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7 Morphological and molecular assessment of *Lithophyllum okamurae* with
8 the description of *L. neo-okamurae* sp. nov. (Corallinales, Rhodophyta)

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28 **RUNNING TITLE**

29 *Lithophyllum okamurae* and *L. neo-okamurae*

30 **ABSTRACT**

31 *Lithophyllum okamurae* has been widely reported in the Pacific Ocean with identification
32 based on morpho-anatomical observations. Two infraspecific taxa, *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae*
33 and f. *angulare*, described from Japan, have been recorded in the temperate region of Japan.
34 We assessed branched *Lithophyllum* samples morphologically referable to *L. okamurae* using
35 morpho-anatomical data and DNA sequences (*psbA*, *rbcL* and partial LSU rDNA) obtained
36 from herbarium specimens, including type material, as well as recently field-collected
37 material in Japan. The molecular analyses showed that these '*L. okamurae*' samples
38 contained two species: *L. okamurae* and a cryptic new species which we describe as *L. neo-*
39 *okamurae* sp. nov. Because the holotype of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* was conspecific with
40 original material cited in the protologue of *L. okamurae*, it is a heterotypic synonym of *L.*
41 *okamurae* f. *okamurae*. *Lithophyllum okamurae* and *L. neo-okamurae* were morphologically
42 similar in having warty, lumpy and fruticose thalli and in often forming rhodoliths.
43 *Lithophyllum okamurae* can be morpho-anatomically distinguished from *L. neo-okamurae* by
44 the thallus with tapering or plate-like protuberances (knobby protuberances in the latter) and
45 by having smaller tetrasporangial conceptacle chambers (167–314 μm ; 248–380 μm in *L.*
46 *neo-okamurae*). Our LSU rDNA sequence data from *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* (= *L. okamurae*
47 f. *okamurae*) was identical to that of the type of *L. margaritae*, which has nomenclatural
48 priority over *L. okamurae*. However, considering that *psbA* and *rbcL* sequences of *L.*
49 *margaritae* type material could not be generated in the present study, we refrain, for the

50 moment, from proposing the taxonomic synonymy between these two taxa until the status of
51 *L. margaritae* and its synonyms from the type locality (Gulf of California) are clarified.

52 **KEYWORDS**

53 *Lithophyllum margaritae*; LSU rDNA; Morpho-anatomy; Non-geniculate coralline
54 algae; Northwestern Pacific Ocean; *psbA*; *rbcL*; Rhodolith

55 INTRODUCTION

56 *Lithophyllum* Philippi (Corallinales, Rhodophyta) is the largest genus of non-geniculate
57 coralline algae and currently includes 130 taxonomically accepted species names (Guiry &
58 Guiry 2021). However, most of these species have been described based only on morpho-
59 anatomical characters. An effective method to validate species identities, diversity and
60 distribution has been to combine DNA sequencing of freshly field-collected specimens and
61 type specimens with traditional morpho-anatomical characters (Gabrielson *et al.* 2011). This
62 approach has confirmed that there are many species of *Lithophyllum* in Europe (Hernández-
63 Kantún *et al.* 2015a; Peña *et al.* 2018; Pezsolesi *et al.* 2019; Caragnano *et al.* 2020), the
64 warm temperate-tropical western Atlantic ocean basin (Hernández-Kantún *et al.* 2016;
65 Richards *et al.* 2018), the western Indian ocean basin (Basso *et al.* 2015; Maneveldt *et al.*
66 2019), and the northwestern Pacific ocean basin (Kato & Baba 2019).

67 *Lithophyllum okamurae* Foslie (1900, ‘*okamurai*’), described from Misaki, Kanagawa
68 Prefecture (previously as Sagami Province), Japan, has been reported worldwide based on
69 morpho-anatomical characters. This species is also known as one of major components of
70 rhodolith beds in the northwestern Pacific Ocean (Kato *et al.* 2017). Moreover, based on
71 growth-form and anatomical similarities, Basso *et al.* (1996) suggested that *L. okamurae*
72 could be the Indo-Pacific vicariant of the Mediterranean *Lithophyllum racemus* (Lam.)
73 Foslie. However, the application of the species name *L. okamurae* has not been confirmed
74 based on sequences from the type specimen.

75 *Lithophyllum okamurae* has a complicated taxonomic history. The species was
76 described by Foslie (1900) from Japan based on material collected by K. Yendo (Yendo
77 specimens no. 80, 120, 270, 379, 382, 389, 408). No infraspecific taxa were proposed in
78 Foslie (1900). One year later, Foslie (1901) proposed in reference to *L. okamurae* the forms
79 ‘*japonica*’ and ‘*angularis*’ as manuscript names (“Fosl. mscr.”), without description or
80 diagnosis; these names were therefore not validly published.

81 Foslie (1904) validated both *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* (‘*angularis*’ in the text,
82 ‘*angulata*’ in the legend of the figure) and *L. okamurae* f. *japonicum* (‘*japonica*’) by
83 providing illustrations of specimens (Foslie 1904, pl. 11, fig. 12 for f. *angulare* and pl. 11,
84 figs 13–19 for f. *japonicum*; see Turland *et al.* 2018, ICN, Art. 38.8 and 38.10); and his
85 illustration of the species (Foslie 1904, legend to pl. 11, fig. 11) has been taken as indicating
86 the illustrated specimen as the (lecto)type of *L. okamurae* (Woelkerling 1993, p. 163).
87 However, in the text Foslie (1904, p. 60) states, concerning his original description of *L.*
88 *okamurae*: “I then possessed specimens only of the form of the species which I have
89 afterwards named f. *angularis* (Pl. XI, fig. 11–12).”

90 Later, Foslie (1909, p. 30) used the designation ‘*L. okamurae* f. *typica*’ for the typical
91 form of the species (not validly published; Turland *et al.* 2018, Art. 24.3, 26.2), and listed as
92 a synonym *L. okamurae* f. *japonicum*, thereby considering it to represent the typical form.
93 Herbarium specimens labeled *L. okamurae* f. *japonicum* should then be referred by the
94 autonym *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae*, as correctly proposed by Woelkerling *et al.* (2005).

95 The lectotype of *L. okamurae*, illustrated by Foslie (1904, pl. 11, fig. 11), corresponds
96 to Yendo specimen no. 408 (TRH A21-1318) while the rest of Yendo's specimens quoted in
97 the protologue were divided into TRH A21-1325 (no. 270) and TRH A21-1326 (no. 80, 120,
98 379, 382, 389). All these specimens were regarded as the main form (autonym) *L. okamurae*
99 *f. okamurae* (Woelkerling *et al.* 2005). In Foslie (1904), among figs 13–19 of pl. 11 of the
100 form *japonicum* (currently as *f. okamurae*), only fig. 13 was from the Pacific coast of Japan.
101 Unfortunately, Woelkerling *et al.* (2005) did not find the specimen corresponding to that
102 figure.

103 The holotype of *L. okamurae f. angulare*, indicated by Foslie (1904, pl. 11, fig. 12),
104 corresponds to specimen TRH A21-1327, quoted by Woelkerling *et al.* (2005). Foslie (1909)
105 mentioned that *f. angulare* was characterized by less closely spaced branches than the typical
106 form, and more or less angular branches. This holotype was not included in the material cited
107 in the protologue of *L. okamurae* (Foslie 1900).

108 Five more infraspecific taxa of *L. okamurae* have been described: *Lithophyllum*
109 *okamurae f. ptychoides* Foslie [currently as *Lithophyllum ptychoides* (Foslie) Foslie],
110 *Lithophyllum okamurae f. trincomaliense* Foslie ('*trincomaliensis*'), *Lithophyllum okamurae*
111 *f. validum* Foslie ('*valida*') [currently as *Lithophyllum validum* (Foslie) Foslie], *Lithophyllum*
112 *okamurae f. subplicatum* Foslie ('*subplicata*') [currently as *L. subplicatum* (Foslie) D.Basso,
113 Caragnano, L.Le Gall & Rodondi] and *Lithophyllum okamurae f. contiguum* Foslie
114 ('*contigua*') [currently as *Sporolithon australasicum* (Foslie) Yam.-Tomita ex M.J.Wynne].

115 Of these, only *f. subplicatum* was revised using both DNA sequences and morpho-anatomical
116 characters from the type material (Basso *et al.* 2015).

117 Molecular analyses of Japanese coralline algae morpho-anatomically referable to *L.*
118 *okamurae* reveal that they belong to two distinct species: *L. okamurae* (including *L.*
119 *okamurae* f. *angulare*, which is here demonstrated to be synonymous with the typical form)
120 and *L. neo-okamurae* sp. nov. Here we report vegetative, sexual and asexual reproductive
121 characters of these species, based on genetic and morpho-anatomical data of type and
122 herbarium archival material, in addition to recently collected material from Japan.

123 MATERIAL AND METHODS

124 Sample collection

125 *Lithophyllum* specimens used in this study (n = 37, Table S1) were collected at 18 sites from
126 less than 10 m depth in the temperate region of Japan. Voucher specimens (n = 33) used for
127 morphological and molecular studies were deposited in the Herbarium of Graduate School of
128 Science, Hokkaido University, Japan (SAP); the remaining four specimens were used for
129 molecular studies and were deposited in the Herbaria of Muséum National d'Histoire
130 Naturelle, Paris, France (PC) and University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain (SANT).
131 Additionally, we borrowed and examined type specimens and herbarium archival specimens
132 of *Lithophyllum okamurae* f. *okamurae* and the holotype of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* from the
133 Herbarium of Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway (TRH) and the
134 Herbarium of the Laboratory of Marine Botany, Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University,

135 Hakodate, Hokkaido, Japan (HAK; Table S2). The lectotype of *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae*
136 (TRH A21-1318) was studied by T. Masaki in 1969–1970, who stored at HAK a small
137 fragment and two preparations of the lectotype as isolectotype (HAK M-179). Both the
138 lectotype (TRH A21-1318) and isolectotype (HAK M-179) were very small fragments, and
139 therefore no destructive investigation was undertaken following the recommendations of the
140 curators. The herbarium archival specimens of *Lithophyllum okamurae* are specimens
141 collected from the type locality in 1899 when the protologue specimens were collected by the
142 same collector, K. Yendo. The type specimens of *Lithophyllum margaritae* (Har.) Heydr. and
143 *L. veleroae* E.Y.Dawson (one of the synonyms of *L. margaritae*) were borrowed from PC
144 and University of California, USA (UC) for molecular studies (Table S2). In addition, nine
145 recent collections of *L. margaritae* preserved in GALW (National University of Ireland) and
146 FBCS (Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur, Mexico) were used for the molecular
147 studies (Table S1). Herbarium abbreviations follow Thiers (2021).

