

consequence – a more recent synonym of the former species.

Mojon [1996, p. 75] also questions Martín-Closas and Grambast-Fessard's description of the type material of *Globator incrassatus* "à la suite d'importantes erreurs dans les mensurations effectués en microscopie optique". He believes the size of the type material to have been exaggerated. We include a holotype photograph taken in a SEM Jeol 840 with the corresponding graphic scale (fig. 3) as evidence that *Globator incrassatus* is indeed a very large fructification, which in many cases exceeds one millimetre in length.

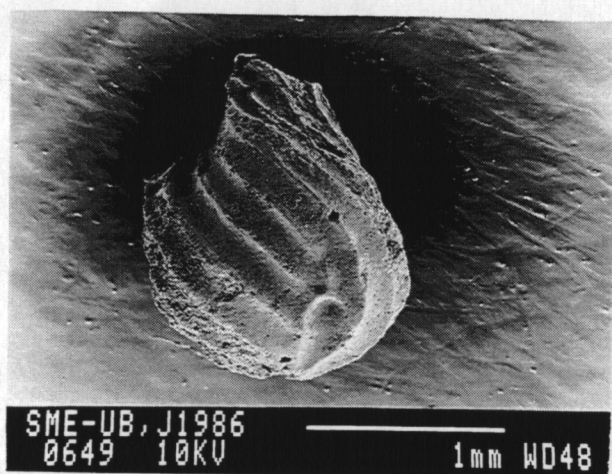


FIG. 3. – *Globator maillardii* var. *nurrensis* (MARTÍN-CLOSAS and GRAMBAST-FESSARD 1986). Original photograph of holotype in lateral view taken in 1986 on a S.E.M. Jeol 840. The automatically incorporated graphic scale is included as a evidence of the real size of this fructification.

FIG. 3. – *Globator maillardii* var. *nurrensis* (MARTÍN-CLOSAS & GRAMBAST-FESSARD 1986). Photographie originale de l'holotype en vue latérale, prise en 1986 avec un microscope à balayage Jéol 840. L'échelle graphique incorporée automatiquement est présentée comme une preuve de la grande taille de cette fructification.

Mojon [1996, p. 75] creates the new genus *Favargerella* to include two taxa which have already been described : *Ascidiella stellata* var. *stellata* (MARTÍN-CLOSAS & GRAMBAST-FESSARD, 1986) MARTÍN-CLOSAS ex SCHUDACK, 1993 and *Ascidiella stellata* var. *lata* MARTÍN-CLOSAS, 1996. These taxa were formerly classified within genus *Embergerella* which is now considered as being paraphyletic [Martín-Closas, 1996]. According to Mojon [1996, p. 78] *Embergerella* may be distinguished from *Favargerella* by the absence of an inner nodular layer. He also believes that the structure of the outer layer of *Favargerella* differs from that of *Embergerella*, as the rosettes of the former genus are not supported by a bract-cell. However, the presence of a nodular layer in *Embergerella* was demonstrated in thin sections

published by Grambast [1969, fig. 12 and 13] while bract-cells supporting the rosettes of *Ascidiella stellata* are visible in section at the centre of the rosettes in figures 14 (6) and 14 (7) of Martín-Closas [1996]. By examining Mojon's [1996] plate 3, figure 2 it would seem he confuses sterile fragments of thalli of *Ascidiella stellata*, believing them to be fructifications. What Mojon calls "still immature" utricles are in fact sterile nodes carrying a whorl of six short branchlets with a whorl of petal-like branchlets on top of each. Were Mojon to prepare a thin section along the longitudinal axis of the remains pictured in plate 3, figure 2, we believe he would find a succession of nodes separated by short internodes rather than a single fructification. The following emendation of genus *Favargerella* should therefore be made.

Genus *Favargerella* (MOJON, 1996) emend. MARTÍN-CLOSAS

Emended diagnosis : Infertile charophyte thalli formed by swollen nodes separated by short internodes. Nodes bear a whorl of 5 short branchlets, which have a rosette, formed by about 6 petal-like branchlets on top. Branchlets bearing rosettes may be seen in transversal section (as a hole) from the surface. These vegetative remains are usually associated with utricles of *Ascidiella stellata*.

Type species : *Favargerella aquavivae* nov. sp.

Holotype : specimen illustrated by Mojon [1996] on plate 3, fig. 2 A.

Paratype : specimen illustrated by Mojon [1996] on plate 3, fig. 2 B and 2D.

Type horizon and locality : level 2 of Les Rases section (Lower Barremian) described by Mojon [1996] and located at km 36 of the road from Sorita del Maestrat to Aiguaviva, close to this village (province of Castelló, País Valencià, Spain).

Derivation of name : from the Latin name of the type locality, Aiguaviva.

Repository : Mojon collection.

Diagnosis of type species : Coincides so far with the generic diagnosis and may not differ from it in the future since the remains named after this form-genus are supposed to belong exclusively to *Ascidiella stellata*.

As equally confusing as the definition of *Favargerella* given by Mojon [1996] is his analysis of its phylogenetic relationships. Initially (p. 77) genus *Favargerella* (= thalli of *Ascidiella stellata*) is classified within Clavatoroidae, in accordance with most charophyte specialists. Nevertheless on page 78 he proposes that from the utricle symmetry the new genus should be related to Atopocharoidae. This hypothesis, however, is abandoned by the same author two paragraphs later when he notes "a certain (phylogenetic) relation" of *Favargerella* with particular genera of Clavatoroi-