

***Globuloverruca spongophila* gen. nov., sp. nov. a sponge-associated verrucid (Crustacea: Cirripedia: Thoracica) from Easter Island, with discussion on the morphology of the plate tubules**

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**Abstract**

*Globuloverruca spongophila* gen. nov., sp. nov., associated with sponges, is described from Easter Island, southeastern Pacific. It presents morphological adaptations related to the association including an elongated carina and rostrum and the presence of denticles and stout setae on the distal articles of anterior cirri. The presence of tubules in the plates of *Verruca* and *Globuloverruca* is discussed.

**Key words:** Crustacea, Cirripedia, *Globuloverruca* gen. nov., sp. nov., sponge-associated, Easter Island, southeast Pacific

**Introduction**

Barnacles are known to form symbiotic associations with various marine organisms ranging from sponges to whales. These associations are variously distributed among cirriped taxa, including several groups of pedunculate and sessile forms (Newman 1996). The most specialized forms among the balanomorphs are species of *Hoekiini*, which have become fully parasitic on corals (Ross & Newman 1995). On the other hand, the association between verrucomorphs and other animals is practically unknown.

Gruvel (1911) briefly described without any figure *Verruca spongicola* associated with sponges from Timoe Island. Zevina (1987) transferred it to her monotypic new genus *Spongoverruca*, which Young (1998) synonymized with *Alti-verruca* Pilsbry, 1916. Young (2002a) could not locate the type specimen of the species in the Muséum National d'histoire Naturelle, Paris, and it is probably lost. This species *Alti-verruca spongicola* (Gruvel, 1912) was never collected again, and its relationship to the sponge is unknown. Shallow water verrucids are commonly overgrown by sponges, especially those shallow-water *Ver-*