single axial vibraculum without rhizoidal foramen. Rhizoids tubular and smooth. Ovicells globular, wider than long, with an even, almost straight proximal rim; ectoecium perforated by 10–18 rounded pores; ovicelled zooids with 2 inner and 2 outer spines. Ancestrula unknown.

### Remarks

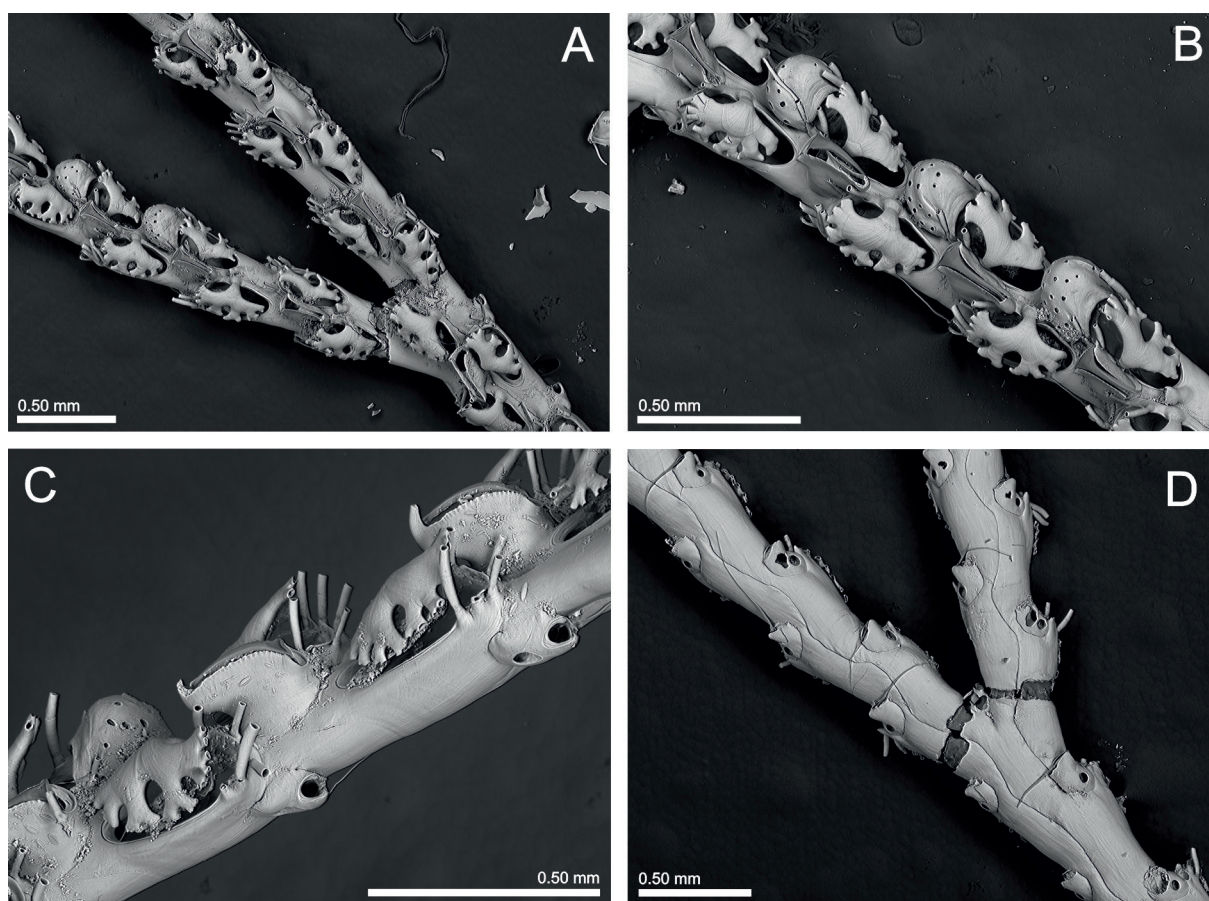
The genus *Cradoscrupocellaria* has been recently described by Vieira *et al.* (2013). Nine already existing species were transferred to this genus, and the same authors described 18 new species. Among all these species, only *C. gautieri* Vieira, Spencer Jones & Winston, 2013 and *C. macrorhyncha* (Gautier, 1962) show similarities with *C. severoi* sp. nov., mainly regarding the very stout scutum with truncate tips and the large frontal avicularia. The description of *C. gautieri* is based on a single sample collected by Gautier (1962) in Algeria. *Cradoscrupocellaria macrorhyncha* was redescribed by Vieira *et al.* (2013) based on the only original sample of Gautier deposited at NHMUK, designated as lectotype, and other Mediterranean samples by other authors. However, the MNHN collection includes two other original samples of Gautier from the same station as the lectotype that seem to have been overlooked in the redescription of the species, perhaps because in the museum's catalogue and in the external labels of the samples both are simply marked as "*Scrupocellaria reptans*": sample MNHN-IB-2008-11319 contains a handwritten label by Gautier stating "*Scrupocellaria reptans* group? Dry specimen"; being written in English, it is highly probable that this sample together with the lectotype were sent by Gautier to A. Hastings at the NHMUK, and later returned. Sample MNHN-IB-2008-11321 (Fig. 3) includes a label handwritten by Gautier indicating "*Scrupocellaria reptans*? grand avic.". Since both samples actually correspond to *C. macrorhyncha* and were collected by Gautier at the type locality of the species and studied by him, they should be considered as part of the type series and consequently considered as paralectotypes of the species according to Arts 73.2.2 and 74.1.3 of the ICZN Code (ICZN 1999).