148 **Molecular analyses**

149 Total DNA was extracted from the herbarium specimens and field-collected specimens dried
150 by silica gel, using a DNeasy Blood & Tissue Kit (QIAGEN, Hilden, Germany) or a
151 NucleoSpin® 96 Tissue kit (Macherey-Nagel, GmbH and Co. KG, Germany), according to
152 the manufacturer's instructions. PCR of the following gene fragments were carried out using
153 a Blend Taq -Plus- or KOD FX NEO Reaction Kit (TOYOBO, Osaka, Japan), except for four
154 vouchers (JHS0012, JHS0014, JHS0029B, VPF00887a) and herbarium specimens of *L.*

155 *okamurae* f. *okamurae* and type material of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare*, *L. margaritae* and *L.*
156 *veleroae*, which followed Basso *et al.* (2015) and Peña *et al.* (2015), and seven specimens
157 (E52, E57, E334, E108, E110, E116, E118) with previous GenBank records that followed
158 Hernández-Kantún *et al.* (2014, 2015b). The primer pairs for the PCR and sequencing of the
159 chloroplast *psbA* were *psbA*-F/*psbA*-R2 and *psbA*-F/*psbA*600R in addition to *psbA*-
160 F/*psbA*500F for sequencing (Yoon *et al.* 2002), while the primer pairs for PCR and
161 sequencing of the chloroplast *rbcL* were F-57/R-1150 and F-753/R-*rbcS* start (Freshwater &
162 Rueness 1994). When the *rbcL* primer pair F-57/R-1150 did not amplify, the F-57/R-753 pair
163 was used instead (Freshwater & Rueness 1994). The PCR and sequencing primer pairs for the
164 nuclear-encoded LSU (28S) rRNA gene were T01N (Harper & Saunders 2001) and TR273
165 (Basso *et al.* 2015) or T16N (Saunders & McDevit 2012) and the reverse primer designated
166 T99R (5'TGGTCCGTGTTTCAAGACGG3'). The PCR products were purified and
167 sequenced by MacroGen Japan (Kyoto, Japan) or by Eurofins (Eurofins Scientific, France).
168 Three data sets for phylogenetic analyses, *psbA*, *rbcL* and LSU sequences, were assembled,
169 which comprised novel sequences from this study and previously published sequences for the
170 genus *Lithophyllum* (Tables S1, S2, S3). The *rbcL* and LSU rDNA sequences of *L. okamurae*
171 and *L. neo-okamurae* were obtained from a subset of examined specimens in *psbA* analyses.
172 Specimens with identical sequences were represented by a single specimen in the data sets.
173 Moreover, sequences with less than 1% pairwise divergence estimated in MEGA X (ver.
174 10.1.8., Kumar *et al.* 2018) were also combined into a single sequence for the *psbA* dataset.
175 Sequences were aligned using MAFFT version 7 (Kato & Standley 2013). *Chamberlainium*

176 *tumidum* (Foslie) Caragnano, Foetisch, Maneveldt & Payri and *C. decipiens* (Foslie)
177 Caragnano, Foetisch, Maneveldt & Payri were used as outgroups for *psbA* and *rbcL* data sets.
178 Phylogenetic relationships for *psbA* and *rbcL* data sets were inferred by maximum likelihood
179 (ML) using RAxMLGUI 1.5b1 (Silvestro & Michalak 2012), and Bayesian inference (BI)
180 using MrBayes 3.2.6 (Huelsenbeck & Ronquist 2001). ML analyses were performed using
181 the general-time-reversible model with gamma distribution and invariant sites (GTR+G+I)
182 and 1000 rapid bootstrap (BS) replicates. BI analyses were performed using the GTR+G+I
183 model. Four Markov chains were used. Analyses were run for 300,000 generations for the
184 *psbA* data set, for 1,000,000 generations for the *rbcL* data set, and sampling was performed
185 every 100 generations. The number of generations of run was chosen to ensure the attainment
186 of an average and standard deviation of split frequencies lower than 0.01. The burn-in was
187 determined after convergence of the tree samples using Tracer v1.7.1 (Rambaut *et al.* 2018)
188 after satisfactory convergences of the tree samples were obtained: 750 in *psbA*; 2,500 in
189 *rbcL*. Consensus topology and posterior probability (PP) values were calculated using the
190 remaining trees. Neighbour-joining (NJ) analysis for the LSU data set was conducted in
191 MEGA X using the Maximum Composite Likelihood model with 1,000 BS replicates. In the
192 phylogenetic tree inferred from ML and NJ analysis, nodes with BS values $\geq 90\%$ were
193 considered strongly supported; those between 89% and 70% moderately supported and those
194 $< 70\%$ weakly supported. In the tree inferred from Bayesian analysis, nodes with PP values
195 ≥ 0.95 were considered strongly supported and those between 0.95 and 0.90 moderately

196 supported. For all the genetic markers, the total number of pairwise sequence divergences
197 (uncorrected, p distances) was calculated using MEGA X.

198 **Morpho-anatomical observations**

199 Light microscopy followed either Kato *et al.* (2006) or Basso & Rodondi (2006) and SEM
200 observation methods followed Basso & Rodondi (2006). Anatomical terminology followed
201 Adey & Adey (1973) and Woelkerling (1988), and growth form terminology followed
202 Woelkerling *et al.* (1993). Cell and conceptacle measurements followed Irvine &
203 Chamberlain (1994). We observed the extent of the roof elevation of tetrasporangial
204 conceptacles and followed the terminology of Adey *et al.* (1974).

205 **RESULTS**

206 **Molecular analyses**

207 Recently collected specimens morpho-anatomically referable to *Lithophyllum okamurae* were
208 divided into two independent lineages (A and B) in the *psbA*, *rbcL* and LSU rDNA analyses
209 (Figs 1–3). The specimens in lineage B were confirmed to be conspecific with the holotype
210 of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* (here regarded as *L. okamurae*, TRH A21-1327) by a match with
211 the *psbA* sequence. The protologue and archival material of *L. okamurae* also split into two
212 separate species, which corresponded to the above two species, respectively, in the *psbA* and
213 LSU rDNA analyses. In the present study, these taxa are treated as two independent species,
214 *L. neo-okamurae* sp. nov. (lineage A) and *L. okamurae* (part of lineage B; see Discussion)

215 In the *psbA* analyses (Fig. 1), *Lithophyllum neo-okamurae* was resolved as an
216 independent lineage (A) in a strongly-supported clade (100% in ML bootstrap, 1.00 in PP)
217 that included *L. atlanticum* Vieira-Pinto, M.C.Oliveira & P.A.Horta, '*L. margaritae*', and
218 also '*L. okamurae*' from China, the latter two specimens appearing distantly related to the
219 type specimens of both species. This lineage comprised 21 specimens of *L. neo-okamurae*
220 that shared nearly or completely identical sequences (0.0%–0.6% sequence divergences in
221 852 bp; Table S4) with an archival specimen of *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae* (TRH A21-1322)
222 from the type locality. *Lithophyllum neo-okamurae* formed a supported clade with *L.*
223 *margaritae* from the Gulf of California (E334) (90% in ML, 1.00 in PP) and the sequence
224 divergences between them were 1.3%–1.7%. However, the specimen of *L. margaritae* (E68)
225 from the type locality, which was nearly identical to three other specimens (E52, E59, E64)
226 from the Gulf of California (0.0%–0.7% sequence divergences), differed from the specimen
227 E334 by 3.1%–3.2%. Lineage B (Fig. 1) consisted of *Lithophyllum okamurae*, '*L.*
228 *margaritae*' and the isotype of *L. veleroae*, which is a synonym of *L. margaritae*, with strong
229 support (100% in ML, 1.00 in PP) and the sequence divergences among them were 0.0%–
230 2.6% (Table S4). Lineage B was distantly related to other species in the northwestern Pacific
231 Ocean or the temperate regions. The total sequence divergences among the three archival
232 specimens (see below) and 16 recently collected ones of *L. okamurae* from Japan were 0.0%–
233 1.3 % (837–852 bp). The holotype of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* (TRH A21-1327) and an
234 archival specimen from the type locality of *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae* (TRH A21-1321)
235 shared identical sequences, and differed from the nearest haplotype of recently collected *L.*

236 *okamurae* specimens from the type locality (HU39 and six specimens; Table S4) by 0.4%,
237 whereas the holotype of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* (TRH A21-1327) differed from the other
238 archival specimen cited in the protologue of *L. okamurae* (TRH A21-1326) by 0.7%. A
239 haplotype of *L. margaritae* from Taiwan was identical to the haplotype of *L. okamurae*
240 (HU39 and six specimens), although it differed from specimens from the type locality (E57,
241 E108, E110) and the other specimens (E116, E118) of *L. margaritae* from the Gulf of
242 California by 0.2%–2.4%. The isotype of *L. veleroae* formed a moderate to strongly
243 supported subclade with *L. margaritae* (E118) from the Gulf of California (73% in ML, 1.00
244 in PP) and the sequence divergence between them was 0.9% (524 bp). The subclade differed
245 from other taxa in lineage B by 1.3%–2.6% sequence divergences.

246 In lineage A of the *rbcL* trees (Fig. 2), eight Japanese specimens of *L. neo-okamurae*
247 showed very similar sequences with 0.0%–0.9% divergences, whereas they differed from '*L.*
248 *okamurae*' from China by 4.7%–5.1% (1350 bp; Table S5). Lineage B consisted of Japanese
249 *L. okamurae* specimens. The sequence divergences among six specimens of this species were
250 0.0%–2.2% (1301–1350 bp; Table S5).

