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# CYCLOSTOME BRYOZOA FROM THE CENOZOIC SEDIMENTS OF WESTERN KACHCHH, GUJARAT, INDIA

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#### ABSTRACT

Systematic descriptions are given of seven species of cyclostome bryozoans occurring in the Cenozoic sediments of the western Kachchh, Gujarat. Taxa belong to the families Tubuliporidae, Oncousoeciidae, Plagioeciidae, Crisiidae and Lichenoporidae. These species are *Crisia elongata* (Milne-Edwards), *Mecynoecia* sp., *Exidmonea babiensis* nov. sp., *Exidmonea* cf. *undata* (Reuss), *Disporella* sp., *Proboscina* sp. indet and *Disporella* aff. *radiata* (Audouin). The fauna is cosmopolitan in composition having Indo-Pacific and Atlantic affinities.

Keywords: Cenozoic, Cyclostome, western Kachchh, Bryozoa, Gujarat.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The marine Cenozoic rocks exposed in western Kachchh, Gujarat (Text Fig.1) occupy the shelf zone adjoining Mesozoic sequences. A complete succession from Palaeocene to Holocene occurs in this region (Table 1). The thickness of the entire Cenozoic succession is about 900 m (Biswas, 1992). Fossil bryozoan fauna have been collected from rocks belonging to the Harudi Formation (Middle Eocene, Lutetian), the Fulra Formation (Middle Eocene, Bartonian), the Maniyara Fort Formation (Rupelian-Chattian), and the Khari Nadi Formation (Early Miocene, Aquitanian-Burdigalian).

The Harudi Formation is exposed 2 km NW of Harudi village close to Naliya- Narayan Sarovar Road (GPS position: 23º 30' 30"N; 68º 41' 10"E) (Fig.A) is richly fossiliferous, consisting of three parts, from the base upwards: calcareous shale with gray shale; ferruginous claystone; and white nummulitic limestone. Bryozoans have been collected from the ferruginous, gypseous clayey marlite band. The Fulra Formation is best exposed 1.7 km SW of the Fulra village around Babia Hill (GPS position: 23° 42' 30?N, 68° 47' 12?E) (Fig.2B), Waghopadhar (GPS position: 23º 42' 18"N; 68º 43' 19"E), Kharai (GPS position: 23º 28'17"N; 68º 40' 15"E), Lakhpat GPS position: 23° 49' 50? N; 68° 46' 35? E), Ber Nani (GPS position: 23º 27' 07"N; 68º 36' 12"E) and Harudi (GPS position: 23°31'25? N; 68° 41' 07? E) villages. Bryozoans are found in the buff-coloured limestone and black argillaceous soft clay at Fulra, Kharai, and in the Waghopadhar and Lakhpat sections. The Maniyara Fort Formation has two parts foraminiferal limestone and basal glauconitic siltstones - and is very well exposed in Waior stream (GPS position: 23°25'

30?N; 68° 41' 58?E) (Fig.2C), Ramania stream (GPS position: 23° 27' 22" N; 68° 47' 12"E) and the Bermoti River bed (GPS position: 23° 27' 41"N; 68° 36' 07"E). The Miocene rocks rest unconformably over the Maniyara Fort Formation. They belong

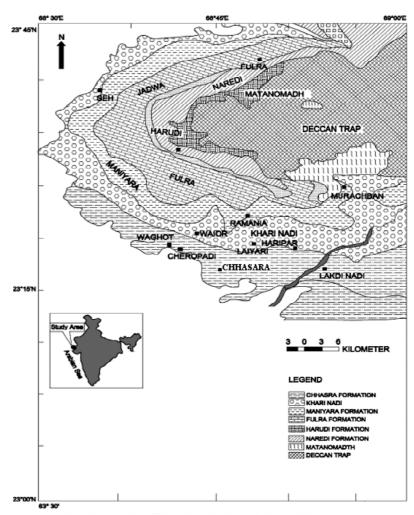


Fig. 1. Geological map of Western Kachchh, Gujrat (after Biswas, 1992)

