



Marcusadorea, a new genus of lepralioid bryozoan from warm waters

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Abstract

A new cheilostome bryozoan genus *Marcusadorea* (type species *Marcusadorea jamaicensis* n. sp. from the north coast of Jamaica) is described and illustrated along with a second species, *Coleopora corderoi* Marcus, 1949 from Southeast Brazil. A third species, *Holoporella tubulosa* Canu & Bassler, 1928, described from the Caribbean, but also present in Brazil, is included in this genus and redescribed. At least one Indo-West-Pacific species, “*Cosciniopsis*” *efatensis* Tilbrook, 2006, is a congener.

Key words: Bryozoa, Schizoporelloidea, *Coleopora*, new combination, new species

Introduction

The genus *Coleopora* Canu & Bassler, 1927, established for *Coleopora verrucosa* Canu & Bassler, 1927 from the Philippines, is characterized by a developed peristome, regularly porous frontal shield, and by the absence of size-differentiated, marginal areolar septular pores. When introducing *Coleopora corderoi*, Marcus (1949) noted differences between it and other *Coleopora* species described by Canu & Bassler (1927, 1928, 1929), including the frequency of tubular structures around pores and absence of a suboral avicularium in the other species. Marcus (1949) also described and figured the ovicell of *C. corderoi*, which opens into the distal cavity of the peristome. Canu & Bassler (1927) reported globular ovicells in colonies of *C. verrucosa*, but the examination of holotype and paratype in the United States National Museum (USNM 7969, 8465) showed colonies without ovicells. In two other species also described by Canu & Bassler (1928, 1929), respectively *Coleopora granulosa* and *Coleopora seriata*, as well as in the western Atlantic species *Coleopora americana* Osburn, 1940, ovicells are absent.

In this paper we describe a new genus and species, *Marcusadorea jamaicensis* n. gen. et sp., and remove two western Atlantic species from the genus *Coleopora* and place them in the new genus, mainly based on the presence of a lepralioid frontal shield and oecium formation. We suggest that at least one Pacific species, “*Cosciniopsis*” *efatensis* Tilbrook, 2006, belongs in this genus.

Material and methods

The following description is based on western Atlantic material, deposited in the Bryozoa collection of MZUSP (Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil), UFAL (Universidade Federal de Alagoas, Brazil), MZUFBA (Museu de Zoologia of Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil), AMNH (American Museum of Natural History, USA), MCZ (Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University, USA), USNM (National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, USA), and VMNH (Virginia Museum of Natural History, USA). The specimens were examined using scanning electron microscopy (Zeiss LEO 440