251 In the LSU rDNA analysis (Fig. 3), the holotypes of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* (TRH
252 A21-1327) and *L. margaritae* shared identical sequences with recently collected specimens
253 of these species and grouped with the isotype of *L. veleroae* with moderate support (87% in
254 NJ). *Lithophyllum neo-okamurae* was distantly related to *L. okamurae*, *L. margaritae* and *L.*
255 *veleroae*. The LSU rDNA sequence of the holotype of *L. neo-okamurae* was identical to an

256 archival specimen of *L. okamurae* (TRH A21-1319) from the type locality and *L. margaritae*
257 (E334) from the Gulf of California.

258 ***Lithophyllum okamurae* Foslie 1900, pp 4, 5**

259 Figs 4–24, S1–S4; Tables 1, S6

260 LECTOTYPE: TRH! A21-1318 (Yendo specimen no. 408), collected 1899 (no habitat data) by K.
261 Yendo. Lectotype designated in Foslie (1904) (Woelkerling 1993, p. 163; Woelkerling *et al.* 2005, p.
262 178). Illustrated in Foslie (1904, pl. 11, fig. 11) and the present study (Figs 4, 5, S1).

263 ISOLECTOTYPE: HAK! M-179 (a fragment of Yendo specimen no. 408), present study, illustrated by
264 Figs 6–10.

265 TYPE LOCALITY: Misaki, Miura City, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan (as Marine Laboratory at Sagami
266 Province; Woelkerling 1993).

267 HETEROTYPIC SYNONYM: *Lithophyllum okamurae* f. *angulare* Foslie 1901 (*'angularis'*) (Woelkerling
268 1993, p. 26). Holotype TRH A21-1327 (Woelkerling *et al.* 2005, p. 179). Illustrated in Foslie (1904,
269 pl. 11, fig. 12, as *'angulata'* in the legend to figure), Printz (1929, pl. 64, fig. 7), and the present study
270 (Figs 11–15).

271 SPECIMENS EXAMINED: See Table S2. Sequences of two DNA markers were obtained from the
272 holotype of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare*, TRH A21-1327 (*psbA*, MZ128805; LSU rDNA, MZ129208).
273 DNA sequences obtained from two archival specimens of *L. okamurae* from the type locality, TRH
274 A21-1321 (Yendo specimen no. 327; Fig. S2) and TRH A21-1326 (Yendo specimen no. 120; Fig.
275 S4), the former not belonging and the latter belonging to protologue specimens, included two
276 respective *psbA* and two LSU rDNA sequences.

277 OTHER SPECIMENS EXAMINED: See Table S1. DNA sequences determined from recently collected
278 Japanese material including specimens from the type locality contained 16 *psbA* sequences, six *rbcL*
279 sequences and two LSU rDNA sequences.

280 HABITAT: Plants epilithic or epizoic, or free-living in the upper subtidal zone.

281 DISTRIBUTION: *Lithophyllum okamurae* occurs on the temperate coasts of the Pacific Ocean, the Japan
282 Sea and the Seto Inland Sea in Japan. Based on the *psbA* sequences, *L. margaritae* from Taiwan and
283 some material from the Gulf of California are considered conspecific or very closely allied to *L.*
284 *okamurae* (Hernández-Kantún *et al.* 2015b; Liu *et al.* 2018).

285 **Morphology and vegetative anatomy**

286 Thalli ranged from encrusting, warty, lumpy, foliose to fruticose, and often formed free-
287 living rhodoliths (Figs 5, 11, 16, 17, S2, S3). The protuberances were up to 10 mm long,
288 tapering or plate-like (up to 10 mm wide, 1–2 mm thick) or apically enlarged (2–5 mm in
289 diameter), and dichotomously branched or anastomosing. Colour of living plant was grayish-
290 pink to light purple. Thalli were dimerous with unistratose hypothallus composed of
291 approximately isodiametric or slightly elongate or wide cells, non-palisade (Figs 7, 12, 18),
292 11–19 μm long and 7–19 μm in diameter. Cells of perithallial filaments were 7–19 μm long
293 and 5.5–11 μm in diameter. Secondary-pit connections were common. Cell fusions were not
294 observed. Subepithallial initials were 7–17 μm long and 6–10 μm in diameter. One to two
295 layers of epithallial cells were flattened, 2–4 μm long and 7.5–10 μm in diameter (Figs 8, 13,
296 19). Medullary regions in branches (protuberances) were coaxial (Fig. 20). Trichocytes were
297 not observed.

298 **Reproductive anatomy**

299 Gametophytes are dioecious. Gametangial conceptacles were slightly raised above or flush
300 with surrounding thallus surface. Spermatangial conceptacle chambers were 86–116 μm in
301 diameter and 20–35 μm high, with roofs 18–30 μm thick. Simple spermatangial systems were
302 restricted to the conceptacle floor (Fig. 21). Carpogonial conceptacle chambers were 94–139
303 μm in diameter and 18–30 μm high, with roofs 56–96 μm . Carposporangial conceptacle
304 chambers were 207–243 μm in diameter and 76–109 μm high, with roofs 35–63 μm thick.
305 Carposporangia were cut off from gonimoblast filaments borne at periphery of a large
306 continuous flattened fusion cell (Fig. 22). Tetrasporangial conceptacles were uniporate with
307 roofs raised above (Fig. 23) or flush with surrounding thallus surface or sunken below thallus
308 surface. Buried conceptacles were observed (Figs 9, 14). Conceptacle chambers were 167–
309 314 μm in diameter and 63–109 μm high. Pore canals were triangular and tapering towards
310 surface, 28–61 μm long. Conceptacle roofs were 4–7 cell layers, 30–71 μm thick.
311 Tetrasporangial conceptacle chamber floors were situated 8 to 13 cells below surrounding
312 thallus surface. A central columella was present or absent; when present, it was comprised of
313 sterile filaments. A calcified hump (two to five cell layers) below central columella was
314 absent (Fig. 15) or present (Fig. 24). Tetrasporangia were zonately divided, 47–69 μm long
315 and 20–30 μm in diameter, and peripherally arranged in the conceptacle chamber (Figs 10,
316 24). Data on measured vegetative and reproductive features in the above descriptions were
317 based on recently collected specimens, because those of the holotype of *L. okamurae* f.

318 *angulare* and the isolectotype of *L. okamurae* were overlapping within the ranges of the
319 recent material (summarized in Tables 1, S6).

320 ***Lithophyllum neo-okamurae* A.Kato, D.Basso, Caragnano, Rodondi, V.Peña & M.Baba**
321 ***sp. nov.***

322 Figs 25–37, S5; Tables 1, S6

323 DIAGNOSIS: Thalli encrusting, warty, lumpy to fruticose, free-living rhodoliths (Figs 25, 29, 30, S5).
324 Protuberances up to 12 mm long, knobby, columnar (up to 20 mm long) or apically enlarged (2–6 mm
325 in diameter), dichotomously branched or anastomosing. Colour of living plant grayish-pink to light
326 purple. Distinct from both *L. okamurae* and the related species *L. margaritae* by DNA sequences.

327 HOLOTYPE: SAP 115594, collected 9 June 2013 by A. Kato and M. Baba; epilithic on rock in the
328 upper subtidal zone (Fig. 29).

329 TYPE LOCALITY: Misaki, Miura City, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan.

330 ETYMOLOGY: Greek ‘*neos*’ (in compounds ‘*neo-*’), new (Stearn 1992); ‘*okamurae*’, dedicated to the
331 Japanese phycologist Dr. Kintaro Okamura.

332 OTHER SPECIMENS EXAMINED: See Tables S1, S2. Sequences of three DNA markers were obtained
333 from the holotype (*psbA*, LC620629; *rbcL*, LC624951; LSU, LC624957). In addition, DNA
334 sequences determined from Japanese material contained 20 *psbA* sequences, seven *rbcL* sequences
335 and two LSU rDNA sequences. DNA sequences obtained from two archival specimens of *L.*
336 *okamurae* f. *okamurae* collected from the type locality, TRH A21-1319 (Yendo specimen no. 445;
337 Figs 25–28) and TRH A21-1322 (Yendo specimen no. 377; Fig. S5), are an LSU rDNA and a *psbA*
338 sequence, respectively. The respective sequence was identical to the holotype and recently collected
339 specimens of *L. neo-okamurae* from the type locality.

340 DISTRIBUTION: Based on DNA sequences, *L. neo-okamurae* is widely distributed in the temperate
341 coasts of the Pacific Ocean, the Japan Sea and the Seto Inland Sea in Japan.

342 HABITAT: Plants grow on bedrock, small stones, shells, or free-living in the upper subtidal zone.

343 **Vegetative anatomy**

344 Dimerous construction with unistratose hypothallus composed of approximately isodiametric
345 or slightly elongate or wide cells, non-palisade, 8–22 μm long and 5.5–14 μm in diameter
346 (Figs 26, 31). Cells of perithallial filaments were rectangular, 8–19 μm long and 6–9 μm in
347 diameter. Secondary-pit connections were common. Cell fusions were not observed.
348 Subepithallial initials were shortened to rectangular cells, 6–12 μm long and 7–10 μm in
349 diameter. One to two layers of epithallial cells were flattened, 2–5 μm long and 7–10.5 μm in
350 diameter (Figs 27, 32). Medullary regions in branches (protuberances) were coaxial (Fig. 33).
351 Trichocytes were not observed.

