



New seamount- and ridge-associated cyclostome Bryozoa from New Zealand

DENNIS P. GORDON¹ & PAUL D. TAYLOR²

¹National Institute for Water & Atmospheric Research, Private Bag 14901 Kilbirnie, Wellington, New Zealand

E-mail: d.gordon@niwa.co.nz

²Department of Palaeontology, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK. E-mail: pdt@nhm.ac.uk

Abstract

Recent sampling of seamount and ridge habitats in the New Zealand Exclusive Economic Zone has yielded new cyclostome bryozoan taxa. We describe here one new genus, a new name, *Dartevellopora* (to replace the generic homonym *Dartevellia* Borg, 1944) and ten new species, comprising *Filicisparsa albobrunnea* n. sp. (Oncousoeciidae), *Discantenna tumba* n. gen., n. sp. (Diastoporidae), *Supercytis gracilis* n. sp. (family incertae sedis), *Filifascigera brevicaudex* (Fron diporidae); *Plagioecia parva* n. sp. (Plagioeciidae), *Favosipora bathyialis* n. sp. (Densiporidae), and *Dartevellopora neozelanica* n. sp., *D. rugosa* n. sp., *Disporella minicamera* and *D. minutissima* n. sp. (Lichenoporidae). Seven of the new species occurred in the “Graveyard Seamount Complex” on the north-central Chatham Rise to the east of the South Island. Of these, three species and one new genus are known only from the type locality on “Graveyard” Seamount — the most intensively fished of the seamounts in the complex by heavy bottom-trawl gear, which has implications for species conservation. Evidence based on discrimination between benthic invertebrate assemblages of hard bottoms on fished and unfished seamounts in the area suggests that small, short-lived taxa like cyclostome bryozoans might not be disadvantaged by bottom-trawling.

Key words: Bryozoa, Cyclostomata, new genus, new species, *Filicisparsa*, *Discantenna*, *Supercytis*, *Plagioecia*, *Favosipora*, *Dartevellopora*, *Dartevellia*, *Disporella*, New Zealand, endemism, bottom trawling

Introduction

The living cyclostome bryozoan fauna of the New Zealand region has, until fairly recently, been very poorly known and is still inadequately characterised. Gray (1843) reported one nominal species in an appendix to Ernst Dieffenbach’s *Travels in New Zealand* but the identity of the species is not known with certainty. Three decades later, when indigenous sampling of New Zealand’s biota had begun to take place, along with the establishment of a national institution to receive and store specimens, numerous species of the diverse and abundant bryozoan fauna of New Zealand had been collected and identified. Hutton (1873) listed 17 nominal cyclostome species (Tubuliporina 10, Rectangulata 2, Cancellata 3, Articulata 2), using European names for many. New Zealand cyclostomes were listed in subsequent works by Hutton (1877, 1880, 1891, 1904) and Hamilton (1898) but, as Gordon & Taylor (2001) pointed out, it is not easy to harmonise the various names used in these publications, especially in the absence of voucher specimens. Suffice it to say that, by 1904, Hutton listed 29 Recent New Zealand cyclostomes [cf. 32 species in Hamilton’s (1898) list].

Very little taxonomic work was carried out on New Zealand Recent cyclostomes during the rest of the twentieth century until the 1990s, although they were mentioned in some ecological studies and faunal reviews (e.g., Morton & Miller 1968; Ryland 1975; Gordon & Ballantine 1977; Taylor 1991, 1994; Gordon & Mawatari 1992). Late twentieth-century taxonomic papers describing or redescribing New Zealand Recent cyclostomes, or fossil cyclostomes with implications for the nomenclature of living taxa, were those of Taylor *et al.* (1989) (hermit-crab associates), Boardman *et al.* (1992) (Cinctiporidae), Gordon & Taylor (1997) (secular range and redefinition of *Lichenopora*) and Taylor & Gordon (1997) (a new tubuliporine genus). The new century began with the publication of several taxonomic papers dealing with New Zealand cyclostomes