*Cradoscrupocellaria severoi* sp. nov. differs from *C. macrorhyncha* and *C. gautieri* by several characters: the frontal avicularium is monomorphic in *C. severoi* sp. nov. because the small columnar avicularium present in the other species is absent; this frontal avicularium is oriented upwards on the branch, not proximally (Figs 2A–B, 3C). The lateral avicularium is more frequent and more visible (Fig. 2A–B). In the bifurcations of *C. severoi* sp. nov., the chitinous joints pass through the gymnocyst of the external zooids (C and D) instead of through their opesiae (Figs 1C, 3A). The ovicell is wider than long in *C. severoi* sp. nov., usually uniformly perforated by small pseudopores (Figs 1D, 2A–B), whilst in *C. macrorhyncha* the ovicell is more spherical and usually exhibits an imperforate flat frontal area (Fig. 3B) (in *C. gautieri* the ovicell is unknown). The autozooids of *C. severoi* sp. nov. are clearly smaller than those of *C. macrorhyncha*, but similar in size to those of *C. gautieri*. Finally, the internodes are short in *C. severoi* sp. nov., formed by 5–10 autozooids (Fig. 1A–B), as in *C. gautieri*, but the scutum is flatter and not swollen as in that latter species.



**Table 1.** Measurements (in mm) of *Cradoscrupocellaria severoi* sp. nov. (holotype + paratypes). Abbreviations: SD = standard deviation, N = number of measurements.

	Mean	SD	Minimum	Maximum	N
Autozoid length	0.454	0.0480	0.370	0.565	29
Autozoid width	0.191	0.0154	0.161	0.232	29
Sutum length	0.289	0.0176	0.258	0.324	29
Scutum width	0.164	0.0206	0.121	0.207	29
Frontal avic. length	0.259	0.0283	0.218	0.281	4
Frontal avic. width	0.087	0.0037	0.082	0.093	6
Lateral avic. length	0.065	0.0080	0.055	0.073	6
Ovicell length	0.163	0.0160	0.134	0.186	18
Ovicell width	0.213	0.0187	0.170	0.245	18



**Fig. 3.** *Cradoscrupocellaria macrorhyncha* (Gautier, 1962) (MNHN-IB-2008-11321: paralectotype), SW Cap Caveaux (Marseille, France), Gautier Coll. **A.** Frontal view of the branching pattern. **B.** Detail showing the scuta, ovicells, large frontal avicularia and a small frontal avicularium (bottom right). **C.** Lateral view showing the large frontal avicularia and basal vibracula. **D.** Basal view of the branching pattern.

*Cradoscrupocellaria severoi* sp. nov. is known with certainty only from its type localities at the Columbretes Islands (Mediterranean Spain) between 3 and 42 m depth. Zabala (1986) reported *Scrupocellaria macrorhyncha* Gautier, 1962 from several Catalanian localities, but these records were later reassigned to *S. reptans* (Linnaeus, 1758) by Zabala & Maluquer (1988). Vieira *et al.* (2013), however, stated that these specimens are distinct from *C. macrorhyncha* and *C. reptans*, as well as from *C. ellisi* (Vieira & Spencer Jones, 2012), and that they may belong to a new undescribed species. Figures by Zabala (1986) and Zabala & Maluquer (1988) are quite similar to *C. severoi* sp. nov., but the description given (actually an almost literal translation of the original description of *S. macrorhyncha* by Gautier) show several differences from the present description of the new species. A revision of the original material and collection of new material will be necessary to clarify which species was reported from Catalonia, as well as to determine the possible presence of *C. severoi* sp. nov. at other Iberian localities.

