Thalamoporella californica (Levinsen 1909)
Thalamoporellidae

SCAMIT CODE: MBC51
SCCWRP69

SYNONYMY:
Steganoporella rozieri form gothica Hincks 1880
Thalamoporella rozieri Robertson 1908
Thalamoporella rozieri var. californica Levinsen 1909

LITERATURE: Robertson 1908
Osburn 1950
Soule 1959
Pinter 1969

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:
1. At first encrusting, usually on algae (Egregia laevigata, Gelidium spp., Laurencia spp.),
   thin rising into erect, articulated club-shaped branches.
2. Sides of the zooecia nearly straight and parallel, the distal rim arcuate.
3. Front has many small pores.
4. Avicularia are vicarious or interzooecial, and almost as large as the zooecia, with a
   long, tapering mandible.
5. Ovicells are uncommon but prominent, smooth or faintly striated, bilobate, with a
   median keeled seam.

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:
1. Thalamoporella gothica is encrusting or rises up in frills or fronds, but does not form
   erect branching colonies.
2. Cellaria spp. do not have pores in the cryptocyst, or prominent bilobate ovicells.

DEPTH RANGE: Shallow to 47 fm

DISTRIBUTION: Point Conception to Galapagos Islands

Fig. 24.31 Thalamoporella californica.
(a) An erect colony fragment, about life size.
(b) An avicularium and autozoid.
(After Osburn, 1950.)
Fig. 27a.—*Thalamoporella rozieri* Audouin. Habit sketch of a portion of an incrusting colony. Natural size.

Fig. 27.—*T. rozieri*. Habit sketch of a portion of a branching colony. Natural size.

Fig. 28.—*T. rozieri*. A few zoecia in the adult condition showing operculum (*op.*) and posterior portion of orifice (*p.or.*); also foramen (*for.*) and blunt process (*bl.pro.*). × 30.

Fig. 29.—*T. rozieri*. Three zoecia showing great size of the bilobate zoecia (*oce.*) and the diminutive size of the zoecia bearing them. × 30.

Fig. 30.—*T. rozieri*. A few zoecia in the adult condition without blunt processes and showing a large spatulate avicularium (*sp.av.*). × 30.