

*Labioporella spatulata* Harmer, 1926. Tilbrook, 2006, p. 86, pl.11F.

**Labioporella spatulata** Harmer, 1926  
Plate 11F

*Labioporella spatulata* Harmer, 1926: 283, Fig. 21, figs 4-6.

*Labioporella bursaria*: Ryland & Hayward, 1992: 243, Fig. 11c.

? *Labioporella bursaria*: Seo, 1992: 144, Fig.1, figs 2,3.

*Labioporella spatulata*: Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001: 56, Fig. 7A.

Type material Holotype: NHM 1928.3.6.93, Paternoster Island, north of Sumbawa.

Other material examined SBMNH 365191, ~~408-84~~; SBMNH 3651920-194, ~~409-84~~; SBMNH 365195-197, ~~407-84~~.

Description Colony unilaminar, encrusting, light orange-brown when dried. Autozooids (0.45 x 0.25 mm) elongate, rectangular, distinct. Mural rim raised, crenulated distally, smoothly rounded at the mid-section of distal terminal wall. Gymnocyst absent; cryptocyst occupying up to three-quarters of total length, finely granular, flat, dipping sharply adjacent to polypide tube, perforated by a number of small pores in middle region. Polypide tube convex frontally, with transversely oval aperture. Operculum similar colour to frontal membrane with darker-brown marginal sclerite. Vicarious avicularia uncommon, as large as autozooids; cryptocyst finely granular, imperforate, with an oval foramen through which a transverse, medially thickened septum is visible; rostrum less than half length of avicularium, squared, spatulate, with smoothly rounded gymnocystal calcification; thickened, proximolateral condyles present.

Remarks *Labioporella spatulata* is characterised by the lightly granular autozooidal cryptocyst with few, relatively small pores, by the squared spatulate avicularian rostrum, and by the positioning of the oval avicularian foramen relative to the condyles.

The genus *Labioporella* and in particular this species were comprehensively discussed by Tilbrook *et al.* (2001). They advocated a thorough review of material assigned to this genus and to *Labioporella bursaria* (MacGillivray, 1887) in particular. They highlighted a number of useful morphological characters which could be used in any such study, not only characteristics of the vicarious avicularia, but also criteria outlined by Harmer (1926) with regard to the autozooidal polypide tube and cryptocystal laminae attachments.

Distribution *Labioporella spatulata* was originally described from a single colony from Indonesia. It has subsequently been found to occur either side of the Coral Sea, off the coast of Queensland and at Vanuatu. In the Solomon Islands this species was found in both Taora and Hamilton Passages, Choiseul.

