

STRUCTURE AND MICROSTRUCTURE OF *PACHYPORA LAMELLICORNIS* LINDSTRÖM, 1873, TABULATE CORAL FROM THE SILURIAN OF GOTLAND, SWEDEN.

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The examination of types (specimens of Lindström, 1896) and topotypes (specimens of Lecompte, 1936 and collections by two of us in 1981 and 1998) of the type species of *Pachypora* (*Pachypora lamellicornis* Lindström, 1873), from the Upper Visby Beds, Lower Wenlock, District of Visby, Gotland, facilitates enhanced characterization of morphology, structure and microstructure of this genus.

Calices very small, rounded or crescent, sometimes spiny, in some places calices closed by operculum. Tabulae sparse, only angle mural pores present, pore plate probably lacking, lateral increase with basal pore.

Wall microstructure well preserved and studied in polished ultra thin sections : median lamina made of granules in the axial zone of the branch, small plates in its margin, lacking in the peripheral zone; main layer of sclerenchyma (very thick in the peripheral zone) composed of scutellate microlamellae (Lafuste, 1984) coated in the axial zone by a fibrous layer sometimes topped by a thin film of microlamellae. No obvious growth lamellae.

A comparison between *Pachypora* and *Platyaxum* is attempted.

References

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