to two stratigraphical stages, Aquitanian and Burdigalian, represented by the Khari Nadi Formation and the Chhasara Formation respectively. The Khari Nadi Formation is subdivided into three parts: yellowish siltstone; fine-grained sandstone; and brown gypseous claystone. Outcrops of the Khari Nadi Formation are extensively exposed between Haripar and Matanomadh Road at Laiyari (GPS position: 23° 24' 09? N; 68° 48' 56? E) (Fig. 2D), Goyla (GPS position: 23° 25' 45"N; 68° 48' 00"E), Murachban (GPS position: 23° 30' 10" N; 68° 52' 09"E), Lakdi River (GPS position: 23° 19' 19"N, 68° 56' 14"E) and Waghot (GPS position: 23° 23' 56? N; 68° 48' 56? E) (Fig.2D) where bryozoans occur with an abundance of *Turritella* beds.

The occurrence of fossil bryozoans in the Cenozoic rocks of Kachchh was first reported by Tewari *et al.* (1960) and Tewari and Srivastava (1967). Subsequently, Guha and Gopikrishna (2004a, b, 2005 b-f, 2007 a-d) described rich and diverse bryozoan faunas from this region. Considering their diversity in these rocks, there is a need to update their systematics using a bedby-bed study. The present communication reports seven species of cyclostome Bryozoa from the Khari Nadi, Maniyara Fort, Harudi and Fulra Formations. They belong to the families Tubuliporidae, Oncousoeciidae, Plagioeciidae, Crisiidae and Lichenoporidae. These species are *Crisia elongata* (Milne-Edwards), *Mecynoecia* sp., *Exidmonea babiensis* nov. sp., *Exidmonea* cf. *undata* (Reuss), *Disporella* sp. *Proboscina* sp. indet and *Disporella* aff. *radiata* (Audouin).

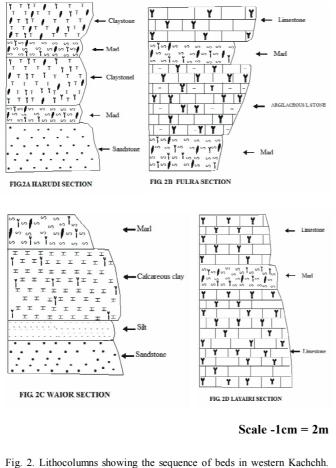


Table 1: Tertiary Stratigraphy of Kachchh (after Biswas, 1992).

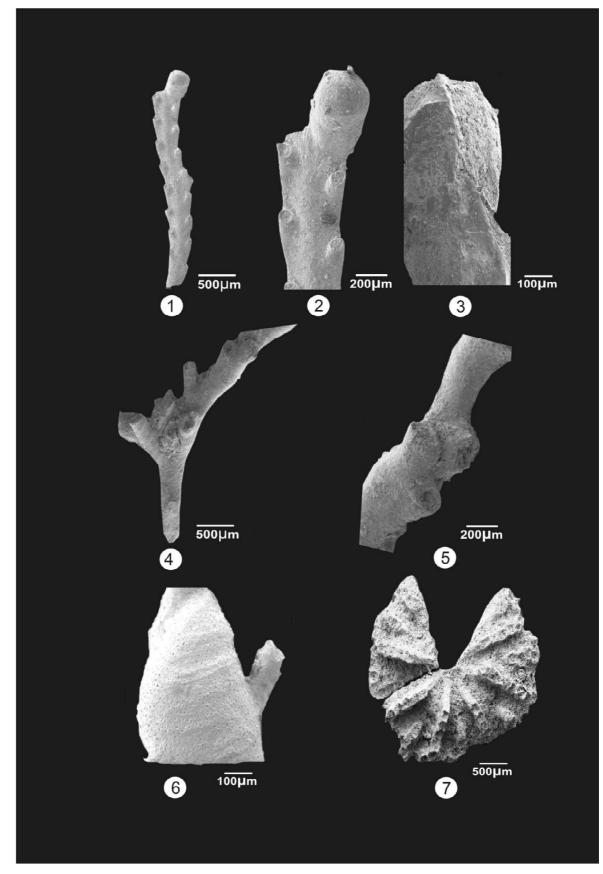
#### TIME IN M.Y. SERIES LITHOSTRATIGRAPHY LITHOLOGY STAGES FORMATIONS MESSINIAN UPPER TORTONIAN Sandstones, SERRAVALLIAN SANDHAN minor limestones and MIDDLE MIOCENE ----Unconformity---shales LANGHIAN Silty shales and BURDIGALIAN CHHASARA OWER impure KHARI NADI Variegated AOUITANIAN siltstones and --- Unconformity--sandstone UPPER CHATTIAN Foraminiferal OLIGOCENE limestone MANIYARA shales and coral FORT bioherms. LOWER lumpy RUPELIAN claystone UPPER PRIABONIAN BARTONIAN Dense щ EOCENE **FULRA** foraminiferal MIDDLI limestones LUTETIAN Clavstones / HARUDI limestones, ----Unconformity---coquina, etc. LOWER YPRESIAN NAREDI Clavstones / ----Unconformity---limestones, UPPER THANETIAN PALAEOCENE MATANOMDA Volcanoclastics, ---Unconformity--shales and sand-OWER DANIAN DECCAN TRAP Basalt

