SCAMIT CODE: MBC56
SCCWRP 70

Date Examined: 8 September 1986
Voucher by: Carol Paquette

SYNONYMY: *Flustra tuberculata* Bosc 1802
Flustra tehuelcha d'Orbigny 1839-46
Membranipora tehuelcha Robertson 1908
Nichtina tuberculata Harmer 1926

LITERATURE: Robertson 1908
Osburn 1950
Soule 1959
Pinter 1969

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:

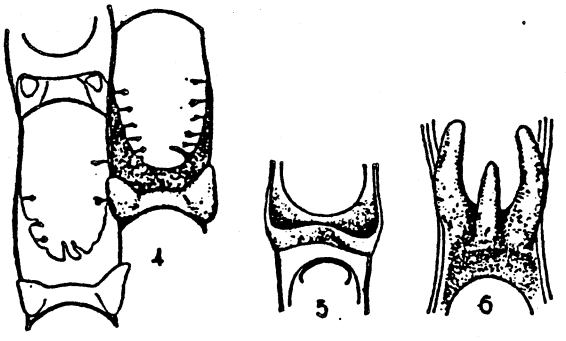
1. Encrusting on algae (*Gelidium* spp. and *Cystoseira osmundacea* most common).
2. Walls heavily calcified; the cryptocyst is usually well developed at the proximal end.
3. There are tubercles at the corners, which may curve toward each other; sometimes a third tubercle occurs between them on the end wall.

RELATED SPECIES AND CHARACTER DIFFERENCES:

1. *M. serrilamella* has cryptocyst little developed; *M. membranacea* has no cryptocyst.
2. *M. villosa* has chitinous spinules and corner spines.

DEPTH RANGE: Shallow water.

DISTRIBUTION: North Carolina to Brazil, California to Peru, Galpagos Islands, Southern Japan, Indian Ocean, East Indies

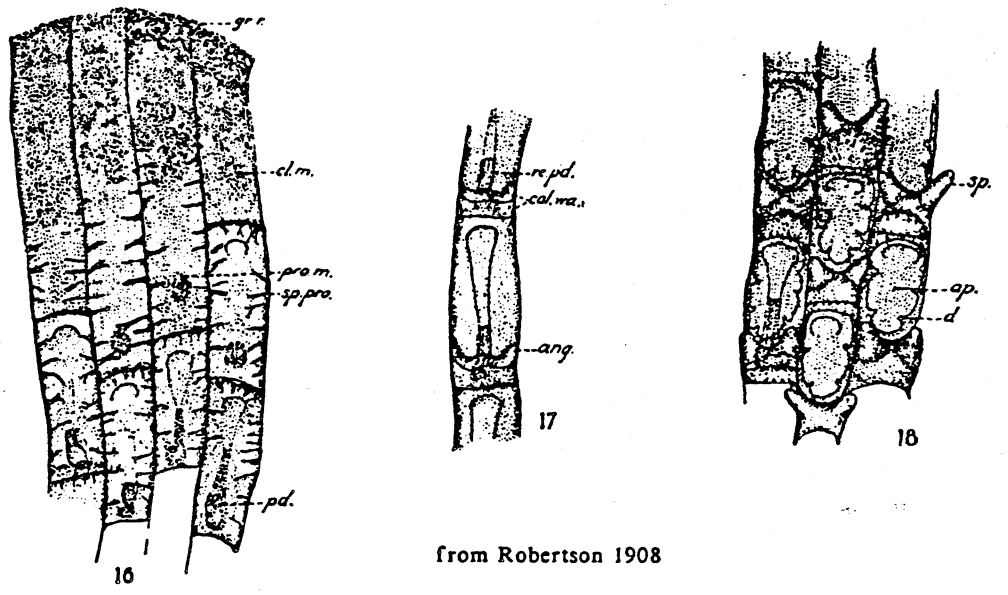


from Osburn 1950

Fig. 4. *Membranipora tuberculata* (Bosc), with tubercles, cryptocyst and internal spinules.

Fig. 5. The same, young with partially developed tubercles.

Fig. 6. The same, with three elongate tubercles.



from Robertson 1908

Fig. 16.—*Membranipora tehuelcha* d'Orbigny. A few immature zoœcia and a portion of the growing rim (*gr. r.*). × 30.

Fig. 17.—*M. tehuelcha.* An immature zoœcium showing the beginning of the calcified spines at the distal angles (*ang.*). × 30.

Fig. 18.—*M. tehuelcha.* A few zoœcia showing the adult condition with closed aperture (*ap.*), calcified margins, and calcareous tubercles or spines (*sp.*). × 30.