Spawning behavior of the sand dollar *Sculpsitechinus auritus* (Leske, 1778)

Fig. 1 *Sculpsitechinus auritus* spawning in situ. **a** Spurs of sperm. **b** Close-up of the exposed aboral surface. **c** The apical system of *S. auritus* exposed during spawning and genital papillae elongated. Arrows indicate the genital papillae

auritus precedes spawning and that gamete release through the genital papillae may aid in propelling the gametes away from the animal's body into the surrounding currents, hence sustaining their dispersal.

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