#### **EXPLANATION OF PLATE I**

1-3. Crisia elongata (Milne-Edwards) GIS/B- 1302

1. Complete internode showing inflated gonozooid on the top; 2. Close-up view of gonozooecium no ooeciopore seen; 3. Close-up view of gonozooid; 4,5; *Mecynoecia* sp. GIS/B-1381; 4. View of a fragment of a branching colony; 5. Oblique view of branch frontal surface; 6. *Exidmonea babieaensis* n. sp. GIS/B-1302; 6. close-up view perforated gonozooecium; 7. *Disporella* aff. *radiata* (Audouin, 1826) GIS/B-1405, complete colony showing centrally depressed region and slanting uniserial autozooidal tubes away from the centre.





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#### **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

Encrusters on bivalve and gastropod shells were directly collected in the field. About 250 gms of weathered, gently crushed limestone, mudstone, shale were treated with 50% concentrated H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 48-72 hours. Samples were gently washed over a set of standard sieves with mesh sizes (10f-60f), conventionally used in foraminiferal analysis. Colonies and internodes of bryozoans were picked from different fractions for identification. Before identification specimens were cleaned by soaking in dilute acetic (5%) acid solution, as described by Zágoršek and Vávra (2000). The apertures of autozooidal tubes and colony surface were cleaned using a very thin metallic needle. Colony surfaces were scrubbed in sodium nitrate solution and under tap water with a hard 0.2 mm brush. The specimens were identified and photographed with the help of a JEOL/EO, Version-0.1 SEM. Measurements were taken with 15X ocular micrometer in a Nikon SMZ-800 stereoscopic zoom microscope following standard measurements. All dimensions were fractions of millimetre, the observed range expressed to the nearest 0.01 mm, and the mean calculated. For conciseness, the following micrometric parameters have been used in the systematic part of this paper.

(Lz) Length of Zooid, (Wz) width of zooid, (Wp) Width of Peristome, (Df) interfasicular (lor) orifice width, (Dor) Diameter of orifice, (Lov) length of ovicell, (Wov) width of ovicell, (N) Number of zooids, Mean, Standard deviation (SD), Coefficient of variation (CV).

The systematic part of this paper follows, except where otherwise indicated, the bryozoan "Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology" (Part G) of R.S. Bassler (1953) and the Bryozoa home page: http://www.nhm.ac.uk hosted\_home\_page/default html. The described types are housed in the Museum of Geology, P.G Department of Geology, Government Institute of Science, Aurangabad-431004 under the catalogue numbers indicated in the text.

