

*Smittina unicus* Tilbrook, 2006. Tilbrook, 2006, p.176, pl.39A-C.

**Smittina unicus** new species  
Plate 39A-C

Type material      Holotype: SBMNH 365559, **501-87**.  
Paratype: SBMNH 365560, **501-87**.

Description      Colony encrusting, unilaminar. Autozooids rectangular to irregularly polygonal (0.55–0.70 x 0.30–0.50 mm), distinct, separated by shallow grooves. Frontal shield evenly perforated by around 50 large pores frontally, becoming less numerous and coarser in appearance with secondary calcification, a rather broad imperforate peristomial collar proximal and lateral to orifice, marginal pores and lateral walls conspicuous. Primary orifice wider than long (ca 0.15 x 0.13 mm), a broad, deep, anvil-shaped lyrula proximally, two-thirds width of proximal border, condyles robust, rounded triangular, proximomedially directed. Peristome moderately tall, open proximomedially with an avicularium in opening of secondary orifice, obscuring base of lyrula. No oral spines. Suboral avicularium of two types: commonly smaller (ca 0.10 mm), spatulate, rostrum directed proximofrontally, cupped with a serrate rim distally, small rostral palate, oval opesia, crossbar complete, robust with large columella, mandible spatulate, smooth distally; rarely larger (0.35–0.50 mm), varying in lengths and widths, slightly asymmetrical spatulate, rostrum directed laterally, cupped with wide, smooth rim distally, large rostral palate, opesia elongate triangular, crossbar complete, robust with small columella, mandible elongate spatulate, smooth distally. Ovicells subimmersed, as wide as long, slightly flattened frontally with broad circular area with 20-30 perforations, opening into the peristome above autozooidal operculum.

Etymology      From *unicus*, L. only, sole, singular. Named because only a single specimen of this species exists.

Remarks      *Smittina unicus* is characterised by its evenly perforate frontal shield, primary orifice with a wide lyrula, serrated, small suboral avicularian rostrum and the large, laterally directed suboral avicularia present in some autozooids.

*Smittina unicus* is most similar in appearance to *Smittina torques* Powell, 1967b from New Zealand. *S. torques* also has suboral avicularia with a serrate rostrum; however Powell's species lacks the large laterally directed avicularia relatively common in *S. unicus*.

Distribution      Only a single colony of *Smittina unicus* is known, found in the Solomon Islands at Anuha Reefs, Anuha Island, Florida Islands.

