

***Parasmittina turbula* sp. nov.**
(Fig. 23a-d)

TYPE MATERIAL

HOLOTYPE: GH5233, Heron Island, Stn 25, 18 Apr 1972.

ETYMOLOGY

Latin *turba*, disorder.

DESCRIPTION

Colony encrusting, multilaminar, developing an irregular, mamillate form, the later generations of autozooids lacking regular orientation. Autozooids oval to irregular, convex, separated by distinct sutures; frontal wall irregularly nodular, bordered by large marginal pores, with thickened struts between; 0.5×0.3 mm. Primary orifice about as wide as long (0.12 mm); lyrula occupying about one-third of proximal width, short, rectangular, with a gently curved edge; condyles oval, downcurved, with finely crenulate edges. A single disto-medial spine present; peristome complete, initially with a delicately flared lip, a deep distal embayment accommodating the spine, and a shallow mid-proximal notch flanked by thickened internal ridges. With ontogenetic thickening the peristome becomes deeper, the distal spine is obliterated and the proximal notch accentuated. Avicularia polymorphic, numerous; one or two lateral to the peristome in newly budded autozooids, usually narrow, parallel-sided, from 0.2-0.3 mm long, proximally directed, occasionally shorter, triangular and disto-medially directed; additional avicularia develop in later ontogeny, typically clustered around the peristome, and directed towards the orifice; gigantic avicularia present in a few autozooids, laterally situated and proximally directed, with flared, slightly spatulate mandible. Ovicell spherical, with numerous fine perforations, rapidly enveloped by secondary calcification; with a number of small avicularia developing on its frontal surface, directed towards the autozooidal orifice.

REMARKS

The slender, parallel-sided avicularia recall those of *P. areolata* Soule & Soule. *P. turbula* is distinguished from that species by its single, distal oral spine, the morphology of the lyrula and condyles, and by the clusters of medially directed avicularia developed around the peristome in later ontogeny.

