

*Parellisina mboliensis* Tilbrook, 2006, p.28, pl.3C-D.

***Parellisina mboliensis*** new species  
Plate 3C-D

Type material Holotype: SBMNH 365036, **515-87**.

**Description** Colony encrusting, forming unilaminar patch. Autozooids oval (0.65-0.70 x 0.30-0.40 mm), extensive frontal membrane bordered by a very narrow, raised, granular cryptocystal mural rim, gymnocyst narrow around autozoid, deepest proximally. Single pair of stout spines distally, remaining throughout ontogeny. Vicarious avicularia frequent, area of minimal gymnocystal calcification proximally, smooth, cryptocystal calcification distally, perforated by a number of randomly positioned circular pores, rostrum semicircular (ca 0.07 mm long), distally directed and angled to frontal plane, large, acutely triangular articulatory condyles; kenozooid distal to avicularium, vestigial, indistinct, with small oval opesia. Ovicell large, bulbous, with membranous ectooccium, endooccium coarsely granular, often producing a thickened rim around aperture, sometimes almost umbonate, not closed by maternal operculum.

**Etymology** Named for the type locality, Mboli Passage, separating Nggele Sule from Nggele Pile in the Florida Islands

**Remarks** *Parellisina mboliensis* is characterised by the presence of spines throughout ontogeny, but most importantly by the vicarious avicularia, with a semicircular rostrum, which is far larger than its associated, almost vestigial, kenozooid. All of these features are unique within the genus *Parellisina* in which the spines are generally reduced and lost in ontogeny, if present at all, and all avicularian rostra are triangular, except *P. latirostris* which is spatulate; the avicularia and kenozooid polymorphs are usually of comparable size.

Liu (1991) recorded two species of *Parellisina* from the Nansha Islands (Spratly Archipelago of Kirkpatrick (1890) and Harmer (1926)), *P. curvirostris* and an as yet undescribed species (as *P. intercalatopora* Liu & Wass *nomen nudum*). The Liu & Wass paper, supposedly in press in 1991, still has not been published and has resulted in a collection of undescribed Chinese species with *nomen nudum* that have littered the Chinese literature for over a decade. Hayami (1975) found *P. curvirostris* in the Miocene of Japan.

**Distribution** *Parellisina mboliensis* is known from a single colony encrusting a shell from the Utuha or Mboli Passage, Florida Islands.

