

# **New Seeding Approach Reduces Costs and Time to Outplant Sexually Propagated Corals for Reef Restoration**

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## Supplementary figures

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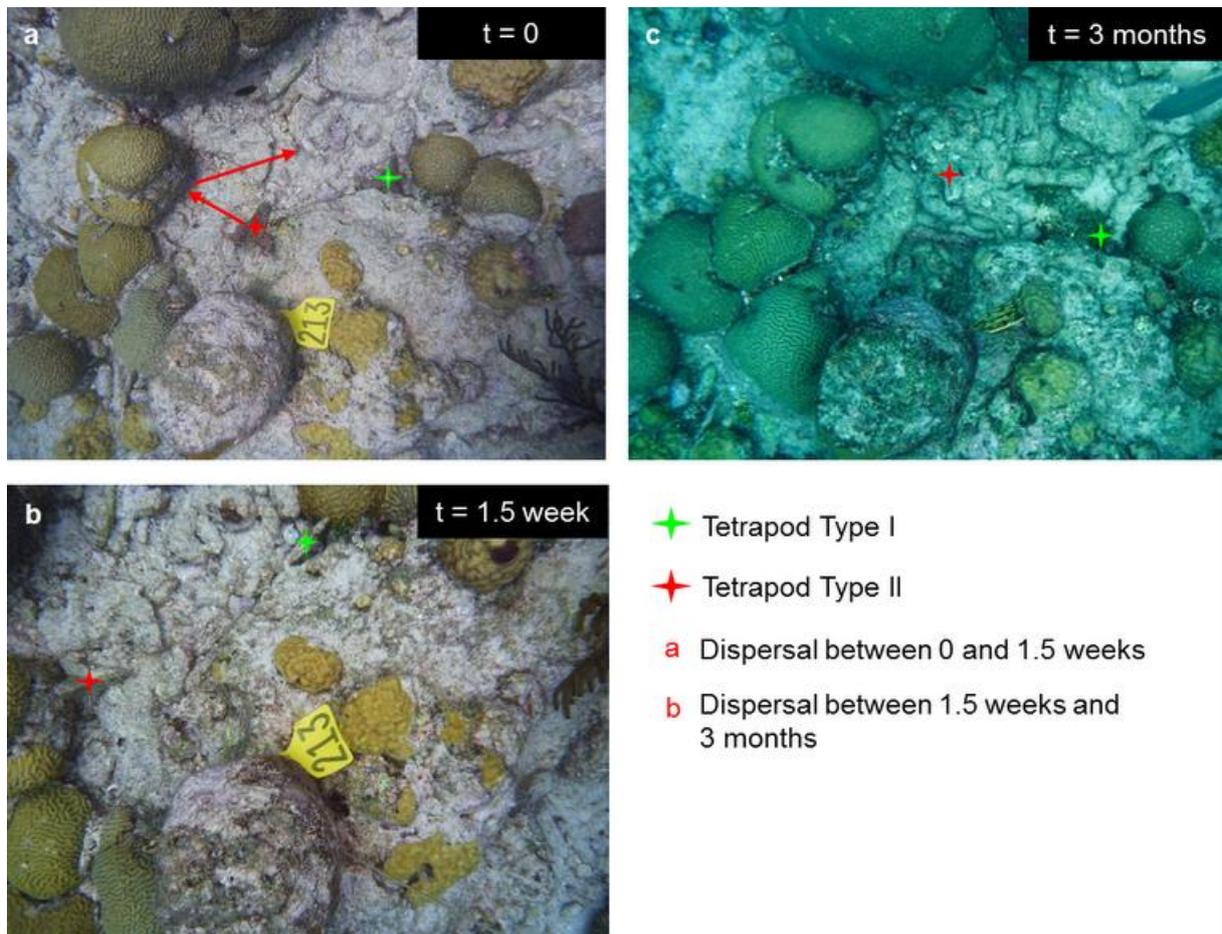
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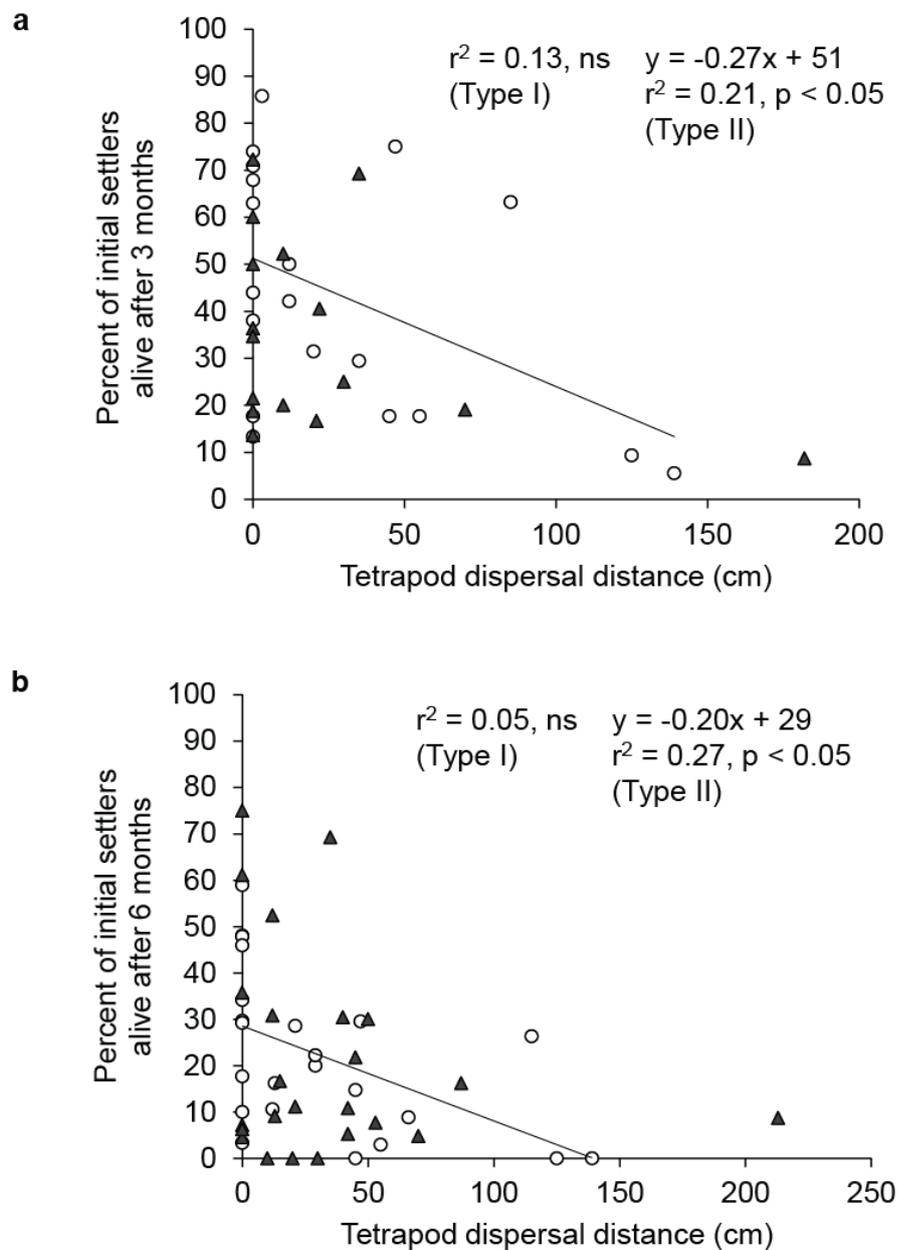
¶ These authors contributed equally to this work.