352 **Reproductive anatomy**

353 Gametophytes are dioecious. Gametangial conceptacles were slightly raised above or flush
354 with surrounding thallus surface. Spermatangial conceptacle chambers were 119–182 μm in
355 diameter and 15–46 μm high, with roofs 25–46 μm thick. Simple spermatangial systems were
356 restricted to the conceptacle floor (Fig. 34). Carpogonial conceptacle chambers were 94–200
357 μm in diameter and 23–53 μm high, with roofs 68–104 μm thick. Carposporangial
358 conceptacle chambers were 218–339 μm in diameter and 73–144 μm high, with roofs 48–89
359 μm thick. Carposporangia were cut off from gonimoblast filaments borne at periphery of a
360 large continuous flattened fusion cell (Fig. 35). Tetrasporangial conceptacles were uniporate
361 with roofs flush with or raised above surrounding thallus surface (Fig. 36) or sunken below

362 thallus surface. Buried conceptacles were observed. Conceptacle chambers were 248–380 μm
363 in diameter and 86–121 μm high. Pore canals were triangular and tapering towards surface,
364 40–78 μm long. Conceptacle roofs comprised of 4–8 cell layers, 43–78 μm thick.
365 Conceptacle chamber floors were situated 10 to 16 cells below surrounding thallus surface. A
366 central columella was present or absent; when present, it was comprised of sterile cells. A
367 calcified hump (four to seven cell layers) below central columella was present (Figs 28, 37).
368 Tetrasporangia were zonately divided, 47–79 μm long and 20–34 μm in diameter, and
369 peripherally arranged in conceptacle chamber. Data on measured vegetative and reproductive
370 features in the above descriptions were based on recently collected specimens, because those
371 of the archival material were overlapping within the ranges of the recent material
372 (summarized in Tables 1, S6).

373 **DISCUSSION**

374 Our molecular analyses show that branched *Lithophyllum* specimens morphologically
375 referable to *L. okamurae* belong in fact to two species: *Lithophyllum okamurae* and *L. neo-*
376 *okamurae*. The two species sometimes occur together in the upper subtidal zone in the
377 temperate region of Japan and often form rhodoliths. Our molecular analyses indicate that *L.*
378 *okamurae* and *L. neo-okamurae* are distantly related to branched *Lithophyllum* species in the
379 Western Pacific Ocean, namely *L. kaiseri* (Heydr.) Heydr., *L. kuroshioense* A.Kato &
380 M.Baba, *L. longense* Hern.-Kant., P.W.Gabrielson & R.A.Town., and *L. subtile* (Foslie)
381 A.Kato & M.Baba, which have been confirmed by their type sequences (Kato & Baba 2019;

382 Maneveldt *et al.* 2019). In contrast, *L. okamurae* and *L. neo-okamurae* are closely related to
383 separate lineages of *L. margaritae* from its type locality, the Gulf of California. Each of these
384 three species is discussed below.

385 ***Lithophyllum okamurae***

386 The protologue of *L. okamurae* cited seven specimens, none of which was designated as the
387 holotype (Foslie 1900). Subsequently, a lectotype (TRH A21-1318) was set apart from the
388 other specimens (TRH A21-1325 and A21-1326) (Woelkerling *et al.* 2005, pp 176–179). In
389 the present study, the gross morphology of the lectotype (TRH A21-1318) and isotype
390 (HAK M-179) of *L. okamurae* could not be confirmed because of their very small sizes.
391 However, a photograph of the lectotype taken in 1969–1970 by T. Masaki (Fig. 5) showed
392 that the specimen was sparsely branched and had somewhat pointed apices, consistent with
393 fig. 11 (TRH A21-1318) and fig. 12 (the holotype of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare*, TRH A21-
394 1327) in Foslie (1904, pl. 11). The voucher collection TRH A21-1325 (Fig. S3) represented a
395 single 3-cm-diameter specimen and had sharp-pointed protuberances. The collection TRH
396 A21-1326 (Fig. S4) contains six small fragments (less than 2 cm in diameter) which were
397 mutually similar encrusting to warty thalli. One of them (specimen no. 120) was conspecific
398 with *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* based on the similarities to *psbA* sequences of the holotype of
399 this species. Considering these results, we concluded that all specimens in the *L. okamurae*
400 protologue were conspecific with *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* which we regard as a heterotypic
401 synonym of *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae*.

402 Verheij (1994) observed old buried male and female conceptacles of the lectotype of *L.*
403 *okamurae*. However, the isolectotype of *L. okamurae* (HAK M-179) has only tetrasporangial
404 conceptacles. Verheij (1994, figs 10, 11) showed remnants of spermatangia remaining both
405 on a wall and a floor of the male conceptacle, whereas spermatangia were formed only on the
406 conceptacle floor in our observation of *L. okamurae* and *L. neo-okamurae* (Figs 21, 34).
407 Therefore, we think that Verheij's (1994) observations of the old buried conceptacles are
408 doubtful.

409 The holotype of *L. margaritae*, a species name with nomenclatural priority over *L.*
410 *okamurae*, was identical to the holotype of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* in the short LSU rDNA
411 sequence (214 bp), indicating that *L. okamurae* was closely related to *L. margaritae*, not to *L.*
412 *neo-okamurae*. However, we consider that the conspecificity between *L. okamurae* and *L.*
413 *margaritae* is not convincingly demonstrated solely on the basis of this short and weakly
414 variable LSU rDNA sequence. We refrain from proposing the taxonomic synonymy between
415 these two taxa because more variable *psbA* and *rbcL* sequences of the *L. margaritae* type
416 material could not be generated.

417 The minimum threshold of the interspecific divergences of *psbA* sequences among
418 closely related *Lithophyllum* species was less than 2%; e.g. 1.7%–2.2% in *psbA* between *L.*
419 *platyphyllum* (Foslie) Foslie and *L. pseudoplatyphyllum* Hern.-Kant., W.H.Adey &
420 P.W.Gabrielson (Hernández-Kantún *et al.* 2016); 1.5%–3.0% between *L. racemus* and *L.*
421 *pseudoracemus* Caragnano, Rodondi & Rindi (Caragnano *et al.* 2020); and mostly 2%–5%
422 among 13 phylogenetic species of *L. stictiforme* (Aresch.) Hauck (Pezzolesi *et al.* 2019). In

423 the present study, the pairwise divergences of *psbA* sequences of *L. margaritae* in lineage B
424 including the isotype of *L. veleroae*, one of synonyms of *L. margaritae*, were 0.0%–2.6%,
425 indicating that it is likely to contain some cryptic species. A haplotype of *L. okamurae* (HU39
426 and six specimens) showed up to 0.5% (4 bp out of 849 bp) sequence divergence among two
427 haplotypes of *L. margaritae* from the Gulf of California (E108) and Taiwan, which were
428 similar to the intraspecific sequence divergence of *L. longense* (up to 0.59%, representing 5
429 bp out of 841 bp; Maneveldt *et al.* 2019). This means that at least one genetically
430 circumscribed species is widely distributed in the North Pacific Ocean.

431 The pairwise divergences of *psbA* sequences of *L. okamurae* used in the present study
432 (up to 1.3%) were similar to or lower than the above minimum threshold of the species-level
433 divergence. In contrast, the pairwise divergence of *rbcL* sequences of *L. okamurae* (2.2%)
434 was similar to the divergence between *L. platyphyllum* and *L. pseudoplatyphyllum* (1.9%;
435 Hernández-Kantún *et al.* 2016). The pairwise sequence divergences of *L. okamurae* are at or
436 near the minimum threshold of the species level. Therefore, species delimitation analyses
437 using multiple genes are needed to confirm whether more than one species are included under
438 a similar morphology.

439 ***Lithophyllum neo-okamurae***

440 *Lithophyllum neo-okamurae* differs from *L. okamurae* in having mostly knobby
441 protuberances, not tapering nor plate-like (foliose thalli), while *L. okamurae* shows a wide
442 range of morphologies including these protuberances. Although *L. okamurae* can also be

443 anatomically distinguished from *L. neo-okamurae* by smaller tetrasporangial conceptacle
444 chambers (167–341 μm vs 248–380 μm ; Table 1), the conceptacle chamber sizes overlap
445 considerably between two species. Thus, DNA sequences are needed for reliable
446 identification.

447 In the *psbA* analyses of the present study, *L. neo-okamurae* was closely related to the
448 other two '*L. margaritae*' lineages from the type locality (E334 and E68). The intraspecific
449 divergence of *L. neo-okamurae* (up to 0.6%, representing 5 bp out of 852 bp) in *psbA* was
450 similar to that of *L. longense* (up to 0.59%, representing 5 bp out of 841 bp; Maneveldt *et al.*
451 2019). In contrast, the sequence divergences between '*L. margaritae*' and *L. neo-okamurae*
452 were 1.3%–3.2%, which means that '*L. margaritae*' includes at least one species different
453 from *L. neo-okamurae*.

454 **Taxonomic relationships among *Lithophyllum okamurae*, *L. margaritae* and** 455 **related species**

456 Riosmena-Rodríguez *et al.* (1999) merged five species described from La Paz, BCS, Mexico,
457 namely *Lithophyllum diguetii* (Har.) Heydr., *L. lithophylloides* Heydr., *L. margaritae*, *L.*
458 *pallescens* (Foslie) Foslie and *L. veleroae*, within *L. margaritae* based on their morpho-
459 anatomical similarity. Subsequently, Schaeffer *et al.* (2002) indicated that foliose and
460 fruticose growth forms of *L. margaritae* were genetically distinct using amplified fragment
461 length polymorphism (AFLP) analyses. Following Schaeffer *et al.* (2002), Norris (2014)
462 recognized three species out of the five synonyms of *L. margaritae*: *L. diguetii* for the foliose

463 form; *L. pallescens* for the fruticose form; and *L. margaritae* for the intermediate form. Based
464 on the morphological similarities, Norris (2014) tentatively treated *L. veleroae* and *L.*
465 *lithophylloides* as synonyms of *L. diguetii* and *L. pallescens*, respectively, until molecular
466 analyses could be done on the type material of these species. Furthermore, it should be noted
467 that, although the species epithet *diguetii* has the same taxonomic priority as *margaritae*,
468 Riosmena-Rodríguez *et al.* (1999) chose the species epithet *margaritae* for that species
469 because the type material is in better condition and shows the characteristics of the species
470 more clearly. Therefore, in addition to type material of *L. margaritae* [DNA sequences of
471 material ascribed to it have also been reported from Brazil and Taiwan (Vieira-Pinto *et al.*
472 2014; Liu *et al.* 2018)] and its synonyms, fresh material of each species is required to assess
473 the genuine boundary of *L. margaritae* and the phylogenetic relationships among the taxa
474 that were proposed to be synonyms of this species.

