



## *Eledone cirrhosa* (Lamarck, 1798) Curled octopus

### Description

*Eledone cirrhosa* is a cephalopod of 50 cm long. Its upper side is red, yellow or yellow-orange, its underside white. Its body is finely tuberculate. Like other cephalopods, curled octopus can instantly change its body colour to match with the background colour. The head is oval, small and narrow. The large mantle spreads between eight long and slender arms. Tentacles have a single row of sucking discs and their tapering ends are curled when at rest. It feeds on large crustaceans such as lobsters and edible crabs using its powerful beak to pierce carapace. Common, it lives on rocky bottoms as well as on sand or mud.

### Distribution

*Eledone cirrhosa* is found between 10 and 150 m deep, but sometimes down to 800 meters, in the Atlantic Ocean, the English Channel, the North Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.

### Classification

Biota (Superdomain)  
Animalia (Kingdom)  
Mollusca (Phylum)  
Cephalopoda (Class)  
Coleoidea (Subclass)  
Octopodiformes (Superorder)  
Octopoda (Order)  
Incirrata (Suborder)  
Octopodoidea (Superfamily)  
Eledonidae (Family)  
Eledone (Genus)  
*Eledone cirrhosa* (Species)

### Author

Text Anne Bay-Nouailhat © 2008 - 2021



Oban, Scotland, 12 meters, 2008, MV