SYSTEMATIC PALAEONTOLOGY Class Stenolaemata Borg, 1926 Order Cyclostomata Busk, 1852 Suborder Articulata Busk, 1859 Family Crisiidae Johnston, 1847 Genus Crisia Lamouroux, 1812 Crisia cf. elongata Milne-Edwards,1838 (Pl. I, figs.1, 2, 3)

*Crisia elongata* Milne-Edwards, 1890, Kirkpatrick, p.170. - 1838 Pl. 1 figs.1, 2 & 3.- Harmer, 1915, p.96, pl.8, figs. 1-8.- Osburn, 1953, p.648, pl. 71, fig. 9.- , Winston, 1982, p.154, figs. 92-93. Braga & Barbin, 1988, p.505, pl.1, fig. 2.- *Crisia holdswarthi* Busk, Thornely, p. 127.- *Crisia denticulate* Lamarck, Waters, 1910, 2, pl.24, figs. 1-3.

*Material*: 487 internode fragments (GIS/B: 1302-1380) Measurements:

	Range	Mean	Ν	SD	CV
Lz	0.04-0.06	0.0475	08	0.0027	5.76
Wz	0.004-0.006	0.00475	08	0.00027	5.76

*Description*: Colony erect, flexible with biserial internodes. 5-10 autozooids per internode present, surfaces pseudopunctate. Zooecial apertures present on frontal side of internodes but absent on dorsal sides. Apertures are circular with a low peristome which is slightly curved laterally. Gonozooecium observed at the top of the branch, broadly inflated, wider distally. Ooeciopore not clearly visible.

*Remarks*: The present species agrees with *Crisia elongata* (Milne-Edwards) (see Winston 1982, p. 154, figs. 92, 93) in all essential characters. However, the specimens are not well preserved and ooeciopore of the gonozooecium is not found on the surface. Hence, the species is being placed provisionally under *Crisia elongata* (Milne-Edwards), till well preserved material is studied. Although spines are not evident on each internode of the present material, *Crisia aculeata* (Hassall) (see Harmelin 1990, p. 1602, figs 2, 3-6) shows some resemblance with the present species but differs in the position of gonozooecium. *Crisia hoernesii* (Reuss) (see Zágoršek 2003, p. 108, Pl.1, fig. 2) differs in having striations on the frontal wall.

Occurrence: Fulra -76 internodes from claystone (Middle Eocene, Lutetian). Waior -88 internodes from white nummulitic limestone (Upper Oligocene, Chattian). Harudi -166 internodes from gypseous shales (Middle Eocene, Lutetian). Lakdi River - 157 internode fragments from yellow limestone (Lower Miocene, Burdigalian).

*Distribution*: This species has a cosmopolitan distribution in the Indo-Pacific region. Eocene: France; Oligocene: France and Italy; Miocene: France, Italy and USSR; Recent: West Africa, Gulf of California, West coast of India.

FamilyEntalophoridae Reuss, 1869GenusMecynoeciaCanu, 1918Mecynoecia sp.(Pl. I, figs. 4, 5)Material:Six internodes (GIS/B: 1381-1387).

Measurements:

	Range	Mean	Ν	SD	Cv
Lp	0.2-0.18	0.019	04	0.002	1.05
Wp	0.012-0.016	0.014	0.4	0.00028	2.02

*Description:* Colony erect, articulated, bifurcating stems. 2 to 3 autozooidal tubes arranged about the colonial axis. Apertures circular, placed on long peristomes often making an acute angle with the long axes of the branch. Frontal surface of tubes smooth, convex. Peristome slightly raised frontal striations. Gonozooecium not observed.

