



Bryozoa from detritic bottoms in the Menorca Channel (Balearic Islands, western Mediterranean), with notes on the genus *Cribellopora*

JAVIER SOUTO¹, OSCAR REVERTER-GIL² & EUGENIO FERNÁNDEZ-PULPEIRO³

Departamento de Zooloxía e Antropoloxía Física, Facultade de Bioloxía, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, 15782 Santiago de Compostela, Spain. E-mail: ¹javier.souto@usc.es; ²oscar.reverter@usc.es; ³eugenio.fernandez.pulpeiro@usc.es

Abstract

Samples of Bryozoa were collected during an epibenthic sledge survey (Canal0209) of the Menorca Channel between Menorca and Mallorca in the Balearic Islands in 2009. Twenty-nine species were identified, including a new genus of Calloporidae (*Barrosia*) and a new species of *Fenestrulina*, described herein. A lectotype is designated for *Coronellina fagei* (Calescharidae). *Cribellopora simplex*, a species of Lacernidae generally considered to be a junior synonym of *Cribellopora trichotoma*, is redescribed on the basis of the holotype and newly collected material.

Key words: Cheilostomata, Calloporidae, new genus, *Barrosia*, new species, *Coronellina*, *Cribellopora*, *Fenestrulina*, Iberian Peninsula, Balearic Islands

Introduction

The bryozoan fauna of the Mediterranean Sea has been the subject of study of many authors over a long period of time. Rosso (2003) catalogued 426 species and 27 subspecies in 195 genera and 89 families from the region, and new species continue to be described (e.g. Hayward & McKinney 2002; Rosso 2004; Harmelin *et al.* 2007, 2009; Berning & Kukliński 2008; Ayari *et al.* 2008; Reverter-Gil *et al.* 2009; Souto *et al.* 2010), indicates that our knowledge of Mediterranean bryozoan diversity is still incomplete.

Insofar as the Iberian bryozoan fauna is concerned, the Mediterranean coast has traditionally been the main area of faunistic studies, but the Balearic Islands have also figured in surveys, most notably by Spanish and French workers. Among them we may single out M. G. Barroso, who published numerous articles on Balearic Bryozoa (Barroso 1915, 1918, 1919a,b, 1920, 1922, 1923, 1929, 1935, 1948). Other authors who have contributed to knowledge of the bryozoan fauna of these islands are Calvet (1927), Silén (1946), Gautier (1957, 1962), Prenant & Bobin (1966), Zabala (1983, 1986, 1993), Maluquer (1985), Zabala & Maluquer (1988), López de la Cuadra & García-Gómez (2001), Reverter-Gil *et al.* (2009), and Souto *et al.* (2010). The present total for Balearic bryozoan diversity is 170 species, comprising 15 cyclostomes, 15 ctenostomes and 140 cheilostomes.

The bryozoans studied here were collected by epibenthic sledge during the 2009 sampling survey Canal0209 (Project: "*Caracterización del ecosistema demersal y bentónico del canal de Menorca (Islas Baleares) y su explotación pesquera*"). A total of 29 species were identified, including two new taxa, one a new monotypic genus of Calloporidae. Additionally, specimens were collected of two bryozoan species that have enabled clarification of their systematic status, permitting the reinstatement of one of them, viz *Cribellopora simplex* Gautier, 1957, which is redescribed.