**Figure S1**



**Figure S1. Example of photo-analysis of tetrapod dispersal for a period of three months.** Type I (green markers) and Type II (red markers) tetrapods were located in overview pictures of each outplant location taken after (a) t = 0, (b) t = 1.5 week, and (c) t = 3 months. The tags and natural landmarks served as references to help compare the position of each tetrapod through time, while the length of the tags served as a scale to measure the distance between the previous and current position (indicated by arrows of corresponding colours) of the tetrapods ImageJ. In this example, tetrapod Type I stayed in place during the first three months of the experiment, while tetrapod Type II dispersed for a total distance of  $a + b$ . Photos by VFC.

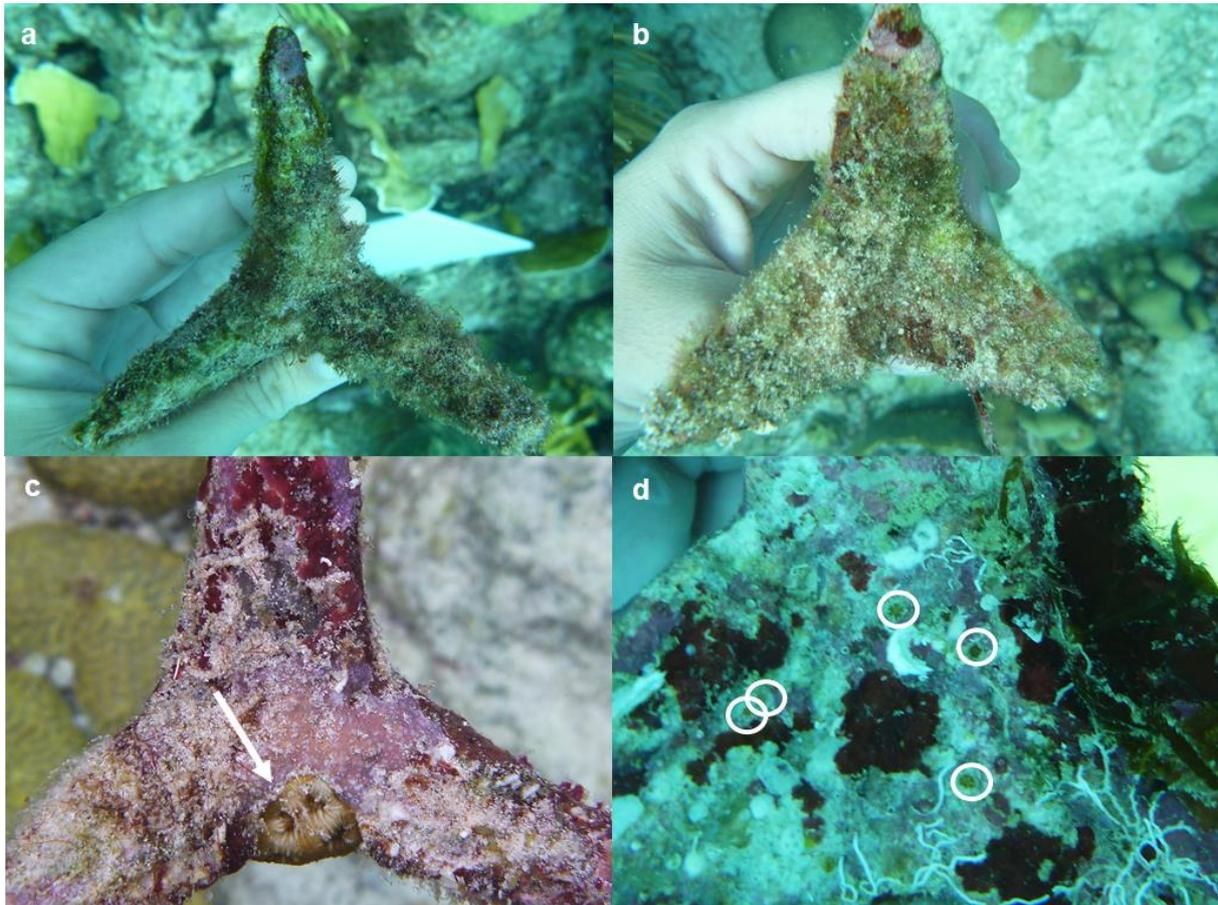
**Figure S2**



**Figure S2. Effect of tetrapod dispersal on the survival of coral settlers.**

Regression analysis with dispersal distance as predictor variable and with *Favia fragum* settler survival as response variable after (a) 3 and (b) 6 months. Dark triangles are tetrapod Type I and clear circles are Type II.

**Figure S3**



**Figure S3. Examples of benthic communities and of coral settlers that grew on the tetrapods.** Three months after they were deployed on the reef, the tetrapod's light-exposed surfaces on both (a) Type I and (b) Type II designs had become overgrown by communities of turf algae. (c) *Favia fragum* settlers that survived on the light-exposed surfaces of the tetrapods typically formed multi-polyp colonies (shown by white arrow) and reached larger sizes than those located on the (d) cryptic undersides of the tetrapods. The latter often still consisted of small, single-polyp individuals (shown by white circles) after one year. Photos by VFC.