

Reteporella graeffei (Kirchenpauer, 1869). Tilbrook, 2006, p.307, Pl.68E-F

Reteporella graeffei (Kirchenpauer, 1869)
Plate 68E-F

Retihornera graeffei Kirchenpauer, 1869: 30.

Reteporella graeffei: Hammer, 1934: 573, pl.35, figs 12-15; pl.38, figs 13-15; text-figs 25E, 31, 32; Ryland, 1984: 74, figs 38.11, 40.31-34; Winston, 1986: 24; Ryland & Hayward, 1992: 285, figs 28c,d, 29a; Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001: 98, Fig. 19B; Hayward, 2004: 316.

Material examined SBMNH 365822-826, **501-87**; SBMNH 365827-829, **403-84**; SBMNH 365830, **515-87**.

Description Colony erect, developing an open or shallow cup-shaped fan, attached to substratum by an encrusting base. Fenestrulae oval, long and narrow (ca 1.3 x 0.7 mm), narrow trabeculae consist of autozooids in four to eight alternating series. Abfrontal kenozooids slightly granular, distinct, separated by raised edges, three or four small pores present, small oval avicularia seen basally and along edges of trabeculae, rostrum slightly raised from kenozooidal wall, randomly directed. Autozooids small, elongate (ca 0.40 x 0.25 mm), distinct, separated by raised sutures, frontal shield smooth, two to four marginal pores present proximally. Primary orifice wider than long (ca 0.09 x 0.08 mm), the proximal border shallowly concave, the distal border arched and denticulate, large, almost square, condyles laterally, but generally hidden by peristome. Peristome tall (particularly in zooids facing into fenestrulae), flaring slightly terminally, a longitudinal median fissure broadening proximally into a labial pore, rim developed into two or three short spiked processes, a single long inner (axial) lateral spine and three or four on outer lateral margin. Avicularia in centre of frontal shield of most zooids, polymorphic: most commonly small, elongate oval (although length varies), distal tip denticulate, raised slightly from frontal surface, complete crossbar with columella, proximally directed; less commonly large, pelotabasket-shaped, hooked distal tip of acute rostrum denticulate, raised from frontal later in ontogeny on peristomial rim of many autozooids, originating axially, adjacent to median fissure, rostrum oval, distal tip denticulate, complete crossbar without columella, directed axially. Ovicell longer than wide, narrow, frontal fissure extends over half its length.

Remarks *Reteporella graeffei* is characterised by its frontal avicularia, orifice shape and number of peristomial spines.

Hayward (2004) recently nominated a lectotype specimen for this species (NHM 1869.12.3.55, "Viti-inseln") which is thought to have originated from the collection of Kirchenpauer.

Distribution Originally described from Fiji, *Reteporella graeffei* has been cited as a common member of shallow reef faunas throughout the tropical Indo-West Pacific Ocean from the East African coast to Vanuatu and Fiji (Tilbrook *et al.*, 2001). In the Solomon Islands several broken colonies of this species were found from Yandina, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands; Mboli Passage, between Nggela Sule and Nggela Pile, and Anuha Reefs, Florida Islands.

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