*Remarks*: The specimens from Kachhch were slightly misleading in generic placement because very small internode fragments having infertile autozooidal tubes were available. The present species resembles *Mecynoecia proboscidea* (Milne-Edwards) (Zágoršek, 2010, p.32, pl.18, figs. 1-5) in having long peristomes with circular to oval apertures However; *M. proboscidea* has 3 to 5 autozooidal tubes and globular gonozooecium. *Mecynoecia proboscideoides* (Smitt, 1872) (see Taylor, 2001, p.585, figs.5.4-5.6) differs from the present species in having 4 to 5 autozooidal tubes unevenly distributed around the perimeter. According to Taylor (2001, p.583) *M. proboscideoides* has a tendency for autozooidal apertures to be distributed unevenly around the perimeter of the branch,

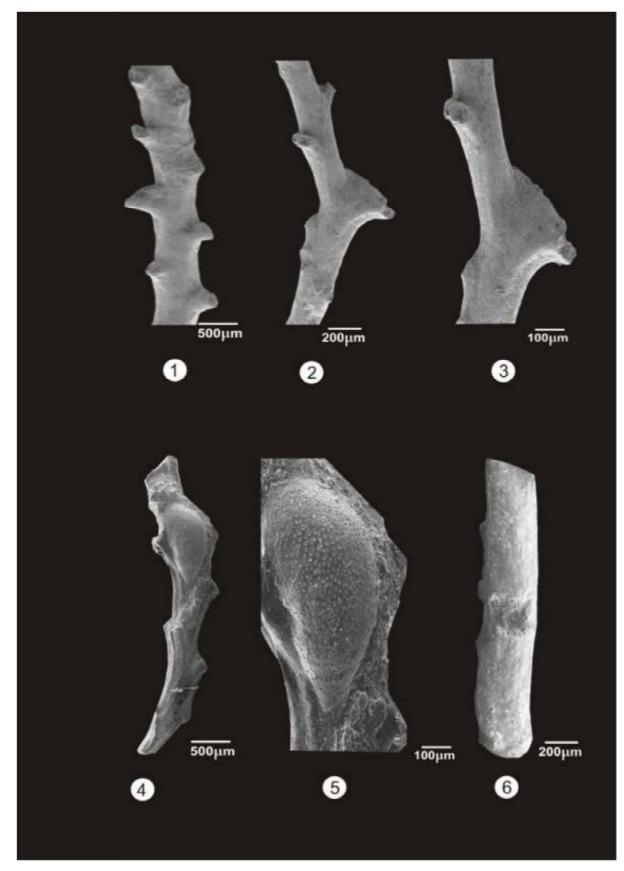
### **EXPLANATION OF PLATE II**

1-3. Exidmonea babiaensis n. sp. GIS/B-1388

1. Frontal view of branch; 2. Frontal view of bifurcating branch with gonozooecium; 3. Enlargement of 2-6 *Exidmonea* cf. *undata* (Reuss) GIS/B-1401; 4. Frontal view of fertile branch; 5. Gonozooecium; 6. view of branch reverse surface.

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occasionally giving a "dorsal" with few or no apertures. Mecynoecia? exterogemma Taylor & McKinney, 2006 differs from the present species in having encrusting branches giving rise to erect branches. The present species differs from Mecynoecia virgula (Hagenow, 1840) (see Guha & Nathan, p.62, Pl.6, figs. 6-7) in having autozooidal peristomes making an acute angle with the long axis of the branch.

Occurrence: Waior: 6 internode fragments from white nummulitic limestone (Upper Oligocene, Chattian).

Suborder Tubuliporina Milne-Edwards, 1838 Family Tubuliporidae, Johnston, 1838 Genus Exidmonea Mongereau, 1969 Exidmonea babiaensis n. sp.

(Pl.I, fig.6; Pl.II, figs. 4, 5 & 6)

Material: (Holotype: GIS/B: 1388; Paratypes: GIS/B: 1389-1400).

Measurements:

Holotype: GIS/B: 1388	Range	Mean	N	SD	CV
Lz	0.2-0.18	0.018	03	0.0053	02
Wz	0.04-0.046	0.045	04	0.001	0.2
Lp	0.02-0.016	0.017	04	0.008	0.4
Df	0.04-0.048	0.038	04	0.017	0.4

Type horizon and locality: The argillaceous sediments of the Harudi Formation from the cliff, north of Harudi village by the side of the road from the Waior village to Narayan Sarovar. Age: Middle Eocene (Lutetian).

