

## Two new species of *Plakina* Schulze, 1880 (Porifera, Plakinidae) from the Aleutian Islands (Alaska, USA)

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### Abstract

*Plakina tanaga* and *Plakina atka* n. spp. are described from the waters around the Aleutian Islands at depths between 118 and 146m. These are the first records of the genus from the Aleutian Islands. The new species described here are compared with the six species of *Plakina* previously reported from the Pacific. Both species belong to the *Plakina trilopha* species-complex and differ from other Pacific species of *Plakina* in their conspicuous convoluted surface pattern, color, and spiculation. In addition to the usual set of triods both species have a second category with basally spined rays. *Plakina tanaga* n. sp. has a strongly convoluted, microtuberculate surface, and a few small, thin spines at the basal rays of the triods, and relatively large trilophose calthrops. *Plakina atka* n. sp. has a smoother surface, more numerous larger and thicker basal spines at the triods, and considerably smaller lophocalthrops which are tetralophate.

**Key words:** Taxonomy, Porifera, Plakinidae, new species, Aleutian Islands, N-Pacific

### Introduction

The Homosclerophorida Dendy, 1905 contains one family, the Plakinidae Schulze 1880. The family was established for several Mediterranean species and now contains seven genera (Muricy & Diaz, 2002). With the exception of the genus *Pseudocorticium* Boury-Esanult *et al.*, 1995 all genera have a more or less worldwide distribution. With this publication the genus *Plakina* Schulze, 1880 is represented by 24 species. Two of these species, *Plakina monolopha* Schulze, 1880 and *Plakina trilopha* Schulze, 1880 were originally described from the Mediterranean but were subsequently reported from all oceans worldwide. More recently several authors (Desqueyroux-Faundez & Van Soest,