

(Thornely, 1905). Tilbrook, 2006, p.195, pl.41E.

Stylopoma viride (Thornely, 1905)
Plate 41E

Schizoporella viridis Thornely, 1905: 116, plate, fig. 3.

Stylopoma viride: Tilbrook, 2001 (cum syn.): 12, fig. 5A-C; Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001: 83.

Type material Lectotype: NHM 1906.12.3.10, Sri Lanka.

Other material examined SBMNH 365597-602, 407-84.

Remarks *Stylopoma viride* is characterised by: the primary orifice, which has a wide sinus and small condyles; its suboral avicularia, which are setiform; and the vicarious avicularia, which are also setiform.

Stylopoma viride is perhaps the most easily recognised of the Indo-Pacific *Stylopoma* species (Tilbrook, 2001). Not only is it generally green in colour, as its name suggests, but its zooids are amongst the largest known in the genus (ca 0.90 x 0.70 mm). It may form massive, multilaminar colonies up to 100 cm² in area.

D'Hondt (1986) described a new subspecies, *Stylopoma viride trispinosa*, from New Caledonia. This appears to be a misidentification. Species of *Stylopoma* do not bear oral spines. Also the suboral avicularia on the species illustrated by d'Hondt are triangular not setiform, oral condyles appear to be lacking as do vicarious avicularia and a suboral umbo is present on most zooids. The species described by d'Hondt appears to belong to the genus *Robertsonidra* Osburn, 1952 and was noted by Ryland & Hayward (1992) in Harmer's (1957) material of *R. argentea* from the China Sea. However, it does not belong to *R. argentea* either (see *Remarks* for *R. argentea* below).

A recently described Mediterranean species of *Stylopoma*, *S. inchoans* Tilbrook, 2000, has previously been mistaken for *S. viride*. *S. inchoans* differs in having a narrow, parallel-sided official sinus, in spite of having setiform vicarious avicularia.

Distribution From its original description based on Sri Lankan specimens *Stylopoma viride* has been recorded throughout the Indo-Pacific, from the Red Sea east to Vanuatu. From the Solomons several small colonies of *Stylopoma viride* were found encrusting small pieces of coral rubble from Gibson Island, Hamilton Passage, Choiseul.