Description: Colony erect dichotomously branched. The autozooids are arranged in rows, usually 3-4 autozooecia in each row, alternating on either side of the branch midline, protruding beyond the branch margin. Dorsal surface consisting of vertical thin distinct, wavy striations. Gonozooecium large, placed at bifurcation, triangular distal end broad, tapering proximally, frontal surface perforated by small pseudopores, ooeciopore not clearly observed.

Remarks: The present species closely resemblance with Exidmonea atlantica (see Taylor and Voigt 1992, p. 84) but differs in having distinct vertical striations. Exidmonea giebeli Stoliczka, Zágoršek, 2010 (p. 28, pl. 7, figs. 1-4) shows close resemblance with present species but differs in having additional apertures present, a slightly convex dorsal surface and perforated frontally. Exidmonea dorsata (von Hagenow) (see Taylor & Voigt, 1992, p.124, figs. 1-5, pl.1, figs. 1-8) closely resembles the present species but differs in having less uniform autozooids, apertures lacking peristomes, and gonozooids located medially. Exidmonea concava Braga and Barbin, 1988 (p.506, pl. 1. fig. 3-4) shows similar appearance but differs in having flat or convex dorsal surface.

Occurrence: Harudi: 15 internode fragments from gypseous shales (Middle Eocene, Lutetian). Fulra: 8 internode fragments from argillaceous claystone (Middle Eocene, Lutetian).

Derivation of name: The species is named after Babia Hill where the type section of the Fulra Formation is exposed.

#### Exidmonea cf. undata (Reuss) (Pl. II, figs. 1, 2 & 3)

2010 Exidmonea undata (Reuss), 1977, Vávra, p.28 (cum. syn.).-Zágoršek, p.29, pl.7, figs. 1-4.

Material: 3 Specimens (GIS/B: 1401-1403).

Measurements:

	Range	Mean	N	SD	Cv
Lz	0.04-0.042	0.039	04	0.005	0.12
Wz	0.04-0.018	0.044	04	0.001	0.02
Lp	0.02-0.016	0.017	04	0.008	0.4
Df	0.04-0.048	0.038	04	0.017	0.4

Description: Colony erect, oval in transverse section, dichotomously branched, usually with 2-3 autozooecia arranged in each row, alternating on either side of the branch midline, slightly protruding beyond the colony margin. Apertures rectangular to oval. Dorsal surface convex, smooth, without striations. Gonozooecium not observed.

Remarks: This species is comparable to Exidmonea undata (Reuss) (see Zágoršek 2010, p. 29, pl. 7, figs. 1-4) in having an oval transverse section, 2 to 3 autozooids with rectangular to oval apertures. However, the present species has a convex, smooth dorsal surface without ribs. Hence, we tentatively place it under E. undata (Reuss) until more material is at hand. Exidmonea hornesi (Stoliczka) (see Mongereau 1969, p. 238, pl. 18, figs .8, 9) shows some resemblance with the present species in having an oval transverse branch section, and a smooth, convex dorsal surface; however, it differs in having 5 to 6 apertures in each row of autozooids. Exidmonea villaltae (Reguant) (see Mongereau, 1969, p. 252, pl. 21, figs. 4-5, 10 and 13) also shows a close resemblance with the present species in having three apertures per row, a convex, smooth dorsal surface and in lacking gonozooids. However, the present species differs from E. villaltae in having an oval transverse branch section and autozooids placed on the lateral side of the branch

Occurrence: Harudi: 3 internode fragments from gypseous shales (Middle Eocene, Lutetian).

> Distribution: Miocene: Tortonian: Austria. Family Oncousoeciidae Canu, 1918 Genus Proboscina Audouin, 1826 'Proboscina' sp.

(Pl. III, figs. 1, 2 & 3)

Material: One Specimen (GIS/B: 1404). Measurements:

	Range	Mean	Ν	SD	Cv
LZ	0.4-0.4	0.0485	04	0.0015	3.10
Lori	0.004-0.006	0.0042	09	0.00018	4.46

Description: Colony encrusting, unilaminar, bifurcating, with fan-shaped ramifications. Autozooids tubular, thin, peristomes slightly raised, apertures circular, arranged quincunxially and placed obliquely relative to the surface. Slight transverse striations and fine pseudopunctate surface frontally on the branches. Gonozooid not observed.

