

Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme (Soule, Soule & Chaney, 1991). Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001, p.98, fig.21A,B.

SCHEDOCLEIDOCHASMA PORCELLANIFORME SOULE,
SOULE & CHANEY
(Fig. 21A,B)

Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme Soule, Soule & Chaney, 1991: 481, pl. 1, fig. 6, pl. 5, figs 3, 4.

Description

Autozooids bear three oral spines in early ontogeny which are later obscured by succeeding autozooids. Primary orifice with a large, almost circular, smooth anter and a small, deep, arrow-shaped poster. Avicularia, small, single or paired, directed distolaterally; rostrum acute triangular, with slightly raised acuminate tip; crossbar complete, with short columella.

Remarks

Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme resembles *Leporalia porcellana* Busk, 1860 which Soule *et al.* (1991) included in this genus. In their opinion, *S. porcellaniforme* has larger avicularia and ovicells than Busk's species and a slightly wider and shallower poster to the primary orifice.

Distribution

In their original description of *Schedocleidochasma porcellaniforme* from American Samoa, Soule *et al.* (1991) noted its presence from the Maldive Islands, Thailand, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Tonga, French Polynesia, Hawaiian Islands, and Tizard Reef (China Sea). They also found this species in Vanuatu, on reefs around Mele Bay, Efate. Our study has found colonies encrusting coral rubble from Poanangisu and Iririki Island, Efate.

