NIMBA SAXATILIS HAYWARD & RYLAND (Fig. 8D)

 $Nimba\ saxatilis\ Hayward\ \&\ Ryland,\ 1995a:\ 558,\ fig.\ 11D.E.$ 

## Description

Colony encrusting; autozooids in uniserial chains which branch at irregular intervals. Autozooids elongate, oval, broadest at the distal end;  $0.6-0.7\times0.3-0.4$  mm. Primary orifice about as wide as long; poster broadly concave, separated from anter by small, knob-like condyles. Peristome well developed, forming an erect tube completely encircling the orifice, its rim thin and evenly flared. Frontal shield convex, thick, nodular; bordered by a single or double series of small marginal pores. No spines or avicularia found. The structure of the ovicell is still not known.

## Remarks

*Nimba saxatilis* appears to be rather common on coral rubble, but is easily overlooked because of its cryptic habitat, uniserial growth form, and hyaline calcification.

## Distribution

Described from Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef, *Nimba saxatilis* was found in Port Vila Harbour, Efate. This species is probably commoner in shallow reef habitats than these records suggest.

