

"Cosciniopsis" efatensis Tilbrook, 2006, p. 240, pl.52E-F

"Cosciniopsis" efatensis new species
Plate 52E-F

Type material Holotype: NHM 1998.8.4.265, Poanangisu, Efate, Vanuatu.
Paratype: NHM 1998.8.4.278, Poanangisu, Efate, Vanuatu.

Other material examined SBMNH 365680-684, **401-84**; SBMNH 365685, **406-84**.

Description Colony forming small unilaminar patches. Autozooids large (0.90–1.10 x 0.80–0.90 mm), rectangular to irregularly polygonal, distinct, separated by shallow grooves, vertical walls raised, distinct. Frontal shield convex, granular, perforated by a number of irregularly spaced pores, numerous conspicuous large marginal pores. Primary orifice subcircular, as long as wide (ca 0.23 x 0.23 mm), anter deeply arched, poster very shallowly concave, condyles small, rounded-triangular, proximo-medially directed. No oral spines. Thin peristome surrounding orifice, taller laterally and distally, especially developed in ovicellate zooids. No avicularia. Ovicell globular, wider than long, calcification identical to frontal shield, no obvious orifice dimorphism, peristome takes on a somewhat triangular appearance. Basal pore-chambers present. Ancestrula not observed.

Etymology Named for the type locality, Efate, Vanuatu.

Remarks *"Cosciniopsis" efatensis* is characterised by the thin peristome surrounding the subcircular orifice, obvious large marginal pores, and raised vertical walls, which rise up and join as the distal edge of the peristome.

While the overall appearance of this species is similar to *Cosciniopsis* there are a number of characters that exclude it from that genus. These characters include an irregularly perforate frontal shield, large obvious marginal pores, raised vertical walls, and basal pore-chambers.

Distribution Two specimens of *"Cosciniopsis" efatensis* were found in Vanuatu but not described by Tilbrook *et al.* (2001). In the Solomon Islands this species was found at Mbokona Bay, Honiara, Guadalcanal and Ilailon, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands.

