Beania klugei Cook,1968. Hayward & Ryland, 1995, p. 542, fig. 6A,B. now Beania cookae Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001

Beania klugei Cook (Fig. 6A,B)

Beania klugei Cook, 1968: 164, figs 2A,B.

MATERIAL EXAMINED Stn. 29.

DESCRIPTION

The colony forms diffuse, branching, uniserial chains of slender autozooids, creeping across the surface of coral rubble. Autozooids are 0.8-0.9 x about 0.25mm, more or less parallel-sided, but strongly tapered in the proximal one-fifth; the frontal surface is entirely membranous. Spines are lacking, except for a pair of short, pointed distal processes. Each zooid bears a pair of small pedunculate avicularia attached laterally adjacent to the operculum. New autozooids are budded from a single disto-basal septulum, and paired proximo-lateral septula. Ovicells were not present.

REMARKS

Beania klugei was described from West Africa (Cook, 1968) but shown to have a tropical/subtropical distribution extending west to Panama, and east to the Red Sea and Zanzibar. Cook (1985) discusses the probability of its wider occurrence in the Indian Ocean. This is the first record of the species for Australia, and the West Pacific region.



