

Functional morphology and systematic position of tabulatomorphs

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Tabulatomorph functional morphology being a reliable guide to locate the group among Metazoa, the authors, who were supplied with an abundant North-African material, offer evidence particularly to compare them with sponges. They provisionally conclude that most of them were allied to primitive sponges and even algae but achieved various differentiations more advanced than any of those.

Key words: Sponges, Tabulatomorpha, morphology, taxonomy, relationships.

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