Superfamily Microporoidea Gray, 1848

Family Setosellidae Levinsen, 1909

Genus *Setosella* Hincks, 1877

***Setosella margaritae* sp. nov.**

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Figs 4–5, Table 2

*Setosella vulnerata* – Reverter-Gil *et al.* 1992: 102, fig. 2; 2016: 28, fig. 4d. — Barcia Leal *et al.* 1993: 251. — Reverter-Gil 1995: 115, fig. 7. — Hayward & Ryland 1998: 298, fig. 103. — Reverter-Gil & Fernández-Pulpeiro 2001: 78 (shallow waters only). — De Blauwe 2006: 130, fig. 9; 2009: 252, figs 257–258.

Non *Setosella vulnerata* – Jullien 1882: 28, pl. 17 fig. 66. — Calvet 1907: 394. — d’Hondt 1973: 367; 1974: 38. — Hayward 1979: 60. — Reverter-Gil & Fernández-Pulpeiro 2001: 78 (deep waters only). — Templado *et al.* 2006: 208. — Reverter-Gil *et al.* 2014: 16. — Souto *et al.* 2016: 416, figs 33, 38. — Rosso *et al.* 2020: 403, figs 1–2 [= *Setosella vulnerata* (Busk, 1860)].

Non *Setosella vulnerata* – Templado *et al.* 2002: 203. (= *Setosella cyclopiensis* Rosso, Di Martino & Gerovasileiou, 2020).

### Differential diagnosis

*Setosella* with small, encrusting colonies. Autozooids small, oval, with opesia D-shaped or irregularly rounded, and two oval to tear-shaped opesiules, positioned close to opesia and directly beside lateral walls of zooid. Small interzooidal vibracula oval, positioned distolateral to each autozooid, always on the right side and often without exceeding distal edge of autozooid, especially in ovicelled ones. Ectooecium with transversely oval membranous window and granular endooecial surface underneath, with a small, central pore. Ancestrula oval, with cryptocyst occupying slightly less than half of the frontal area; opesia semielliptical, with straight or slightly concave proximal border.

### Etymology

This species is dedicated to Margarita Salas Falgueras (1938–2019), Spanish scientist, medical researcher, and author in the fields of biochemistry and molecular genetics. She was a disciple of S. Ochoa (see above).



