Burrowing anemone (Cerianthus lloydii)

Anthozoa (Cnidaria:Spirularia)

Taxonomy: Cnidaria->Anthozoa->Spirularia->Cerianthidae

IUCN Red List Categorisation: Not Assessed

Found on all western European coasts from Norway to the Bay of Biscay and on all Irish coasts. Found on soft sediments typically sandy muddy bottoms or with mixed gravel, sand and mud. Planktonic larvae that settle as adults to live in a long tube buried in mud or sand. Body brown and up to 15cm in length found from low tide to depths of up to 100m.

Burrowing anemone with 70 tapering tentacles they are highly variable in colour and can be brown, white or green. An inner ring of tentacles obscure the mouth (right) this species can be confused with the Fireworks anemone (*Pachycerianthus multiplicatus*) however *P. multiplicatus* grow to significantly larger sizes, are extremely localised in their distribution and have up to 200 tentacles.



What dive sites can I see it at?

Found on all Irish coasts where suitable habitat is present. Likely to be significantly under recorded.







