A bioeroding foraminifer, *Hyrrokin sarcophaga*, on deepwater corals from the South China Sea

Fig. 1 **a** Live *Madrepora oculata* colonized by *Hyrrokin sarcophaga*; **b** a *H. sarcophaga* foraminifer on *Flabellum japonicum* forming a depression; **c** *Caryophyllia diomedae* infected by *H. sarcophaga* located at the polyp's basal edge; **d** attachment scars (asterisk) of *H. sarcophaga* on *F. japonicum*. All specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol

ings produced by this large foraminifer are characterized by a shallow groove of 0.55 ± 0.04 mm (mean $\pm$ SD, $n = 11$) in diameter (Fig. 1d), from which several whip-shaped extensions protrude vertically into the substrate of hosts and act as an anchor to enhance the attachment (Beuck et al. 2008; Cedhagen 1994). This is the first report of the occurrence of *H. sarcophaga* in the Pacific. It extends our knowledge of the global distribution of *H. sarcophaga* as well as its ecological affinity and host preference.

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