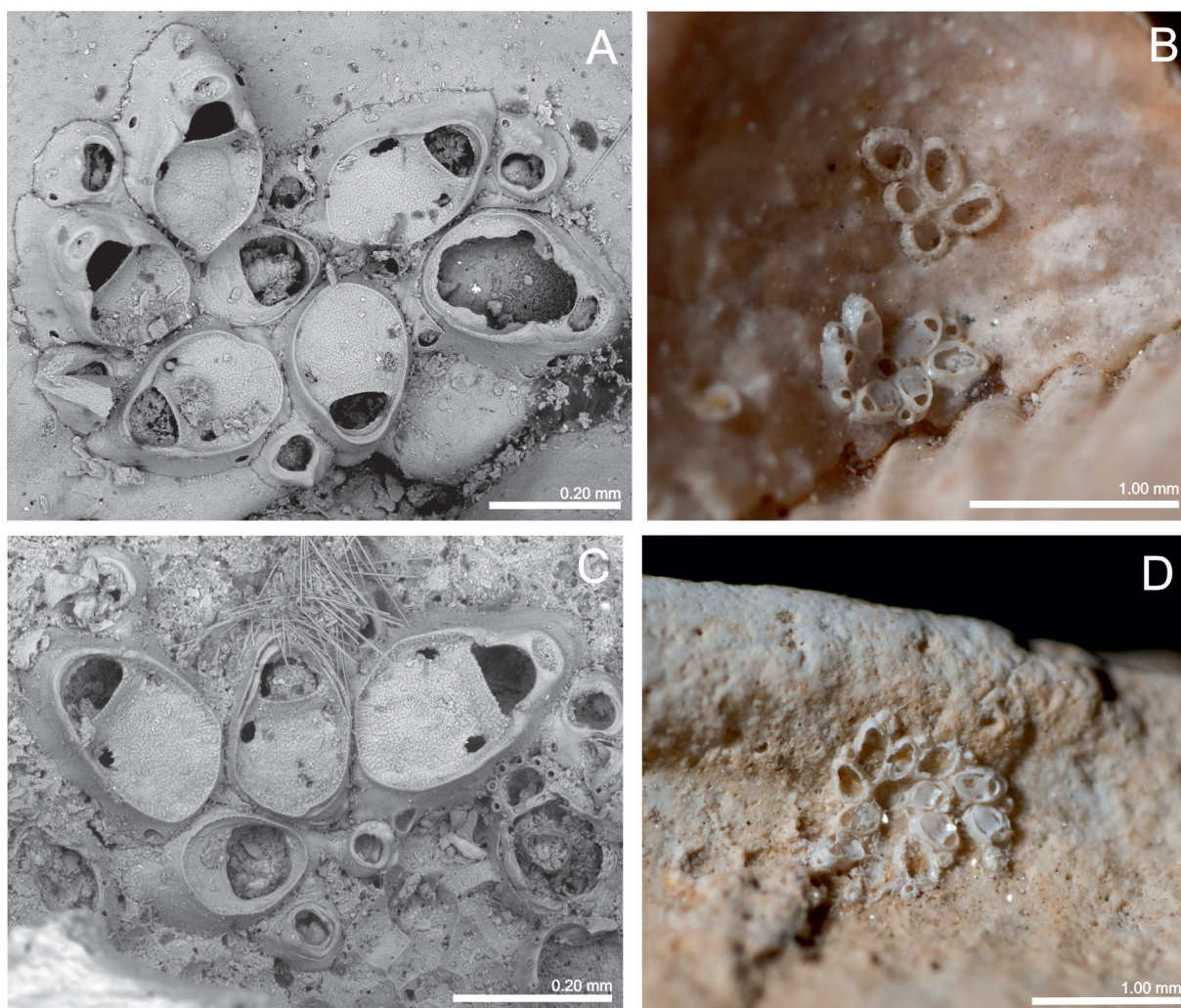
**Material examined**

**Holotype**

ATLANTIC SPAIN • colony on shell fragment; Galicia, Ría of Ferrol; 43°45.889' N, 08°293.33' W; depth 20 m; 13 Sep. 1989; Reverter-Gil leg.; MHNUSC 10120; (Fig. 4A–B).

**Paratypes**

ATLANTIC SPAIN • several small juvenile colonies on shell fragment; same collection data as for holotype; MHNUSC 10121 (Fig. 4C) • colony on shell fragment; same collection data as for holotype; MHNUSC 10122 (Fig. 5C–D) • small eroded colony on shell fragment; Galicia, Ría of Ferrol; 43°45.500' N, 08°30.889' W; depth 12 m; 13 Sep. 1989; Reverter-Gil leg.; MHNUSC 10123 (Figs 4D, 5B).



**Fig. 4.** *Setosella margaritae* sp. nov. **A.** Holotype (MHNUSC 10120). **B.** Same, optical photograph, together with a small, dead colony of *Callopora discreta* (Hincks, 1862) encrusting the inner part of a barnacle plate. **C.** Ancestrula with reversed astogenetic pattern (note the short vibraculum positioned on the right side) (MHNUSC 10121: paratype). **D.** Optical photograph of a damaged colony on a shell fragment (MHNUSC 10123: paratype).



**Table 2.** Measurements (in mm) of *Setosella margaritae* sp. nov. (holotype + paratypes). SD = standard deviation, N = number of measurements.

	Mean	SD	Minimum	Maximum	N
Autozoid length	0.250	0.0604	0.174	0.350	9
Autozoid width	0.170	0.0436	0.120	0.227	9
Opesia length	0.055	0.0137	0.038	0.070	9
Opesia width	0.075	0.0213	0.050	0.096	9
Vibraculum length	0.091	0.0245	0.059	0.135	13
Vibraculum width	0.087	0.0231	0.055	0.131	13
Ooecium length	0.049	0.0164	0.038	0.073	4
Ooecium width	0.077	0.0200	0.062	0.105	4
Ancestrula length	0.239	0.0295	0.220	0.273	3
Ancestrula width	0.159	0.0366	0.124	0.197	3
Ancestr. opesia length	0.106	0.0061	0.099	0.110	3
Ancestr. opesia width	0.099	0.0068	0.091	0.104	3

