

SCAMIT Code: SCCWRP 72

Date Examined: 8 September 1986  
Voucher by: Carol Paquette

SYNONYMY: *Crisia eburnea* Robertson 1903

LITERATURE: Robertson 1910  
Osburn 1953

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

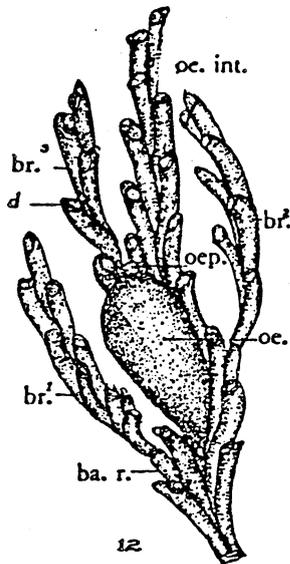
1. Erect and jointed, with two alternating series of zooecia, usually 5 or more in each internode.
2. Joints white to yellow.
3. Zooecia are connate for their entire length, with the tips directed forward, usually with a blunt point on the dorsal lip of the tube, giving the edges of the branches a serrated appearance.
4. Ovicell elongate and gradually expanding; oeciostome straight, without a flap over the aperture. (This character is usually not useful, as most specimens do not contain ovicells.)

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

1. *Filicrisia* spp. have fewer zooecia per internode (1 to 5 vs. 5 or more) and black joints in older specimens.
2. *Crisidia* sp. and *Bicrisia* sp. have elongate filiform spines.
3. *Crisia operculata* and *C. maxima* do not have a keel on the frontal surface of the internode.
4. The distance between zoecial apertures is about equal to the width of the branch in *C. occidentalis* compared with greater than the width in *C. operculata* and less than the width in *C. serrulata*. (There are also differences in the ovicells.)

DEPTH RANGE: Low water to 30 fm.

DISTRIBUTION: British Columbia to Galapagos Islands.



from Robertson 1910

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Fig. 11. *Crisia occidentalis* Trask. Habit sketch. X 1.

Fig. 12. *C. occidentalis*. A portion of a colony showing branching, especially of the oöcial internode. In this, the oöcium (oe.) is the fifth member of the internode; the first branch (br. 1) arising in a basis rami (ba. r.), not wedged in, but attached to the side of the third zoöcium; the second branch (br. 2) arising on the side of the sixth zoöcium, the oöcium which pairs with the oöcium; the third branch (br. 3) arising at the ninth zoöcium just above the summit of the ovicell. The distal portion of the oöcial internode carrying the zoörial growth upward. X 36.

from Osburn 1953

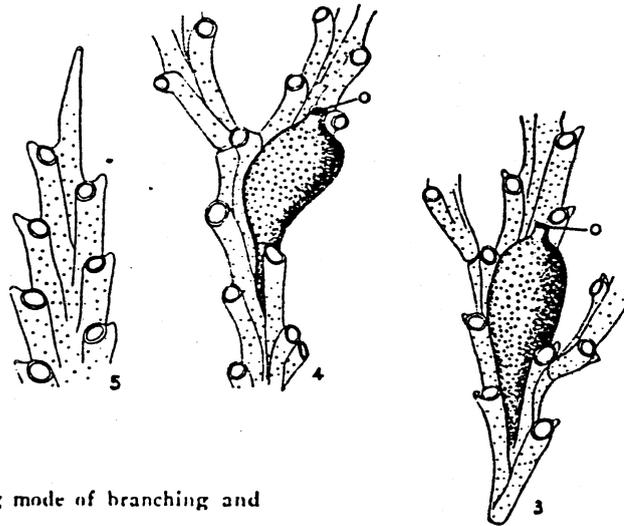


Fig. 3. *Crisia occidentalis* Trask, showing mode of branching and normal form of ovicell.

Fig. 4. The same, distorted ovicell due to curved internode.

Fig. 5. The same, pointed tip of terminal internode, often present.