

Poricella spathulata (Canu & Bassler, 1929). Tilbrook, 2006, p.113, pl.16B

Poricella spathulata (Canu & Bassler, 1929)
Plate 16B

Hiantopora spathulata Canu & Bassler, 1929: 116, pl. 11, figs 13, 14.

Arachnopusia spathulata: Harmer, 1957: 657, pl. 68, figs 22, 23, 25, 31.

Tremogasterina spathulata: Cook, 1977: 136, text-figs 1B, 5A, pl. 5, A; Dumont, 1981: 635; Hayward, 1988: 296, pl. 5, D; Scholz, 1991: 289, pl. 7, fig. 6; Ryland & Hayward, 1992: 249, fig.13e; Liu, Yin & Ma, 2001: 543, pl. 36, figs 1-3.

Poricella spathulata: Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001: 65, fig. 10B.

Type material Holotype: USNM 7916, "Albatross" Station 5179, off Romblon Light, Romblon, Philippines, 68 m.

Other material examined SBMNH 365261-262, 411-84; SBMNH 365263-64, 506-87.

Distribution The distribution of *Poricella spathulata* was comprehensively discussed by Cook (1977) who showed that it is widely distributed in the tropical Indo-West Pacific from the Red Sea to the Great Barrier Reef. It has since been recorded from Mauritius, the Philippines, South China Sea, Heron Island and Vanuatu. In the faunal study from Vanuatu by Tilbrook *et al.* (2001) *P. spathulata* was the most commonly found bryozoan species and was present in over half of the samples studied by Ryland & Hayward (1992) from Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef. However, in the Solomon Islands only two colonies were found, at Raun Island and Linggatu Cove, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands. At Linggatu Cove *P. spathulata* was associated with *Smittoidea pacifica* and *Predanophora ensenada*.