#### **EXPLANATION OF PLATE III**

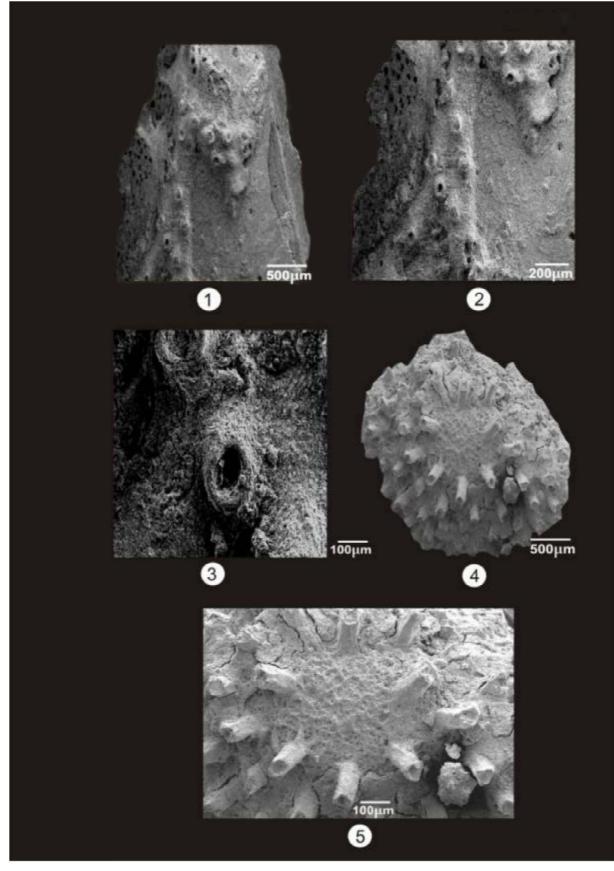
1-3. Proboscina sp. GIS/B-1404

<sup>1.</sup> Part of a colony showing bifurcating pluriserial branches.

<sup>2.</sup> Enlargement of 1; 3. Autozooid with ovate aperture and low peristome; 4, 5. Disporella sp. GIS/B-1406; 4. Complete view of encrusting, unilaminar colony showing quincuncial arrangement of autozooidal tubes; 5 Close-up of central alveoli showing simple, circular to oval outline.

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*Remarks*: Only single specimen is present in our collection, encrusting an oyster shell. However, details of the gonozooecium are not preserved, which is a significant character to confirm its identity. The '*Proboscina*' sp. described by Guha and Gopikrishna (2007, pp.1278-77, pl. 2, figs. 5-6) resembles the present species in its unilaminar growth habit, circular apertures, autozooids arranged quincunxially, placed obliquely, with slight striations and pseudopunctate frontal surface. However, in the present species a gonozooecium was not observed.

Occurrence: Laiyari: one colony encrusting oyster shale obtained from yellow limestone (Lower Miocene, Aquitanian).

*Family* Lichenoporidae Smitt, 1867 *Genus Disporella* Gray, 1848 *Disporella* aff. *radiata* (Audouin, 1826)

(Pl. I, fig. 7)

Melobesia radiata Audouin, 1826, p. 235, pl.6, fig. 3. -Lichenopora radiata (Audouin), Canu & Bassler, 1929, p. 556, pl. 88, figs.1-6.-Mawatari & Mawatari, p.355, pl. 30, fig. 4.

Material: One Specimen (GIS/B: 1405)

Measurements:

	Range	Mean	Ν	SD	Cv
Lz	0.015-0.01	0.013	06	0.00041	3.11
Wz	0.004-0.005	0.0046	06	0.00011	2.47

*Description*: Colony encrusting, discoidal, convex with central area depressed, surrounded by inclined autozooidal tubes; tubes adjacent to colony centre somewhat tilted and radiating away from the centre. Autozooidal tubes are arranged in uniserial. 5-6 fascicles present in each row and 10-12 radiating rows separated by grooves. Autozooidal apertures are oval to nearly rectangular, arranged very close to each other, in linear pattern. Gonozooid not recognizable.