475 In conclusion, the present study reassessed the complicated taxonomic history of *L.*
476 *okamurae* and showed that *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* is a synonym of the autonym *L.*
477 *okamurae* f. *okamurae*, which takes precedence according to the rules of nomenclature. It
478 also indicated that the diversity of species morphologically referable to *L. okamurae* is
479 underestimated in the northwestern Pacific Ocean, as the present study described a new
480 species, *L. neo-okamurae* sp. nov., and also showed that *L. okamurae* and *L. neo-okamurae*
481 were genetically different entities from other specimens reported as '*L. okamurae*' from the
482 tropical region of China (Hu *et al.* 2020). Further taxonomic revisions of *L. okamurae* and *L.*

483 *margaritae* are needed in order to reveal the species diversity and distribution of their related
484 species.

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657 **LEGENDS FOR FIGURES**

658 **Fig. 1.** ML phylogeny inferred from the *psbA* sequences of *Lithophyllum* spp. In bold face
 659 names of species sequenced in the present study. Species denoted by single quotes have not
 660 been confirmed by comparison with the DNA sequences of type specimens. GenBank
 661 accession or specimen numbers and collection sites provided. Numbers at nodes represent
 662 bootstrap values >70% and Bayesian posterior probabilities >0.90.

663 **Fig. 2.** ML phylogeny inferred from the *rbcL* sequences of *Lithophyllum* spp. In bold face
 664 names of species sequenced in the present study. Species denoted by single quotes have not
 665 been confirmed by comparison with the DNA sequences of type specimens. GenBank
 666 accession or specimen numbers and collection sites provided. Numbers at nodes represent
 667 bootstrap values >70% and Bayesian posterior probabilities >0.90.

668 **Fig. 3.** Neighbour-joining phylogeny inferred from the LSU rDNA sequences of
 669 *Lithophyllum* spp. In bold face names of species sequenced in the present study. Species
 670 denoted by single quotes have not been confirmed by comparison with the DNA sequences of
 671 type specimens. GenBank accession or specimen numbers and collection sites provided.
 672 Numbers at nodes represent bootstrap values >70%.

673 Figs 4–10. Morphology and anatomy of herbarium specimens of *Lithophyllum okamurae*.
 674 Figures 4–5 were taken by T. Masaki in 1969–1970. The isolectotype *L. okamurae* f.
 675 *okamurae* (HAK M-179) is a fragment of the lectotype of *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae* (TRH
 676 A21-1318).

677 **Fig. 4.** Box of the lectotype of *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae* (TRH A21-1318). Note the label
 678 ‘No. 5’ placed on the box by T. Masaki for his reference.

679 **Fig. 5.** Habit of the lectotype of *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae* (TRH A21-1318). Scale bar = 5
 680 mm.

681 **Fig. 6.** Habit of the isolectotype of *L. okamurae* f. *okamurae* (HAK M-179). Scale bar = 3
682 mm.

683 **Fig. 7.** Vertical section of inner thallus with dimerous construction comprised of non-
684 palisade cells (HAK M-179). Arrows indicate secondary pit-connections. Scale bar = 20
685 μm .

686 **Fig. 8.** Vertical section of outer thallus showing secondary pit-connections (arrows)
687 between cells of adjacent filaments (HAK M-179). Scale bar = 20 μm .

688 **Fig. 9.** Vertical section of protuberance showing buried conceptacles (HAK M-179). Scale
689 bar = 200 μm .

690 **Fig. 10.** Vertical section through tetrasporangial conceptacle with peripherally arranged,
691 divided tetrasporangium (HAK M-179). Scale bar = 20 μm .

692 Figs 11–15. Morphology and anatomy of herbarium specimens of *Lithophyllum okamurae*.

693 **Fig. 11.** Habit of the holotype of *L. okamurae* f. *angulare* (TRH A21-1327). Scale bar = 1
694 cm.

695 **Fig. 12.** Vertical section of thallus showing dimerous construction (TRH A21-1327). Note
696 non-palisade basal layer of cells. Scale bar = 60 μm .

697 **Fig. 13.** Vertical section of outer thallus with secondary pit-connections (arrows) between
698 cells of adjacent filaments (TRH A21-1327). Scale bar = 30 μm .

699 **Fig. 14.** Vertical fracture face of inner thallus showing ascending filaments and buried
700 conceptacles (TRH A21-1327). Scale bar = 200 μm .

701 **Fig. 15.** Vertical section through tetrasporangial conceptacle with central columella (c)
702 (TRH A21-1327). Note absence of calcified hump below the central columella. Scale bar
703 = 50 μm .

704 Figs 16–24. Morphology and anatomy of recently collected specimens of *Lithophyllum*
705 *okamurae*. Figures 16, 21 and 22 taken from specimens from the type locality.

706 **Fig. 16.** Habit of a warty specimen (SAP 115621). Scale bar = 1 cm.

707 **Fig. 17.** Habit of a rhodolith-shaped specimen (SAP 115616). Scale bar = 1 cm.

708 **Fig. 18.** Vertical section of inner thallus with dimerous construction comprised of non-
709 palisade cells (SAP 115608). Scale bar = 50 μm .

710 **Fig. 19.** Vertical section of outer thallus showing secondary pit-connections (arrows)
711 between cells of adjacent filaments (SAP 115608). Scale bar = 50 μm .

712 **Fig. 20.** Longitudinal section of a branch showing a coaxial medulla (SAP 115615). Scale
713 bar = 50 μm .

714 **Fig. 21.** Vertical section through a spermatangial conceptacle with simple spermatangial
715 systems restricted to conceptacle floor (SAP 115621). Scale bar = 50 μm .

716 **Fig. 22.** Section through carposporangial conceptacle with large continuous flattened
717 fusion cell (fc) with peripheral gonimoblast filaments (gf) bearing terminal carposporangia
718 (ca). (SAP 115621). Scale bar = 50 μm .

719 **Fig. 23.** Surface view of tetrasporangial conceptacles with raised roofs (arrows) (SAP
720 115612). Scale bar = 500 μm .

721 **Fig. 24.** Vertical section through a tetrasporangial conceptacle with peripherally arranged
722 tetrasporangia around a central columella (c) with calcified hump (arrowhead) (SAP
723 115608). Scale bar = 50 μm .

724 Figs 25–28. Morphology and anatomy of herbarium specimens of *Lithophyllum neo-*
725 *okamurae*.

726 **Fig. 25.** Habit of warty specimens (TRH A21-1319). Scale bar = 2 cm.

727 **Fig. 26.** Vertical section of thallus showing dimerous construction (TRH A21-1319). Note
728 non-palisade basal layer of cells. Scale bar = 60 μm .

729 **Fig. 27.** Vertical section of outer thallus with secondary pit-connections (arrows) between
730 cells of adjacent filaments (TRH A21-1319). Scale bar = 30 μm .

731 **Fig. 28.** Vertical section through a tetrasporangial conceptacle and a central columella (c)
732 with calcified hump (arrowhead) (TRH A21-1319). Scale bar = 60 μm .

733 Figs 29–37. Morphology and anatomy of recently collected specimens of *Lithophyllum neo-*
734 *okamurae*. Specimens from Misaki, Kanagawa, Japan (type locality), except for Fig. 30.

735 **Fig. 29.** Habit of the warty holotype specimens (SAP 115594). Scale bar = 2 cm.

736 **Fig. 30.** Habit of a rhodolith-shaped specimen (SAP 115601). Scale bar = 2 cm.

737 **Fig. 31.** Vertical section of inner thallus with dimerous construction comprised of non-
738 palisade cells (SAP 115599). Scale bar = 50 μm .

739 **Fig. 32.** Vertical section of outer thallus showing secondary pit-connections (arrows)
740 between cells of adjacent filaments (SAP 115599). Scale bar = 20 μm .

741 **Fig. 33.** Longitudinal section of a branch showing a coaxial medulla (SAP 115593). Scale
742 bar = 50 μm .

743 **Fig. 34.** Vertical section through a spermatangial conceptacle with simple spermatangial
744 systems restricted to conceptacle floor (SAP 115595). Scale bar = 50 μm .

745 **Fig. 35.** Section through carposporangial conceptacle with large continuous flattened
746 fusion cell (fc) with peripheral gonimoblast filaments (gf) bearing terminal carposporangia
747 (ca). (SAP 115598). Scale bar = 50 μm .

748 **Fig. 36.** Surface view of tetrasporangial conceptacles with raised (arrows) and flush
749 (arrowheads) roofs (SAP 115594). Scale bar = 500 μm .

750 **Fig. 37.** Vertical section through a tetrasporangial conceptacle with peripherally arranged
751 tetrasporangia around a central columella (c) with calcified hump (arrowhead) (SAP
752 115596). Scale bar = 50 μm .
753

Table 1 Comparison of the vegetative and tetrasporangial anatomy of *Lithophyllum okamurae* and *L. neo-okamurae*. Measurements are presented as means \pm standard deviation, followed by ranges in brackets.

