

***Parasmittina galerita* sp. nov.**
(Fig. 21d-f)

Smittina parsevalii: Harmer, 1957: 941 [part], pl. 65, fig. 5 [only].

TYPE MATERIAL

HOLOTYPE: GH5231, Heron Island, Stn 16, 13 Apr 1972.

ETYMOLOGY

Latin *galerum*, a helmet.

DESCRIPTION

Colony a multilaminar sheet. Autozooids small, rectangular to irregularly polygonal, convex, separated by thickened sutures. Primary orifice about as wide as long; lyrula short, occupying about half total width of orifice; its edge slightly curved; condyles small, rounded, downcurved, with finely denticulate edges; a single, inconspicuous, mid-distal oral spine present in early ontogeny. Peristome widely open proximally, at first consisting simply of paired, subtriangular lateral lappets, extending to enclose the distal border of the orifice in later ontogeny. Frontal wall coarsely nodular, bordered by large, and conspicuous marginal pores. Avicularia frequent, polymorphic: each autozoid typically with two, lateral suboral avicularia, the first short, 0.1mm long, oval or shoe-shaped, proximally directed, the second longer, 0.15mm, with acute triangular rostrum directed disto-medially onto the peristome rim; giant avicularia sporadic, as long as autozooids, the rostrum narrow, spatulate distally, with smooth rim. Ovicell relatively small, wider than long, with about 20 small pores frontally; developing a nodular, peripheral oocelial cover, and a distinct frontal lip where the peristome traverses it.

Measurements (means and standard deviations of 20 values, mm): autozoid length 0.51 ± 0.06 ; width 0.33 ± 0.04 ; orifice length 0.10 ± 0.007 ; width 0.10 ± 0.005 .

REMARKS

The specimens assigned to *Cellepora parsevalii* Audouin by Harmer (1957) encompass at least two species. The Red Sea specimen listed by him (Ghardaqa, 4D) is quite distinct from that from Makassar Strait (38I, Siboga Stn 77), which is the same species as that described here from Heron Island. *P. parsevaliformis* Soule & Soule also has just a single mid-distal oral spine, and a similar array of avicularia, with a short oval type proximally directed, and an acute triangular type directed disto-medially onto the peristome. However, *P. parsevaliformis* differs from *P. galerita* in its longer orifice, narrower sinus, with distinctly cusped corners, and in its ovicell, which is smooth frontally, with a peripheral band of relatively large pores.