Remarks: The single specimen is available in our collection. Provisionally, we have placed this specimen under genus Disporella because Lichenopora, based on the Miocene type species, has steeply conical colonies, not the encrusting colony-form seen in most of the species which have in the past been assigned to this genus in error but should be placed in Patinella instead. The main difference between Patinella and Disporella is that the alveoli in the centres of the colony (or subcolonies) become subdivided by struts in Patinella whereas in Disporella they are simple, often with iris-like constrictions (Gordon and Taylor, 1997, p.71). In addition, the ooeciopore is typically located within the central region of alveoli in Patinella whereas it may be located further out between the rows of autozooidal apertures in Disporella. (Taylor P.D. pers. comm. August 2012). The present species is broken, infertile colony and therefore its recognition to Disporella is tentative. Disporella wanganuiensis (Waters, 1887) (see Gordon and Taylor, 2001, p. 266, figs.31-36) closely resembles the present species however, differs in having 1-3 autozooids in each row. Our specimens show a close affinity to Lichenopora radiata (Audouin) (see Canu and Bassler, 1929, p. 556, pl. 88, figs 1-6; Mawatari and Mawatari, 1974, p. 355. pl. 30, fig, 4) but differs in having more number of uniserial fascicles. Lichenopora (Domopora) strictolamellosa Canu & Bassler 1929 (p. 561, pl. 89, figs. 8, 9) shows superficial resemblance with present species, but differs in having biserial fascicles. Lichenopora verrucaria (Fabricius) (see Mawatari

and Mawatari, 1974, p.355, pl. 30, fig. 4) shows some resemblance with the present species but differs in having a subcircular colony. *Lichenopora betsibokensis* Brood, 1977 (p.80, fig. 20) shows difference in the arrangement of zooidal tubes, and the shape of the colony.

*Occurrence*: Fulra: one discoid colony from argillaceous claystone (Middle-Eocene, Lutetian).

Genus Disporella Gray, 1848

Disporella sp.

(Pl. III, figs. 4 & 5)

Material: One Specimen (GIS/B-1406).

*Measurements*: Mean Length of the colony = 0.012 and width of the colony = 0.006

*Description*: Colony encrusting, unilaminar, orbicular in outline, with thin and slender zooecia arranged in sub-linear rows. Alveoli placed centrally, simple, small, circular to oval in outline. Autozooecia tubular, thin, long, frontal wall convex, minutely pseudoporous, peristome small, circular to oval in outline, arranged quincunxially and obliquely to the surface. Gonozooecium not observed.

Remarks: The single specimen obtained from Fulra is infertile. Disporella sp.b (http//www.bryozoa.net/cyclostomata/ Lichenoporidae/Disporella/Nmita.html) shows very close resemblance with present species in the nature of autozooidal tubes, however, autozooidal tubes placed in linear rows and the intervening alveoli are rectangular to sub-rectangular in shape with the gonozooid. Disporella pristis (MacGillivray, 1884) (http://www.bryozoa.net/cyclostomata /Lichenoporidae/ Disporella) also shows superficial resemblance with present species in the shape of autozooidal tubes but, the arrangement of autozooidal tubes and intervening alveoli are of different nature. Disporella cf. hispida (Fleming, 1828) (see Zágoršek 2010, p. 39, pl.36, figs. 2-5) appears to be very similar to present species in having uniserial and isolated zooidal tubes, quincunxially arrangement of the apertures however, the present species donot show gonozooid. Because the present material contain only single specimen and details of gonozooecium are not observed, the exact recognition of the species remains uncertain till well-preserved material is studied.

Occurrence: Fulra: one disc shaped colony from argillaceous clay section (Middle Eocene, Lutetian).

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