

*Biflustra reticulata* Tilbrook Hayward & Gordon, 2001, p.38, fig.2E.

Now *Biflustra laboriosa* Tilbrook, 2006

*BIFLUSTRA RETICULATA* SP. NOV.

(Fig. 2E)

*Material*

Holotype: NHM 1998.8.4.66, Port Vila Harbour, Efate, Vanuatu, October 1990.

Paratypes: NHM 1998.8.4.65, same locality as holotype, October 1990; NHM 1998.8.4.288, Erakor Lagoon, by the Radisson Royal Palm Resort, Efate, October 1990.

*Description*

Colony encrusting, unilaminar. Autozooids irregularly oval to rectangular, distinctly separated by shallow grooves, quincuncially arranged in ordered columns; lateral walls shallow. Gymnocyst reduced, most prominent proximally as two triangular-shaped areas, either side of the distal end of the preceding zooid; a thin wall of gymnocyst surrounding the entire cryptocyst, with a slightly raised tuberculate rim. Cryptocyst occupying one third to one half frontal area, extending laterally either side of the opesia, negligible distally, most extensive proximally, flattened or very slightly convex, smooth other than for a raised reticulate pattern of tubercles; rim of cryptocyst smooth proximally, slightly tuberculate laterally. Opesia oval or subtriangular. Generally four large multiporous septula in lateral walls, two distolateral and two proximalateral. A line of up to ten very small uniporous septula in the distal wall. Basal wall generally entire, but appears to be lacking in small areas in certain autozooids.

*Measurements*

Holotype: means and standard deviations, mm ( $n = 30$ ).

Autozooid length  $0.56 \pm 0.05$ ; width  $0.27 \pm 0.02$ .

Opesia length  $0.28 \pm 0.03$ ; width  $0.23 \pm 0.02$ .

*Etymology*

From *reticulatus*, L.—netlike. Named for the reticulate patterning of the frontal cryptocyst.

*Remarks*

The most characteristic feature of *Biflustra reticulata* is the reticulate patterning on the proximal area of cryptocyst. The suite of septula observed in this species is similar to those of *Jellyella tuberculata* described above. The form of the ancestrula has not been observed.

*Distribution*

Two small colonies of *Biflustra reticulata* were found in Port Vila Harbour encrusting discarded wall tiles, and another on a specimen of *Halimeda* sp. from Erakor Lagoon.

