

Parasmittina exiguiuncinata Tilbrook, 2006. Tilbrook, 2006, p.158, pl.29E, 32A-C.

Parasmittina exiguiuncinata new species
Plates 29E; 32A-C

Type material Holotype: SBMNH 365439, **501-87**.
Paratype: SBMNH 365440, **501-87**.

Other material examined SBMNH 365441, **403-84**.

Description Colony unilaminar. Autozooids large, rectangular to hexagonal, convex (ca 0.65 x 0.45 mm). Frontal shield coarsely nodular, two series of large marginal pores. Primary orifice large, longer than wide (0.16 x 0.14 mm), distal border smooth, lyrula broad, occupying the half proximal border, relatively deep, i.e. over half as deep as wide, anvil-shaped, with pointed corners and median longitudinal ridge, convex distal edge, condyles short, robust, rounded triangular, downcurved, denticulate with about 12 fine denticles. One to three oral spines seen only in earliest ontogeny. Peristome well developed proximally and laterally, a deep notch midproximally. Avicularia polymorphic, numerous: most often lateral-suboral, single, proximally directed, extending up to half length of autozoid, rostrum narrow, elongate, parallel-sided with denticulate edges, rounded at tip, crossbar slender, palatal foramen; small avicularia with acutely triangular rostrum, finely denticulate, directed medially ascending the side of peristome; a lateral-oral avicularium, size of secondary orifice, proximally directed, on inflated cystid, rostrum normal to frontal plane, running along the top of the peristome, triangular, the distal tip raised, cupped, split into two small processes; a small triangular avicularia sporadic, as described above, especially distal to ovicells, randomly directed. Ovicell globular, prominent, wider than long, perforated by many small pores, imperforate, thick oocelial cover developed early by encroaching peristome and distal zooids, forming an almost complete covering.

Etymology From *exiguus*, L. small, short; *uncinatus*, L. hooked, barbed. Named for the small size of the inflated peristomial avicularium cystid.

Remarks *Parasmittina exiguiuncinata* is characterised by its relatively large primary orifice, the anvil-shaped lyrula and robust, though finely denticulate condyles, but perhaps more so by its range of avicularia. The avicularia on the inflated cystid running along the top of the peristome are particularly characteristic.

Parasmittina exiguiuncinata is similar to *P. uncinata* Soule & Soule, 1973 and *P. parviuncinata* Soule & Soule, 1973 and although distinct obviously belongs within this group. It has the same characteristic immersed primary orifice, large peristome, multiserial marginal pores and, most characteristically, a peristomial avicularium on an inflated cystid with the tip hooked and split. *P. exiguiuncinata* differs from the Soules' two species in the shape of the lyrula and condyles, having the broadest and deepest lyrula and the most ornate condyles, but also in the size of the peristomial avicularium, which although similar in size to that of *P. parviuncinata*, is far smaller than that in *P. uncinata*.

Distribution *Parasmittina exiguiuncinata* is only known from the Solomon Islands, where it was found at Yandina, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands and Anuha Reefs, Anuha Island, Florida Islands.

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