#### Other material

ATLANTIC SPAIN • colony on maërl; Galicia, Ría of Vigo; 42°23.889' N, 08°79.369' W; depth 16 m; 16 Sep. 1986; Fernández-Pulpeiro leg.; MHNUSC-Bry 93a (together with *Setosella* sp.) (Fig. 5A) • colony on shell fragment; Galicia, Ría of Vigo; 42°23.139' N, 08°76.389' W; depth 9 m; 16 Sep. 1986; Fernández-Pulpeiro leg.; MHNUSC-Bry 93b • colony on shell fragment; Galicia, Ría of Vigo; 42°22.944' N, 08°88.056' W; depth 23 m; 2 Aug. 1985; Fernández-Pulpeiro leg.; MHNUSC-Bry 93c (together with *Trypostega venusta* (Norman, 1864) and *Microporella ciliata* (Pallas, 1766)) • colony on shell fragment; Galicia, Ría of Ferrol; 43°46.389' N, 08°26.333' W; depth 8 m; Jun. 2004; Reverter-Gil leg.; MHNUSC-Bry 656 (together with 12 spp. more).

#### Lectotype of *Setosella vulnerata*

NORTH SEA • UK, Shetland; Busk leg.; NHMUK 1899.7.1.1487 (see also Souto *et al.* 2016).

#### Paralectotypes of *Setosella vulnerata*

NORTH SEA • several colonies; UK, Shetland; Busk leg.; NHMUK 1911.10.1.760 (see also Souto *et al.* 2016).

#### Other material of *Setosella vulnerata*

MEDITERRANEAN SPAIN • Alboran Island; 35°83.550' N, 03°23.667' W; stn 313A; depth 118 m; 1996; Fauna Ibérica IV exped.; MNCN 25.03/3169 (Fig. 6).

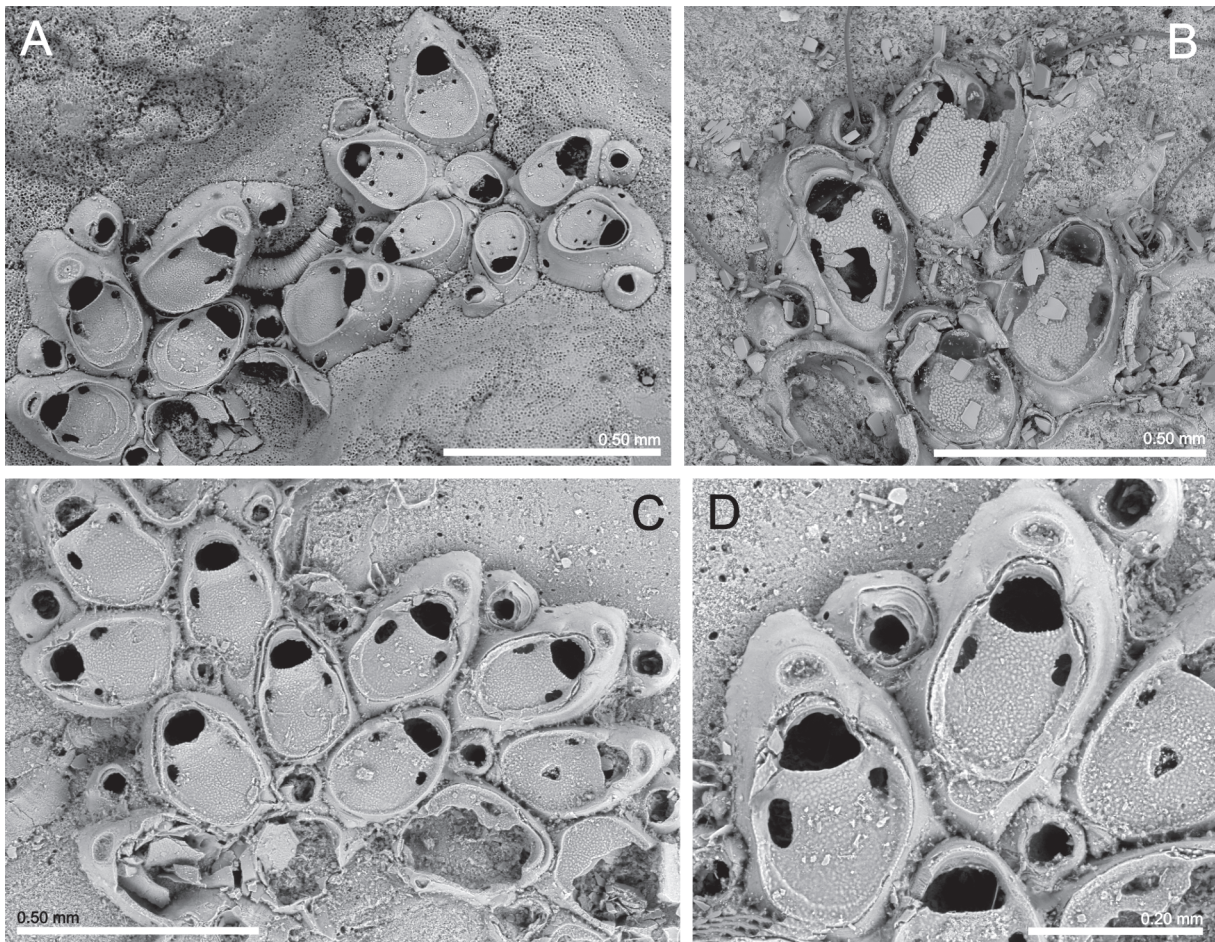
#### Material of *Setosella cyclospensis*

