

***Desmidopora* and *Nodulipora*: misfits in the coral world**

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Skeletal morphology and its variation are described in *Desmidopora alveolaris* and in *Nodulipora acuminata*. The features of these Silurian fossils suggest sclerosponge affinities. Pores are present in both species and the surface of *Nodulipora* carries astrorhizae. A comparison is made between skeletons of sclero, sponges and tabulates: favositids are interpreted as the skeletons of sponges.

Key words: Sclerospongiae, morphology, taxonomy, relationships, Silurian.

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