

## *Hydroides dianthus* Limy tubeworm

**Phylum:** Annelida  
**Class:** Polychaeta  
**Order:** Sabellida  
**Family:** Serpulidae

### Synonymised Taxa

*Eupamotus dianthus* Verrill, 1873  
*Eupomatus dianthus* Verrill, 1873  
*Hydroides hexagonus* Bosc, 1802  
*Serpula dianthus* Verrill, 1873  
*Serpula dianthus citrine* Verrill, 1873  
*Serpula hexagona* Bosc, 1802  
*Serpula uncinata* Philippi, 1844  
*Vermilia hexagona* Bosc, 1802



### Larval Period

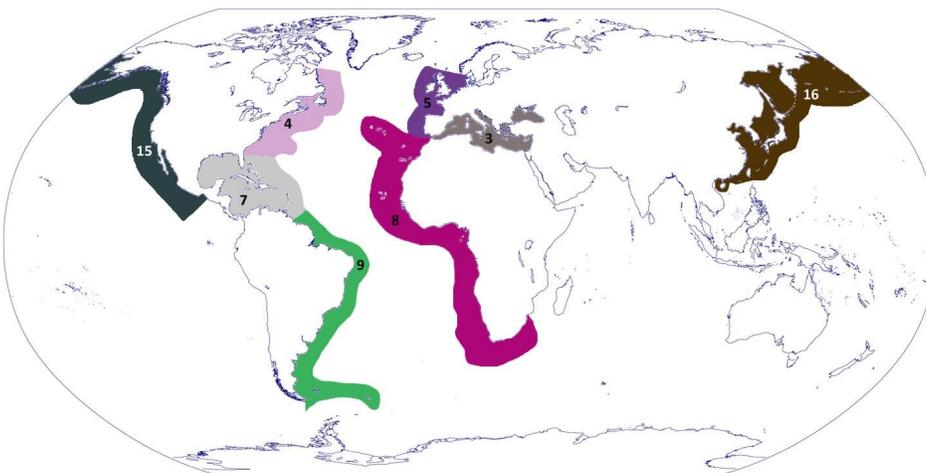
It is possible for settlement to occur after 2 weeks.

### Habitat

In the species native range it occupies open coast as well as brackish sheltered waters of bays, harbours and lagoons. In areas of introduction *H. dianthus* tends to colonise sheltered ports and lagoons. It attaches to hard substrates including artificial surfaces. The species is found in both temperate and tropical regions in depths ranging from 0 to 155 m.

### Distribution (Bioregions)

**Native:** 4 **Introduced:** 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 15 (unconfirmed), 16



### Temperature Tolerance

11 to 25°C

### Salinity Range

25 to 35 ppt

### Size

Up to 25 mm

### Lists

- Woodside
- WA species of concern
- BHP Billiton—Outer Harbour Development

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### Key Features

- This species constructs a **white calcareous tube**, with an external diameter of approximately 1.5 mm. **The tubes are circular in cross section and have two to three longitudinal keels;**
- The tube is **does not have a projection** over the opening;
- The tubes are often found growing erect;
- The anterior end has a branchial crown has two lobes shaped in a semi-circle. Approximately 12 radioles are present;
- Radiolar eyes are absent;
- Branchial inter-radiolar membrane is absent;
- Eye spots on the prostomium are absent;
- Two opercula may be present; a pseudopericulum and functional operculum;
- The functioning operculum is circular, two-tiered, funnelled and carried on a non-pinnulate stalk;
- The two-tiers of the operculum consist of the basal funnel and a verticil crown;
- The verticil has 8-10 chitinous spines which curve in a ventral direction. The tips of the spines are pointed;
- **No external spinule is present on the main vertical spines.** This important feature allows *H. dianthus* to be distinguished from the similar species, *H. sanctaecrucis*. *Hydroides sanctaecrucis* has an external spinule half way down the length of the main vertical spines;
- **Bayonet-shaped chaetae are present on the collar.** These chaetae have two blunt and rounded teeth at their base;
- The thorax consist of six segments.

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Functioning operculum. Two-tiered with basal funnel and verticil crown.



White, calcareous, circular tubes with longitudinal keels



Branchial crown with no interradiolar membrane



### Comparison of operculums