MEDITERRANEAN SPAIN • Columbretes Islands; 39°87.217' N, 0°63.400' E; stn 283A; depth 80–85 m; 1996; Fauna Ibérica IV exped.; MNCN 25.03/3149.

#### Description

Colony encrusting, unilaminar, forming small discoidal patches of alternating autozooids and vibracula. Autozooids irregularly oval, with well-developed smooth gymnocyst proximally that narrows and steepens distally, lateral walls slightly raised, framing an evenly granular cryptocyst that is flat and depressed proximally, gently rising distally to the opesiules to form the proximal border of the opesia.

Opesia D-shaped or irregularly rounded, wider than long, distal margin with some blunt, irregularly spaced denticles. Two oval to tear-shaped opesiules (ca 20  $\mu\text{m}$  long by 10  $\mu\text{m}$ -wide), located in distal depressed area of the cryptocyst, positioned close to the opesia (mean 36  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and directly beside the lateral walls of zooid, their inner edges sometimes with several sharp denticles; the size of both opesiules unequal, the left one slightly larger. Small interzooidal vibracula oval, positioned distolateral to each autozooid, always on the right side and often without exceeding the distal edge of the autozooid, especially in ovicelled ones. Wide oval opesia, sometimes slightly narrower in the middle; seta long and slender, curved, up to twice length of the autozooid. Communication of zooids via small uniporous septula. Some autozooids and vibracula show evidence of breakage and regeneration associated with the intramural budding (Fig. 5C–D). Ovicells terminal, with a brood cavity immersed within the distal part of the maternal zooid. Kenozooidal oecium roughly level with the colony surface, forming shallow hood covering distal end of the maternal zooid from which it is budded. Proximal oecial margin forming the distal part of the zooidal orifice; ectoecium with transversely oval membranous window and granular endoecial surface underneath, with a small, central pore. Ovicellate zooids dimorphic, slightly wider distally, with orifices distinctly broader and campanulate in outline. Distal budding of autozooids and



**Fig. 5.** *Setosella margaritae* sp. nov. **A.** A colony of *S. margaritae* sp. nov. (left) together with the colony of *Setosella* sp. (right) (see text and Reverter-Gil *et al.* 2012 as *S. aff. cavernicola*) (MHNUSC-Bry 93a). **B.** Damaged autozooids (one ovicelled, another with a developing oecium) with three vibracula with setae (MHNUSC 10123: paratype). **C.** A colony with a damaged periancestrular area; note the intramural budding in several zooids (MHNUSC 10122: paratype). **D.** Same, detail showing two ovicelled zooids and a vibraculum with intramural budding.

