Nellia tenuis Harmer

(Fig. 2C)

Nellia tenuis Harmer, 1926: 245, pl. 14, figs 16, 17.
Nellia tenuis: Hayward, 1988: 286, pl. 1, fig. a; Gordon, 1989: 450, fig. 3; Ryland & Hayward, 1992: 231, fig. 10c.

Remarks

This species appears to be common in shallow reefal habitats where it forms part of the bryozoan sward on the undersides of coral rubble; however, its delicate spindly colonies may easily be overlooked.

Distribution

Originally described by Harmer (1926) from localities in Indo–Malaysia and the South China Sea, it has since been reported from the Great Barrier Reef, Fiji, Samoa and Mauritius.

In Vanuatu it was a common member of the cryptic bryozoan sward found on the larger pieces of coral rubble, particularly from Erakor Island reef flat.

