Hippothoa flagellum Manzoni (Plate 11, E-G)

Hippothoa flagellum Manzoni, 1870a: 328; Ryland & Gordon 1977: 22 (*cum syn.*); Morris, 1980: 30; Gordon 1984: 111; Moyano 1986: 102.
Hippothoa watersi Morris, 1980: 31.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: NZOI Stns B484, B487, B488, B489, B493, B498, C856, C871, D246, D260, D262, D266, D269, D270, D272, D273, D274, E796, E804, E817, E820, E828, M774, M776, M779, M780, M782, M791, Q686. Also *Hippothoa flagellum*, BM(NH) 97.5.1.793, from Falmouth, England; and slide no. 2639, holotype of *H. watersi*, Manchester Museum H.1251, from New Zealand.

DISTRIBUTION: Kermadec Ridge, Hauraki Gulf, Cook Strait, Marlborough Sounds, Tasman Bay, Fiordland, western approaches to Foveaux Strait; 15-635 m. Nearly cosmopolitan.

REMARKS: *Hippothoa watersi* Morris is synonymous with *H. flagellum*. The distribution of interzooidal communications is the same, and any perceived differences are subtle. For example, the autozooidal orifice in New Zealand colonies (equivalent to *H. watersi*) tend to be a little higher and more in the plane of the substratum. They also tend to be more triangular, but the range of variation in the orifices of both northern and New Zealand populations overlaps and the supposed distinctions are not consistent throughout the geographic range of the species.

Zooeciules of New Zealand *H. flagellum* are not abundant, and tend to be slender with a tiny oval orifice. Occasionally they are larger — in a colony from Stn B488, southwest of Puysegur Point, two well-developed zooeciules are present. They are clavate in shape, with a medially constricted orifice, and are practically identical to equally uncommon zooeciules occurring in British *H. flagellum* (cf. Ryland and Gordon 1977, fig. 3C, E; Hastings 1979, fig. 2, A-C).