

*Antropora granulifera* (Hincks, 1880). Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001, p.41, fig.2G.

*ANTROPORA GRANULIFERA* (HINCKS)

(Fig. 2G)

*Membranipora granulifera* Hincks, 1880a: 72, pl. 9, fig. 4.

*Antropora granulifera*: Norman, 1903b: 87, pl. 8, fig. 4; Tilbrook, 1998: 27, fig. 1A.

*Description*

Colony forming flat unilaminar sheets. Autozooids irregularly polygonal to hexagonal, separated by discernible grooves. Frontal surface bordered by a crenulated mural rim, raised particularly towards the distal end of the autozooid. Gymnocyst proximal, very reduced or negligible; cryptocyst occupying generally less than one half of total autozooid length, flat or very slightly convex, coarsely beaded. Opesia roughly triangular to slightly trifoliate, constricted at the proximal edge of the operculum opening. Distal to each autozooid a pair of medium-sized, triangular interzooidal avicularia. Rostra raised and acute to frontal plane, directed medially, often touching at the midline, or rarely very slightly distomedially, particularly in ovicellate zooids; mandibles long and acutely triangular. Vicarious avicularia absent. Ovicell endozooidal, small, indistinct.

Mature colonies are chocolate brown in appearance, lighter and more translucent at the growing edge. The opercula are slightly darker than the rest of the frontal membrane. Cook (1968) described the opercula of fertile zooids as showing a slight dimorphism, i.e. wider and darker in colour than other autozooids.

*Distribution*

*Antropora granulifera* was found at Port Vila Harbour and at Iririki Island. This species has a circumglobal distribution in shallow warm-temperate and tropical waters.

