

Crassimarginatella (Crassimarginatella) spathulata
n.sp. (Plate 3, B)

MATERIAL EXAMINED: NZOI Stn K795₁.

DISTRIBUTION: Kermadec Islands, 350 m.

DESCRIPTION: Colony encrusting. Zooids 0.62–0.75 × 0.37–0.55 mm, with large oval to subquadrate opesia, bordered by narrow granular cryptocyst often somewhat wider proximally. Gymnocyst smooth, reduced or as much as one-third the zooidal length, and then sometimes obscured by an ovicell. Spines not seen. Ovicell prominent with narrow curved fenestra in ectooecium frontally. Vicarious avicularia occasional, as long as or shorter than autozooids, rounded proximally with a broadly spatulate rostrum; rostrum with thin, raised walls and more than two-thirds the total length; no pivot bar; a narrow granular cryptocyst bordering the tiny opesia; an oral shelf curves around half the rostral length.

HOLOTYPE: A colony, in collection of the N.Z. Oceanographic Institute, DSIR, Wellington, New Zealand, type number H-294.

PARATYPE: NZOI, type number P-541, from same sample as holotype.

TYPE-LOCALITY: NZOI Stn K795₁, 33°02.6'S, 179°34.6'W, 350 m.

REMARKS: The broadly spatulate avicularium is the most characteristic feature of this species. The Kermadec colony occurred as a raised encrustation. About half the zooids possessed basal pore-chambers from which extended supportive struts. It is not known if this is typical of the species or a local ecological modification.

