Planulation of deep-sea octocorals in the NW Atlantic

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Fig. 1 **a–b** Planula (P) released through the anterior opening of the specialized reproductive polyp (R) in *Drifa* sp. **c** Histological comparison between reproductive (R) and feeding (F) polyps in *Drifa* sp. **d** Freshly released planula of *D. glomerata*. Scale bar: 1 mm. Bar in (a) also applies to (b); bar in (c) also applies to (d)

cles; Fig. 1c). In both species, planulae are large (2–6 mm long, possibly the largest ever described) and generally released singly, within 15 min (Fig. 1a, b, d). Overall, 402 planulae were released by the fertile colonies of *Drifa* sp. ($n = 18$) and 74 by *D. glomerata* ($n = 1$).

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Reef sites

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