

*Stylopoma thornelyae* Livingstone, 1926. Tilbrook, 2001, p.9, fig. 3D-F.

*STYLOPOMA THORNELYAE* LIVINGSTONE, 1926

(Fig. 3D-F)

*Stylopoma viridis* var. *thornelyi* Livingstone, 1926: 84, pl. 8, figs 8, 9.

*Stylopoma thornelyae*: Ryland & Hayward, 1992: 265, fig. 20c.

*Stylopoma herodias*: Hayward & Ryland, 1995 (in part): 557.

#### Material

Holotype: AM U2324 (two slides), Ellison Reef, Queensland, 8 fathoms.

Other material examined: NHM 1999.4.11.24, Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef; NHM 1999.4.11.25, Stn.88/sq.B21, Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef; NHM 1999.4.11.36, Stn.88/Sq.B14, Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef.

#### Description

Colony encrusting, unilaminar to multilaminar, often extensive. Autozooids hexagonal or irregularly polygonal, flat or slightly convex, separated by distinct grooves. Primary orifice wider than long, anterodenticulate; sinus deep, U-shaped, occupying half of the straight proximal border and constituting one-third of the total orifice length; condyles, smooth, deep, lipped and rounded rectangular. Frontal shield, evenly and densely perforated with large round pores (60–80), each surrounded by a rim of thickened calcification; large distinct marginal pores and conspicuous lateral walls. Adventitious avicularium, single, proximo-lateral oral; rostrum bluntly triangular, slightly inclined to frontal plane, disto-laterally directed. Vicarious avicularia sporadic, smaller than autozooids, with large spatulate rostrum; often occur on the frontal shield of autozooids. Ovicells globular, prominent, calcification similar to frontal shield, aperture rounded oval, entire proximal labellum, straight but with an obvious median suture line, visible in frontal view.

#### Measurements

Holotype: means and standard deviations, mm ( $n = 30$ ).

Autozooid: length,  $0.70 \pm 0.09$ ; width,  $0.53 \pm 0.09$ .

Orifice: length,  $0.11 \pm 0.00$ ; width,  $0.16 \pm 0.01$ .

Sinus length,  $0.04 \pm 0.00$ .

Avicularium: length,  $0.08 \pm 0.01$ ; width,  $0.08 \pm 0.01$ .

#### Remarks

The most characteristic feature of *Stylopoma thornelyae* is the denticulate anter of the primary orifice. This has not been described in any species of *Stylopoma* other than *S. spongites* where it has not been noted before. *Stylopoma thornelyae* is also distinguished by the large size of the autozooids, the wide sinus, smooth, lipped condyles, and by its ovicell. The ovicell aperture of *S. thornelyae* is reminiscent of *Stylopoma magniovicellata* Silén, 1954, as illustrated from Queensland. However, Silén's material was not available for comparison. The holotype specimen shows two spatulate vicarious avicularia situated on the frontal shields of autozooids, as illustrated by Ryland & Hayward (1992); this is another unique feature of this species.

#### Distribution

*Stylopoma thornelyae* has only been found from the Great Barrier Reef.

