

Robertsonidra sutila new species
Plate 59A-C

Type material Holotype: SBMNH 365739 **506-87**.
Paratypes: NHM 2003.5.13.22,23, **506-87**.

Other material examined SBMNH 365740-742, **404-84**; SBMNH 365743, **501-87**; NHM 1899.5.1.969,972, Tahiti.

Description Autozooids oval to hexagonal, slightly convex, with distinct sutures (ca 0.75 x 0.55 mm). Primary orifice round, as wide as long (ca 0.17 x 0.17 mm), with short, saucer-shaped sinus flanked by large, squared-off condyles; two thin spines present, bases retained in ovicellate zooids; no umbo present. Avicularia large, common, rostrum elongate triangular, curving medially, sharply at tip, sometimes almost through 90°, directed proximolaterally. Ovicell prominent, globular, longer than wide.

Etymology From *sutilis*, L. sewed together. Named for the obvious sutures between autozooids.

Remarks *Robertsonidra sutila* is characterised by its round orifice, saucer-shaped sinus with robust condyles, and its large, curving, frontal avicularia.

As previously mentioned, *Robertsonidra sutila* is most similar to *R. praecipua*, however these species differ in the shape of their orifices, and condyles, and the curvature of their avicularia.

Distribution In the Solomon Islands *Robertsonidra sutila* is known from Linggatu Cove and Yandina, Mbanika Island, Russell Islands, and Anuha Reefs, Anuha Island, Florida Islands. Further material of this species has also been found from Tahiti.



