

Robertsonidra novella Ryland & Hayward, 1992. Tilbrook, Hayward & Gordon, 2001, p.92, fig.18D.

Now *Robertsonidra porifera* (Maplestone, 1909), see Tilbrook, 2006.

ROBERTSONIDRA NOVELLA RYLAND & HAYWARD
(Fig. 18D)

Robertsonidra novella Ryland & Hayward, 1992: 261,
fig. 19a.

Description

Colony encrusting, unilaminar. Autozooids oval to hexagonal, strongly convex, separated by distinct grooves; $0.5\text{--}0.6 \times 0.4\text{--}0.5$ mm. Primary orifice transversely oval, the proximal edge with a short U-shaped median sinus flanked by small condyles; one or two short spines present distally, their bases persisting, particularly in ovicellate zooids; a short umbo present, lateral to the sinus. Frontal shield regularly tuberculate, with a single series of round marginal pores. Adventitious avicularia present on most autozooids, laterally suboral; rostrum elongate-triangular, directed proximolaterally. A second, shorter avicularium may occur lateral to the sinus, acute to the frontal plane, directed laterally. Ovicell wider than long, globular, tuberculate, with minute perforations between tubercles.

Distribution

Originally described from Heron Island, Australia, single colonies of *Robertsonidra novella* were collected at Iririki Island and Port Vila Harbour on small pieces of coral rubble.

