

*Didymozoum triseriale* (Philippis, 1899). Tilbrook, 2006, p.38, pl.5A-B.

**Didymozoum triseriale** (Philippis, 1899)  
Plate 5A-B

*Didymia triseriale* Philippis, 1899: 442, Fig.42, figs 2, 2a.

*Didymia triseriale* Harmer, 1923: Fig. 16, fig. 1.

*Didymozoum triseriale*: Harmer, 1926: 407, Fig. 19, fig. 1; Hastings, 1932: 410; Winston, 1986: 7; d'Hondt, 1986: 702.

**Type material** Lectotype: NHM 1900.6.26.2, Beach of Ile du Phare, Nouméa, New Caledonia.  
Paralectotypes: NHM 1900.6.26.1, 1928.9.13.117, (as for Lectotype).

**Other material examined** SBMNH 365071, 410-84; NHM 1928.3.6.235, "Siboga" Station 240, Banda, Banda Sea, 9-45 m; NHM 1928.3.6.233, "Siboga" Station 37, Paternoster Island; NHM 1928.3.6.234, "Siboga" Station 80, Borneo Bank; NHM (unregistered), (353.C) "Siboga" Station 240, Banda, Banda Sea, 9-45 m; NHM (unregistered), (467.D) "Siboga" Station 91, Muaras Reef, E. Borneo, 0-54 m.

**Description** Colony erect, delicate, branching, jointed, originating from elongate kenozooidal stolons, internodes unilaminar, consisting of biserial pairs of autozooids, set at an angle facing slightly away from each other, dividing dichotomously, bifurcations Type 1 (Harmer, 1923). Autozooids elongate (ca 0.70 x 0.20 mm), slightly wider distally than proximally, gymnocyst and cryptocyst lightly developed, entire frontal surface membranous, opesia entire length of autozooid, distal wall raised slightly with terminal operculum. Avicularia and spines lacking. Ovicellate zooids produced between autozooids, shorter, approximately two-thirds length of autozooids, forming triserial sections of an internode, ovicells prominent, globular, longer than wide, imperforate, smoothly calcified.

**Remarks** *Didymozoum triseriale* is characterised by its biserial branches of simple-looking autozooids, with ovicellate zooids producing triserial sections of internode.

*Didymozoum triseriale* differs from *D. simplex* (Busk, 1852) in producing several ovicellate zooids in succession rather than singly at a branch bifurcation. Autozooids of *D. triseriale* are also longer and narrower than those seen in Busk's species. Harmer (1926) described a new species, *D. marginatum* (NHM 1928.3.6.237, Strait of Makassar - part of type) which differed from *D. triseriale* in having mainly uniserial internodes, only producing biserial sections prior to a bifurcation, and also by the presence of membranous kenozooidal tubes bordering both edges of the entire branch. The morphology of ovicellate zooids is unknown in *D. marginatum*.

**Distribution** Originally described from New Caledonia, *Didymozoum triseriale* has since been recorded from the Low Isles, Great Barrier Reef (Hastings, 1932) and Indonesia (Harmer, 1926). In the Solomon Islands a single, small colony of this species was found off the dock, Yandina, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands.

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