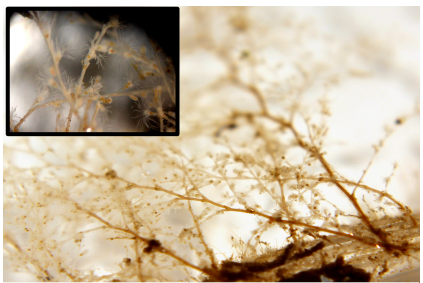
Animals you may find on the discs

Predators

Many of the predators you will find on the discs are not sessile. They actively swim to the discs or they are carried there by currents. The sessile predators are mainly polyps, which feed on zooplankton particularly on the larvae of other organisms living on the disc. The predators can regulate the growth of some species on the discs, affecting species richness and distribution.

Sagartiogeton sp.

Phylum: Cnidaria
Common name: Sea anemone
Diet: Fish, snails, crustaceans, zooplankton
Recruitment: Summer
Others: solitary; semi-sessile; they can move around slowly detaching their basal plates

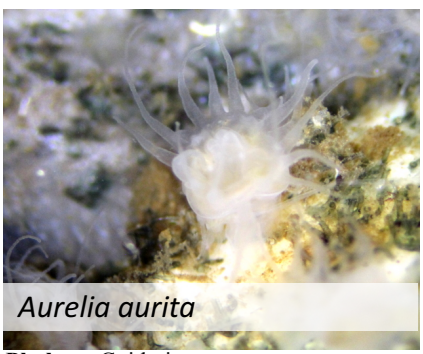


Laomedea sp.

Phylum: Cnidaria
Common name: Hydroid
Diet: Zooplankton
Recruitment: all year
Others: found abundant on the sides of the discs; has no medusa stage

Clava multicornis

Phylum: Cnidaria
Common name: Club-headed hydroid
Diet: zooplankton
Recruitment: Summer
Others: found on mussels and macroalgae; may vary in colour from white to pink



Aurelia aurita

Phylum: Cnidaria
Common name: Moon jelly (polyp stage)
Diet: small invertebrates
Recruitment: Autumn, summer
Others: adults are free-swimming; can tolerate low oxygen concentrations

Facelina sp.

Phylum: Mollusca
Common name: Sea slug
Diet: sponges, hydroid, bryozoans
Recruitment: Summer
Others: some feed on only one kind of prey

Asterias rubens

Phylum: Echinodermata
Common name: Common starfish
Diet: Barnacles, mussels, snails, sponges
Recruitment: Summer
Others: capable of regeneration; regulates species diversity in some ecosystems

Carcinus maenas

Phylum: Arthropoda
Common name: Shore crab
Diet: bivalves, polychaetes, small crustaceans
Recruitment: Summer
Others: can tolerate a wide range of salinities; can range in colour from green, to blue, to red.

Crangon crangon

Phylum: Arthropoda
Common name: Common shrimp
Diet: omnivores; small fish, zooplankton
Recruitment: Summer
Others: also eat dead organisms; scavengers; sometimes cannibalistic

Gammarus sp.

Phylum: Arthropoda
Common name: Scud; Side swimmer
Diet: omnivore; barnacles, sponges, algae
Recruitment: early spring
Others: can exhibit other forms of feeding behaviour

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