



Polymastia boletiformis (Lamarck, 1815)

Yellow hedgehog sponge

Description

Polymastia boletiformis is a sponge forming a smooth, hemispherical cushion base reaching up to 10 cm in diameter. Many tube-shaped outgrowths, slightly conical and between 2 to 10 cm in height, emerge from the base and are ending with the oscules. Its colour is uniform but may vary : yellow, orange, ochre, gray or greenish.

Similar to

There are other sponges of the genus *Polymastia* in the same geographical area. They all possess a basal cushion with erected processes. Nevertheless, they are quite easily distinguishable: *Polymastia penicillus* is clearer, with a dirty yellow colour. The base is often covered with sand and the tubules are flattened, translucent and clearer than the base. *Polymastia agglutinans* est de couleur jaune à rose orangé. La surface du coussinet est souvent recouverte de sable, et les tubules sont très élancés. *Aaptos papillata* is pale pink to purplish pink. The processes are paler, cylindrical and tip-rounded. The base is often covered with sand.

Classification

Biota (Superdomain)
Animalia (Kingdom)
Porifera (Phylum)
Demospongiae (Class)
Heteroscleromorpha (Subclass)
Polymastiida (Order)
Polymastiidae (Family)
Polymastia (Genus)
Polymastia boletiformis (Species)

Author

Text Wilfried Bay-Nouailhat © 2004 - 2022



Ria d'Étel, France, 12 meters, 2008, WBN