

## Tunicate (colonial) - *Synoicum irregulare*

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	This colonial tunicate is sometimes called "Gnomes toes" due to its tough and wrinkly texture. The colonies can be large or small, maybe only a few pieces.
<b>RANGE</b>	Range not well known. Originally collected from the Pribilof Islands, Ritter, W. E. 1899. Commonly seen on the beaches of Kachemak Bay.
<b>SIZE</b>	Usually <10 cm in colony diameter.
<b>STATUS</b>	Native
<b>COLOR</b>	Bright orange or pinkish when fresh.
<b>HABITAT</b>	Unknown, often seen when washed up on beaches.
<b>TIDAL HEIGHT</b>	Subtidal to 115 m Depth.
<b>SALINITY</b>	25.4 to 33.3 ppt. (Homer & Seldovia Harbor deep sonde range)
<b>TEMPERATURE</b>	-0.4 to 12.4 °C (Homer & Seldovia Harbor deep sonde range)
<b>SIMILAR SPECIES</b>	Many species of the family Polyclinidae, such as <i>Aplidium</i> and <i>Synoicum</i> look similar. They often require microscope work to tell them apart. Species of these groups are sometimes mistaken for a sponge.



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