Parasmittina parvitatis Tilbrook, 2006. Tilbrook, 2006, p.166, pl.29J, 34C-D.

Parasmittina parvitatis

new species Plates 29J; 34C-D

Type material Holotype: SBMNH 365531, **501-87**.

Paratypes: SBMNH 365532-533, 501-87.

Description

Colony multilaminar. Autozooids rectangular to hexagonal, flat or slightly convex (ca 0.55 x 0.35 mm). Frontal shield slightly coarsely granular, marginal pores very large, numerous, lateral walls raised above frontal shield. Primary orifice oval, as wide as long (0.12 x 0.11 mm), distal border smooth, lyrula narrow, occupying less than one quarter of proximal border, relatively shallow, i.e. only half as deep as wide, anvil-shaped, with sharply pointed corners, condyles small, bluntly triangular, finely denticulate. Usually one oral spine. Peristome most developed as pair of lateral lappets. Avicularia polymorphic: most often oval, or slightly spatulate, proximolateral oral, proximally directed, variably sized; rarely acute triangular, rostrum acute to frontal plane, rising up one lateral lappet, distally directed; enlarged, originating lateral to orifice, extending length of autozooid, rostrum curving medially, spatulate, denticulate around distal edge, crossbar slender, palatal foramen large, proximally directed. Ovicell not observed.

Etymology

From *parvitatis*, L. littleness, insignificance. Named for its small anvil-shaped lyrula.

Remarks

Parasmittina parvitatis is characterised by its primary orifice, its small anvilshaped lyrula and its small denticulate condyles. While the morphology of the avicularia is not characteristic, the raised, lateral walls and numerous large, marginal pores are.

Parasmittina parvitatis is most similar to **P. rimula**, which also has raised lateral walls. However, the shape of the orifices and in particular the lyrula and condyles

differs. *P. parvitatis* has a much narrower, shallower lyrula than *P. rimula* and its small condyles are denticulate whereas they are pointed in *P. rimula*.

Parasmittina parvitatis is also superficially similar to *P. winstonae*, *P. latiavicularia* and *P. leviavicularia*, particularly when a triangular avicularium is seen rising up a lateral lappet. But while *P. parvitatis* has similar shaped avicularia to these other species all their orifice morphologies are quite distinct.

Distribution

Parasmittina parvitatis is only known from the Solomon Islands, where it was found from Anuha Reefs, Anuha Island, Florida Islands.