	<i>L. okamurae</i>	<i>L. okamurae</i>	<i>L. okamurae</i>	<i>L. neo-okamurae</i>	<i>L. neo-okamurae</i>
	(new collections from Japan including the type locality)	(isolectotype of <i>L. okamurae</i> f. <i>okamurae</i> , HAK M-179)	(holotype of <i>L. okamurae</i> f. <i>angulare</i> , TRH A21-1327)	(holotype and new collections from Japan including the type locality)	(as <i>L. okamurae</i> f. <i>okamurae</i> , TRH A21-1319)
Vegetative structures	(5 specimens, 30 cells)	(1 specimen, 20 cells)	(1 specimen, 30 cells)	(6 specimens, 30 cells)	(1 specimen, 30 cells)
Epithallial cell					
Shape	flattened	flattened	flattened	flattened	flattened
Number	1–2	1	1	1–2	1

Length (μm)	3.1 ± 0.4 [2–4]	2.2 ± 0.5 [1.5–3]	3.7 ± 1 [2–6]	3.3 ± 0.6 [2–5]	4.4 ± 1.2 [3–6]
Diameter (μm)	8.8 ± 0.6 [7.5–10]	8.3 ± 1.7 [6.5–14.5]	9.8 ± 1.7 [6–12]	8.5 ± 0.7 [7–10.5]	7.8 ± 1.1 [6–10]
Subepithallial initial			(10 cells)		(10 cells)
Length (μm)	10.5 ± 2.1 [7–17]	6.3 ± 1.1 [5–9]	11.9 ± 2.5 [7–15]	8.3 ± 1.5 [6–12]	8.7 ± 1.7 [6–12]
Diameter (μm)	8.5 ± 0.8 [6–10]	6.4 ± 0.9 [5–8]	9.8 ± 1.5 [7–12]	8.2 ± 0.9 [7–10]	8.8 ± 1.2 [6.5–10]
Perithallial cell					
Length (μm)	11.1 ± 2.7 [7–19]	9.4 ± 2.2 [6.5–14.5]	12.6 ± 2.8 [7–19]	12.3 ± 3.4 [8–19]	13.2 ± 4.3 [6–20.5]
Diameter (μm)	8.5 ± 1.2 [5.5–11]	6.4 ± 0.8 [5–7]	11 ± 1.5 [9–13]	8.2 ± 0.7 [6–9]	8.8 ± 1.5 [6–12]
Hypothallial cell					(20 cells)
Length (μm)	14.3 ± 2.2 [11–19]	12.7 ± 2.0 [9–15]	16.1 ± 3.3 [12–25]	13.4 ± 2.7 [8–22]	13.1 ± 3.8 [9–19]
Diameter (μm)	13.8 ± 3.7 [7–19]	9.7 ± 1.9 [6.5–13.5]	9.8 ± 2.5 [6–15]	8.9 ± 1.9 [5.5–14]	12.7 ± 3.6 [9–19]

Trichocytes	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Reproductive structures					
Tetrasporangial conceptacle	(5 specimens, 24 conceptacles)	(1 specimen, 9 conceptacles)	(1 specimen, 4 conceptacles)	(7 specimens, 35 conceptacles)	(1 specimen, 2 conceptacles)
Chamber diameter (μm)	225 ± 41 [167–314]	228 ± 9 [213–238]	[235–295 (341)]	309 ± 33 [248–380]	[270–341]
Chamber height (μm)	85 ± 9 [63–109]	92 ± 11 [76–109]	[94–105]	104 ± 10 [86–121]	[94–129]
Roof elevation (% of examined roofs) ⁷	Raised, flush to sunken	flush	Weakly raised, flush	Flush, raised to sunken	Raised, flush
Pore canal length	45 ± 8 [28–61]	39 ± 9 [23–56]	53	57 ± 10 [40–78]	53 (1 measure)
Shape of pore channel	Triangular	Triangular	Triangular	Triangular	Triangular
Roof thickness (μm)	46 ± 10 [30–71]	37 ± 8 [23–53]	48	58 ± 10 [43–78]	53

Number of roof cells	5 ± 1 [4–7]	4 ± 1 [4–6]	4–5	6 ± 1 [4–8]	4–6
Depth from chamber floor to surface (no. of cells)	10 ± 2 [8–13]	12 ± 1 [11–14]	8–12	13 ± 2 [10–16]	12
Depth from chamber floor to surface (μm)	120 ± 24 [89–175]	120 ± 12 [101–137]	88–141	156 ± 22 [114–202]	135
Occurrence of calcified hump below central columella	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
Number of cells forming calcified hump below central columella	3 ± 1 [2–5]	2 ± 1 [1–3]	2–4	5 ± 1 [4–7]	Not visible
Tetra (bi-) sporangium	Tetrasporangial	Tetrasporangial	-	Tetrasporangial	Tetrasporangial

Length (μm)	60 ± 7 [47–69]	[43–44] (3 measures)	-	65 ± 8 [47–79]	(damaged)
Diameter (μm)	25 ± 3 [20–30]	[15–26] (3 measures)	-	28 ± 4 [20–34]	(damaged)
Buried conceptacles	Present	Present	-	Present	Present

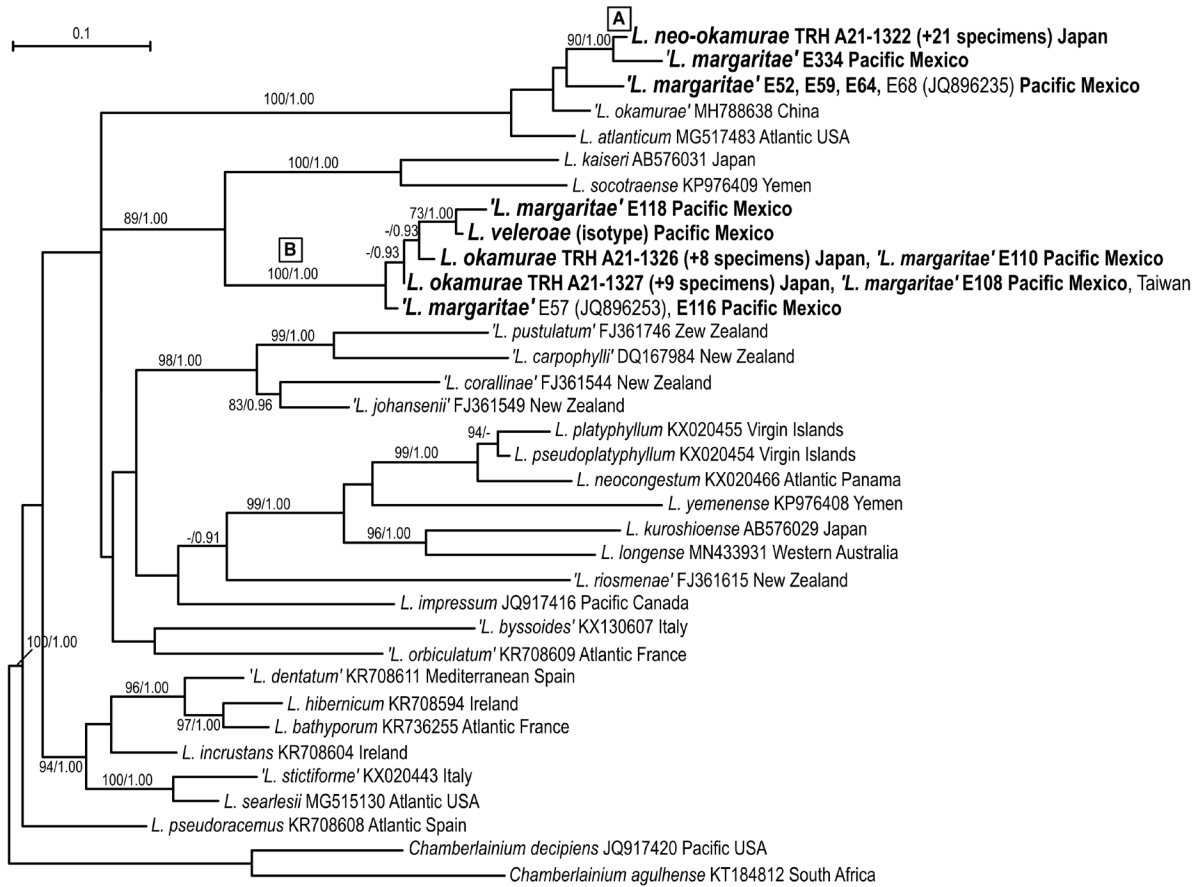


Fig. 1.

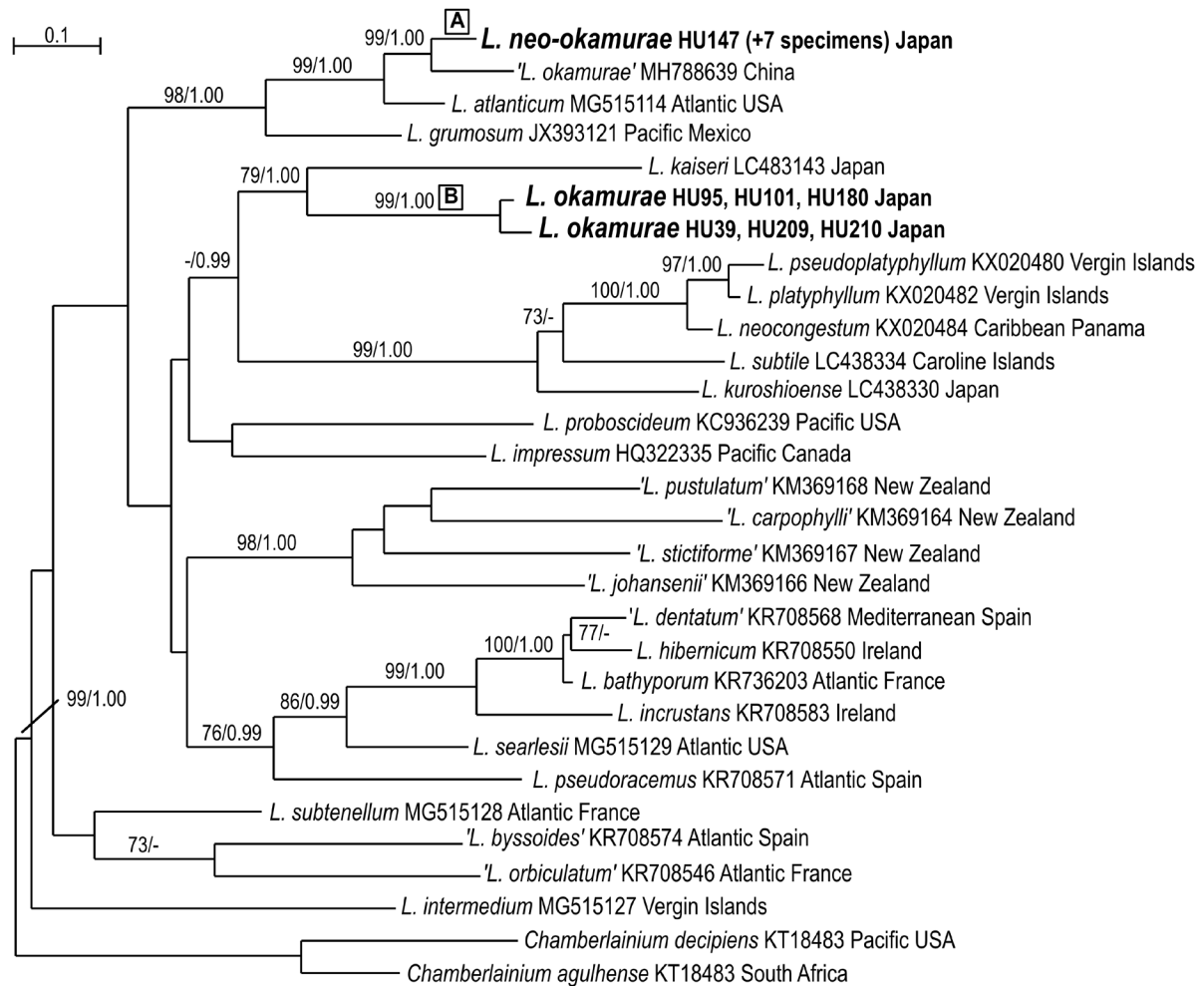


Fig. 2.

