

***Parasmittina onychorrhyncha* sp. nov.**
(Fig. 22d-f)

TYPE MATERIAL

HOLOTYPE: GH5232, Heron Island, Stn 25, 18 Apr 1972.

ETYMOLOGY

Greek *Onychos*, a claw, and *rhynchos*, a snout.

DESCRIPTION

Colony an irregular, multilaminar sheet. Autozooids rectangular, hexagonal or oval at growing edges, but often irregularly polygonal in frontally budded laminae; convex, separated by distinct sutures. Primary orifice wider than long; lyrula short and broad, with straight edge, occupying about half proximal border; condyles thin, pointed, downcurved; typically with a single, slender, mid-distal oral spine. Peristome widely open proximally, consisting largely of paired, subtriangular lateral lappets. Frontal wall distinctly nodular, bordered by conspicuous marginal pores. Avicularia sporadic, frequent on some parts of colony, rare elsewhere, polymorphic: most often short, shoe-shaped, about 0.1mm long, proximo-lateral to orifice and proximally directed; less often, about 0.2mm long, distal or disto-lateral to orifice, narrowly spatulate or bluntly triangular, directed proximo-laterally; occasionally gigantic, occupying half frontal area of autozoid, the rostrum broadly spatulate, deeply cupped, with a coarsely toothed distal rim. Ovicell globose, prominent, closely perforated frontally by numerous small, irregular pores; developing a granular oocidal cover, often slightly raised and frilled where it borders the perforate frontal region of the ovicell.

Measurements (means and standard deviations of 20 values, mm): autozoid length 0.59 ± 0.05 ; width 0.33 ± 0.05 ; orifice length 0.10 ± 0.007 ; width 0.12 ± 0.006 .

REMARKS

P. delicatula (Busk, 1884), described from Hawaii, and *P. fistulata* (Harmer, 1957), from Indonesia, are very similar species which can be separated principally by the morphology of the primary orifice and the occurrence of particular types of avicularia. These features also serve to distinguish both species from *P. onychorrhyncha*.

