

Tunicate (solitary) - *Molgula citrina*

DESCRIPTION	This small, round to oval tunicate has 6 lobes on the oral (incurrent) siphon and a flattened, u-shaped gut oriented horizontally. The siphons are sometimes ringed with spines. The tunic can be bare, to hairy or sediment covered. Larvae with a tail and brooded
RANGE	Current distribution is the Atlantic Arctic, Oregon (oyster aquaculture), Seldovia, Alaska, and San Diego Bay, California, however there are other Pacific records from early Museum collections that are yet to be confirmed; Circumpolar species.
SIZE	Body length usually 6-8 mm but can reach 2.3 cm.
STATUS	Unknown: introduced or a range extension
COLOR	Clear to dull greenish or olive green
HABITAT	Attaches to firm substrates such as rocks.
TIDAL HEIGHT	Low intertidal and sub tidal to offshore
SALINITY	27.9 - 32.4 ppt (Seldovia Harbor range)
TEMPERATURE	1.7-11.6 °C (Seldovia Harbor range)
SIMILAR SPECIES	Unlike <i>Ascidia</i> which is attached on its side, it is attached at its base. <i>Molgula citrina</i> is smaller than other Molgulids, has the flattened, u shaped gut (less flattened in <i>M. manhattensis</i>), has 7 branchial folds (requires dissection), broods its larvae and has distinctively long, slender oviducts (requires dissection, marked with the arrow in first photo).



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