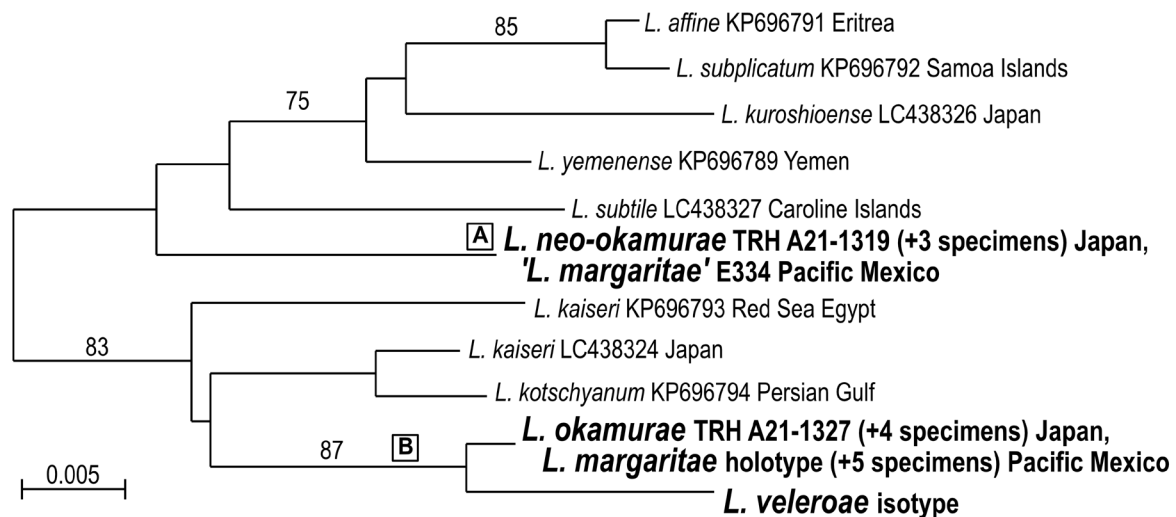
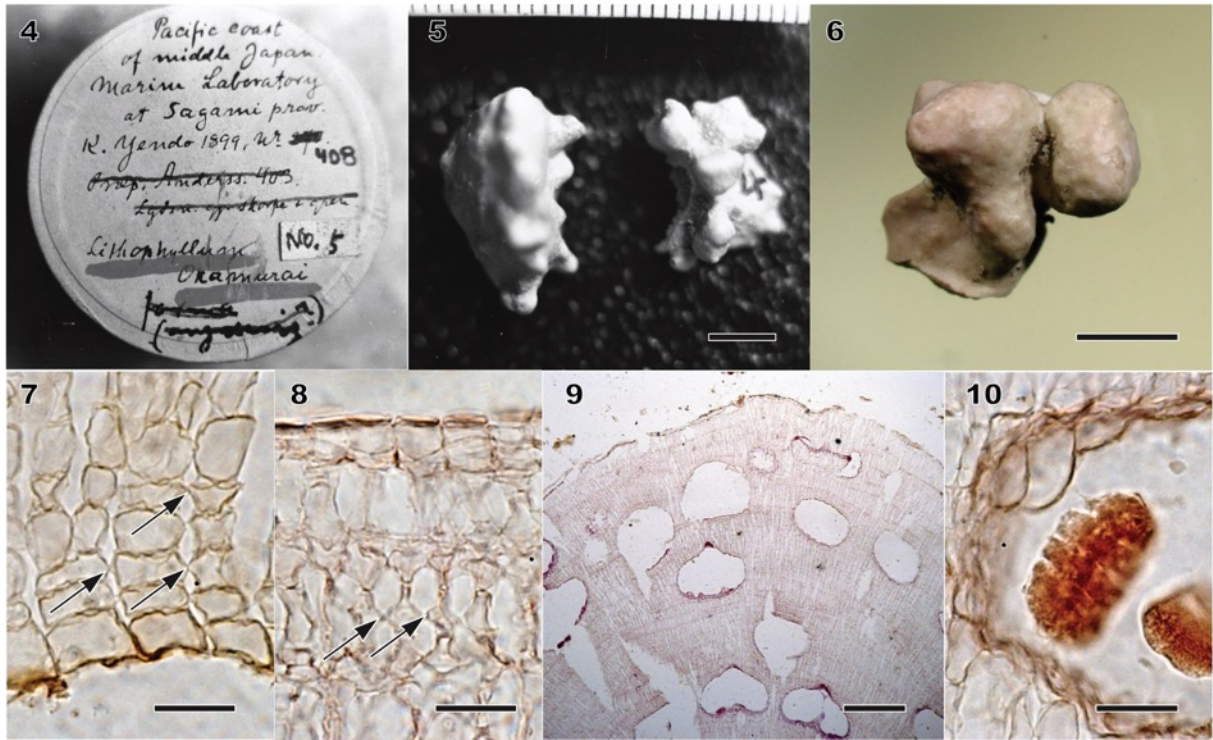
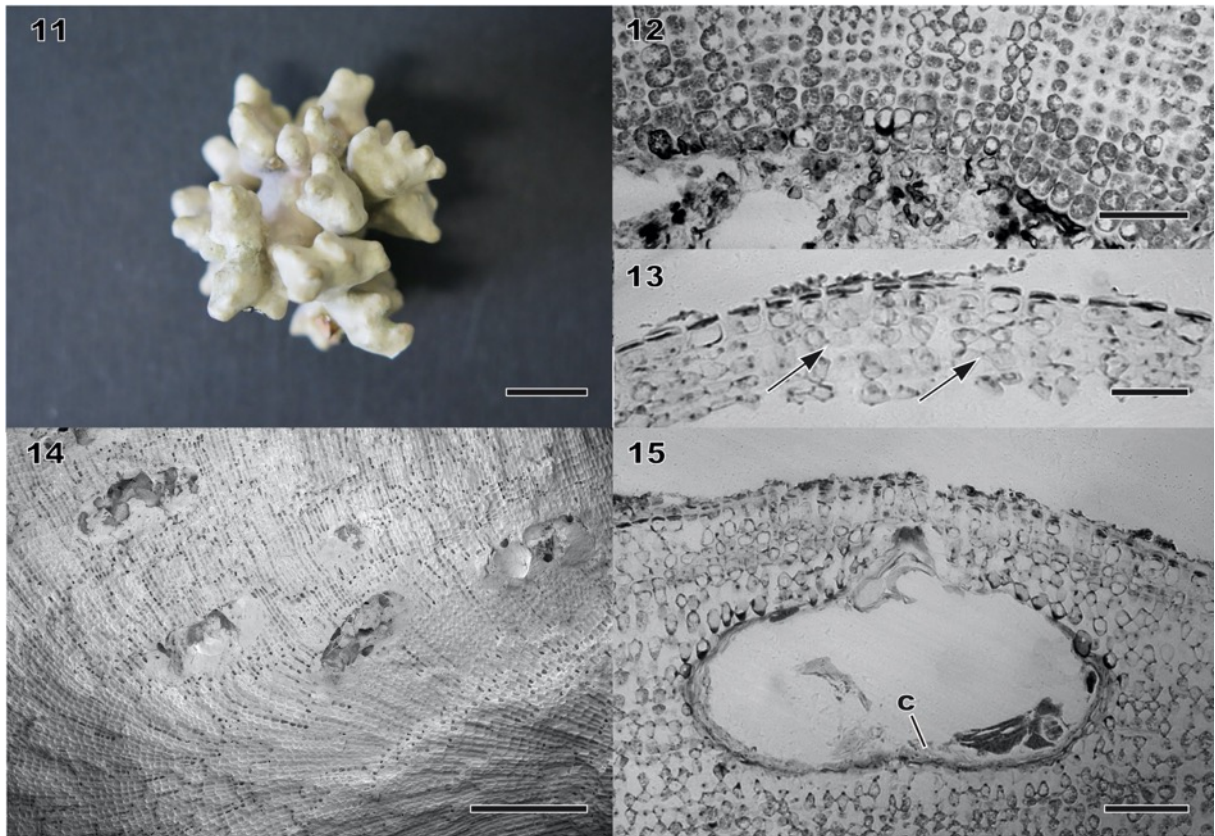