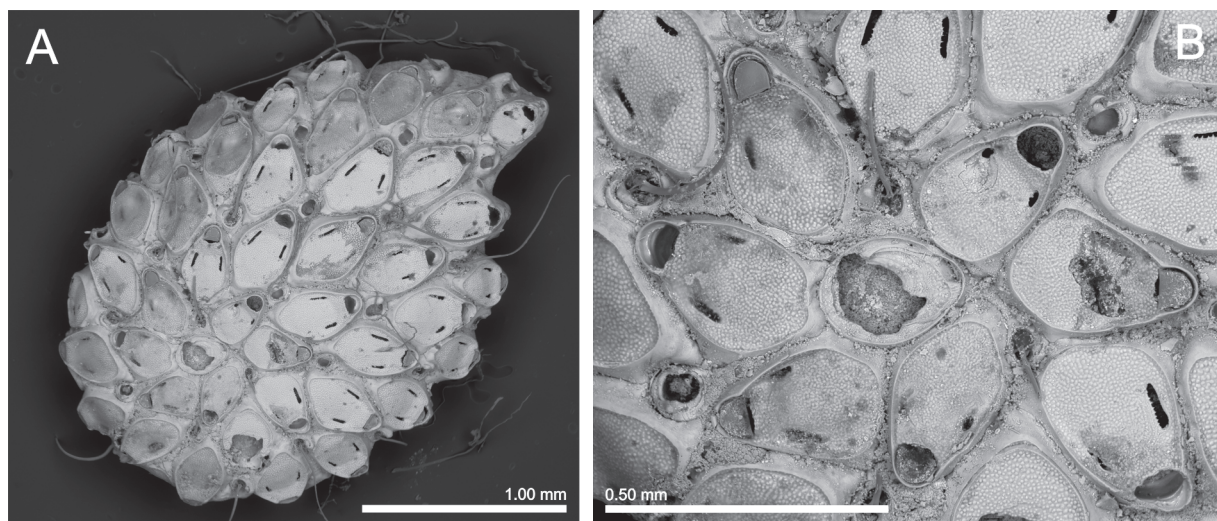


vibracula in oecium-producing zooid retained. Ancestrula oval, with cryptocyst relatively smooth, occupying slightly less than half of the frontal area; opesia semi elliptical, with straight or slightly concave proximal border. Astogenesis beginning with one distal and two lateral autozooids; later zooids more irregularly arranged. The ancestrula also buds the two typical caudate vibracula of the genus: one short caudate, budded mid-laterally on the left side, and the other long caudate, budded distally, and sometimes curved to the right. On one occasion, however, this pattern was reversed, with the short vibraculum budded on the right side (Fig. 4C).

### Remarks

The genus *Setosella* and all the species ascribed to it are at present well described under current standards. *Setosella vulnerata*, the type species of the genus, was redescribed by Souto *et al.* (2016). Rosso *et al.* (2020) redefined the genus itself as well as two known species (*S. cavernicola* Harmelin, 1977 and *S. spiralis* Silén, 1942) and three new species (*S. alfioi* Rosso, Di Martino & Gerovasileiou, 2020, *S. cycloensis* Rosso, Di Martino & Gerovasileiou, 2020 and *S. rossanae* Rosso, Di Martino & Gerovasileiou, 2020). Another species, *S. folini* Jullien, 1882, was redescribed by Souto *et al.* (2011). Finally, an undescribed species was reported from Galicia (NW Iberian Peninsula) as *S. aff. cavernicola* (see Reverter-Gil *et al.* 2012; Rosso *et al.* 2020).

*Setosella margaritae* sp. nov. differs from *S. vulnerata* (see redescription by Souto *et al.* 2016) as well as from *S. cycloensis*, quite a similar species, by several characters: the vibracula of *S. margaritae* sp. nov. are much smaller, about half the size, and characteristically shifted laterally on the right side, often without exceeding the distal end of the autozooid (especially in ovicelled zooids), instead being distal or only slightly distolateral. The autozooids are oval and clearly smaller in *S. margaritae* sp. nov. The opesiules are shorter, oval to tear-shaped, instead slit-like or elongated; moreover, the opesiules are located closer to the opesia and directly beside the lateral walls of the zooid, instead of away from the opesia and the lateral walls. The window of the ectooecium in *S. margaritae* sp. nov. is transversally oval, whilst in *S. vulnerata* and *S. cycloensis* it is roughly circular, much smaller in the former species, much larger in the latter. Finally, the colonies of *S. margaritae* sp. nov. are very small, encrusting mainly shell



**Fig. 6.** A colony of *Setosella vulnerata* (Busk, 1860) collected at Alboran Island (Mediterranean Spain) (MNCN 25.03/3169). **A.** General view of the colony. **B.** The periancestrular area; note that the ancestrula was covered by a cryptocystal plate.



fragments in shallow waters, as opposed to larger colonies encrusting mainly coarse sand, granules and fine pebbles in deeper waters in the other species.

At the same time, *Setosella folini* and *S. alfioi* differ from *S. margaritae* sp. nov. most obviously by their uniserial, free-living colonies. *Setosella cavernicola*, *S. rossanae* and *Setosella* sp. (as *S. aff. cavernicola* in Reverter-Gil *et al.* 2012) differ by their circular opesiules, four or even up to five in the latter two species. Finally, *S. spiralis* differs by the much larger autozooids and vibracula, with opesiules located further away from the opesia, and by colonies with spirally arranged zooids typically in a single right-coiled row.

