

**Tunicate (solitary) - *Boltenia echinata***

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	Globular to ovoid solitary, sessile tunicate. Tunic thick and leathery covered with hairs. Bright red siphons on top with clear four-lobed openings. Hairs or spines are fine, radially branched near the tips. No stalk. Attached to the substrate at its base. Tunic is visible between siphons.
<b>RANGE</b>	North Pacific, North Atlantic, and the Arctic: Canadian Arctic Archipelago and Europe. Temperate to polar climates.
<b>SIZE</b>	Up to 4.5 cm in diameter, but more commonly ~2 cm About as tall as it is wide.
<b>STATUS</b>	Native
<b>COLOR</b>	Yellowish or light brown.
<b>HABITAT</b>	Hard substrates. In Alaska found on brick hung 1 m below surface in Seldovia boat harbor.
<b>TIDAL HEIGHT</b>	Subtidal to 350 m
<b>SALINITY</b>	15.2 to 33.3 ppt. (Homer & Seldovia harbor range)
<b>TEMPERATURE</b>	neg 2.3 to 14.9 ° C (Homer & Seldovia harbor range)
<b>SIMILAR SPECIES</b>	<i>Boltenia villosa</i> and <i>Halocynthia igajoba</i> are similar species. Each of these species is characterized by the presence of spines. <i>B. villosa</i> is stalked, without secondary spine-lets at the tip of each spine. (Spine density varies; in all 3 spp.; if very dense, the tunic may not be very visible and may be covered in debris). The bristly spines of <i>H. igajoba</i> also have secondary spine-lets but these are arranged in several rings along the length of the spine. There are so many spines on <i>H. igajoba</i> that the rest of the tunic is usually obscured.



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