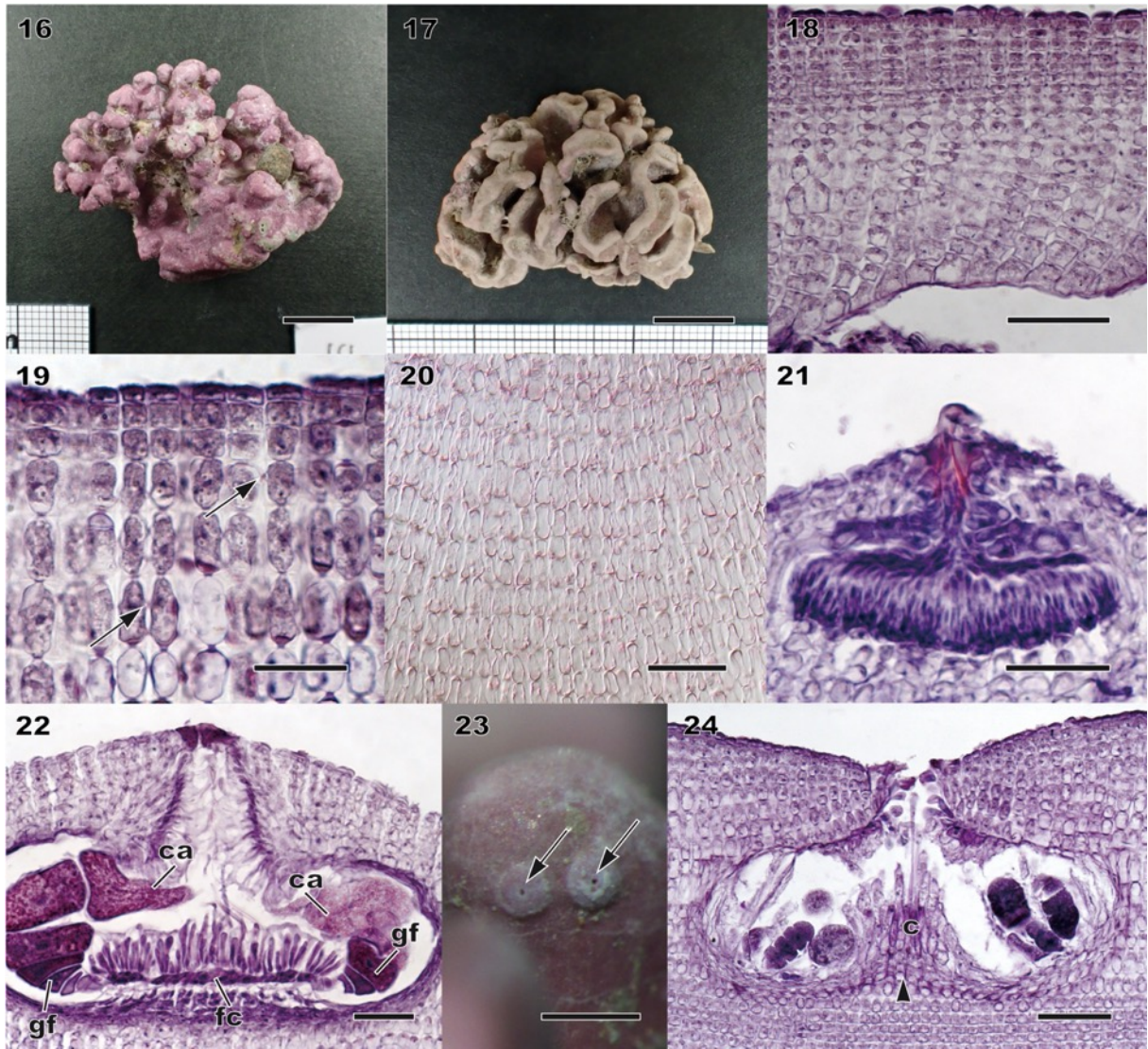
Fig. 3.



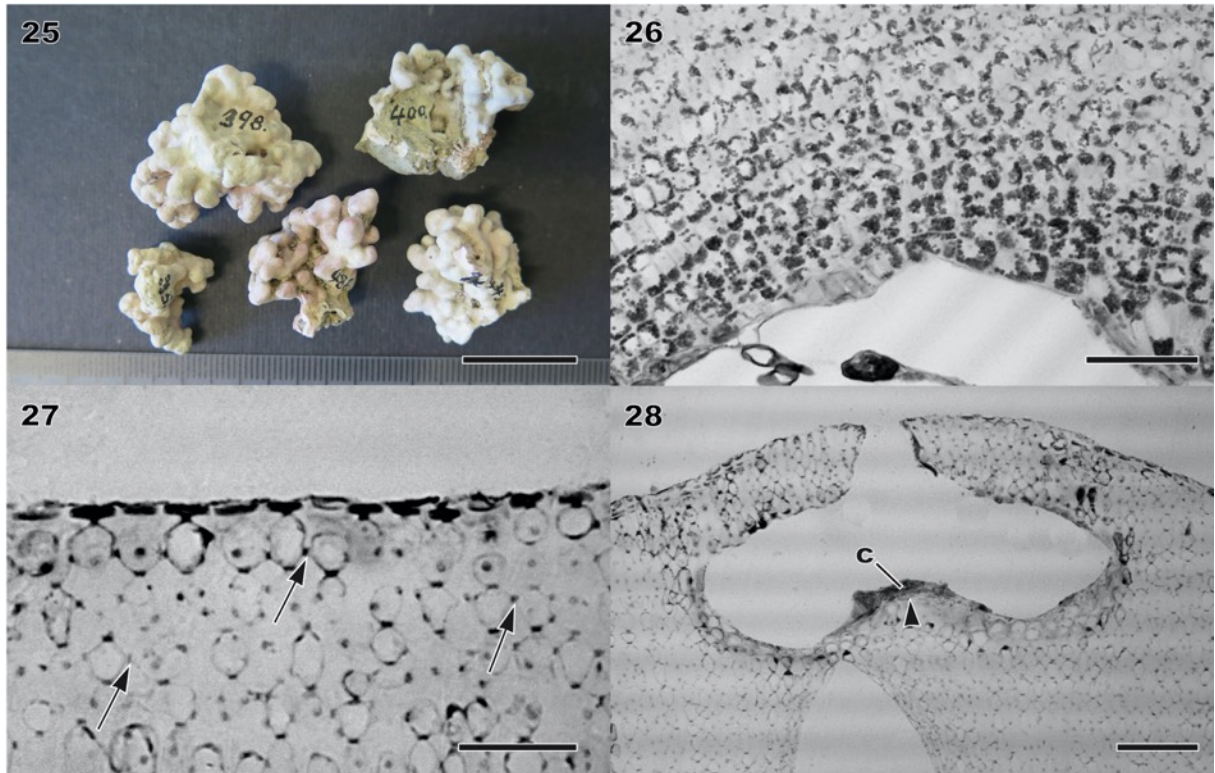
Figs 4-10.



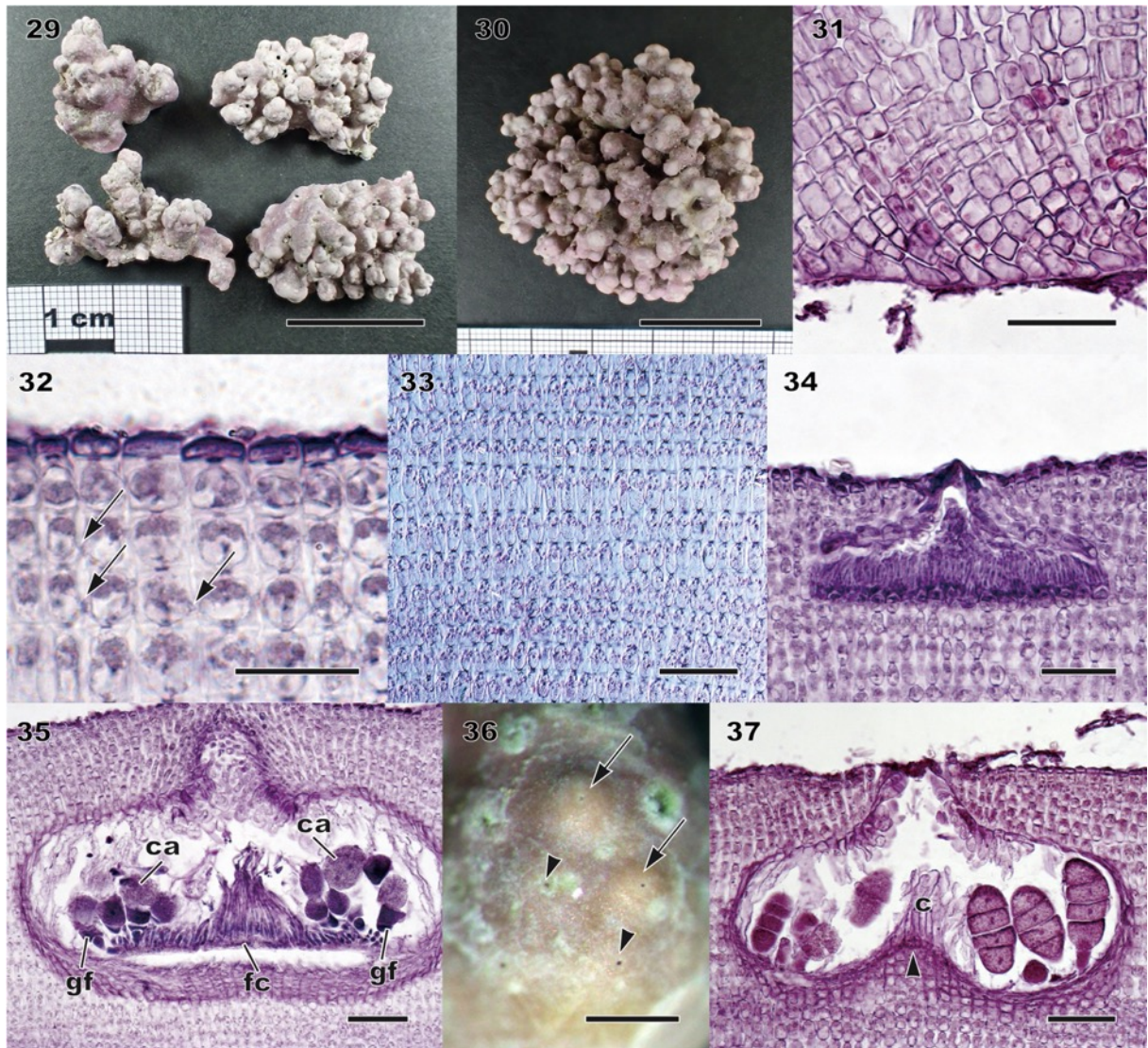
Figs 11-15.



Figs 16-24.



Figs 25-28.



Figs 29-37.