In the past, we have considered our own material to be similar to typical *Setosella vulnerata*. That is why we have cited deep material as *Setosella* sp. (see Reverter-Gil *et al.* 2012). But after the redescription of *S. vulnerata* by Souto *et al.* (2016) the situation has turned out to be just the opposite. Our previous records of *S. vulnerata* from shallow waters of Galicia (NW Iberian Peninsula) are here assigned to *S. margaritae* sp. nov.: from the Ría of Ferrol at 8–20 m depth, and from the Ría of Vigo at 9–23 m depth, both on shell fragments (Reverter-Gil & Fernández-Pulpeiro 2001 and present data). These colonies are very small, formed by very few autozooids, but are fertile because ovicells are formed even in the first or second generations of periancestrular zooids (Figs 4A, C, 5A). Moreover, the material of *S. vulnerata* reported and figured by De Blauwe (2006, 2009), collected on shells at 10–25 m depth in Belgium (North Sea), also belongs to *S. margaritae* sp. nov. These colonies are larger than the Galician ones, but present the same characters, also including ovicells in the first or second generations of zooids (see De Blauwe 2009: figs 257–258; accessible also through WoRMS 2020: <http://www.marinespecies.org/photogallery.php?album=709&pic=25695#photogallery> and <http://www.marinespecies.org/photogallery.php?album=709&pic=25696#photogallery>). Moreover, the description and figures of *S. vulnerata* in Hayward & Ryland (1998) fit the present description of *S. margaritae* sp. nov., at least the shallow-water material referred to there. Accordingly, the species is quite possibly distributed in shallow waters along the Atlantic coast of Europe, from the North Sea to at least the NW of the Iberian Peninsula. Its occurrence in other areas should be confirmed by reviewing previous citations of *S. vulnerata*. In a previous paper (Reverter-Gil *et al.* 2012), we already suggested that previous records of *S. vulnerata* might correspond to several different species.

Conversely, previous records of *Setosella vulnerata* in Atlantic Iberian deep waters (Cachucho [= Le Danois Bank], Galicia, Portugal and Gulf of Cadiz) actually belong to this species (see Jullien 1882; Calvet 1907; d'Hondt 1973, 1974; Hayward 1979; Harmelin & d'Hondt 1992; Reverter-Gil & Fernández-Pulpeiro 2001 only deep waters; Reverter-Gil *et al.* 2014; Souto *et al.* 2016), as is also the case for records published as *Setosella* sp. by Reverter-Gil *et al.* (2012) (see also Souto *et al.* 2016; Rosso *et al.* 2020).

There are a few more previous records of *Setosella vulnerata* in Iberian waters: the record from Alboran Island, at 118 m depth, made by Templado *et al.* (2006) actually corresponds to *S. vulnerata* (see material examined and Fig. 6) as well as the recent records published by Ramalho *et al.* (2020) in a nearby area between 95 and 440 m depth. However, the record from Columbretes Islands (Mediterranean Spain), at 80 m depth, made by Templado *et al.* (2002) actually belongs to *S. cyclopeensis* (see material examined; unfortunately, this sample is currently unavailable for photography). Thus, this is the first Iberian record of this Mediterranean species. We have no further information about the records published by Zabala *et al.* (1993) from the Blanes Canyon at 180–350 m depth and by Madurell *et al.* (2013) from Cap de Creus at 104–225 m depth (Catalonia), but based on the given depths these records may belong to *S. vulnerata* or to *S. cyclopeensis*.

Following Souto *et al.* (2016) and Rosso *et al.* (2020), *Setosella vulnerata* is distributed in the Northeast Atlantic and the Mediterranean, although several Atlantic and Mediterranean occurrences still need to be checked. As already stated by Rosso *et al.* (2020) it is likely that *S. vulnerata* is actually restricted to deep habitats from the shelf break and the continental slope.

## Discussion

As noted in the Introduction (see above), the bryozoological fauna of the Iberian Peninsula is one of the best known in European waters. Our own unpublished compilation, based on dozens of articles published over the last century and a half, and the revision of hundreds of samples – both our own and those of museum collections – has yielded approximately 540 recent species cited in this region. In comparison, only 556 species have been registered so far in a larger area as studied as the Mediterranean Sea as a whole, where there is an extensive bibliography on bryozoans dating back more than 200 years (Rosso & Di Martino 2016). Moreover, all European waters combined have yielded 945 indigenous species according to Gordon *et al.* (2019). The description of two new species in a supposedly so well-known area underlines the continued need for purely taxonomic and faunal works: they are key pillars to develop well-designed and useful biodiversity conservation policies (e.g., Wägele *et al.* 2011; Higgs 2017; Thomson *et al.* 2018).

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