

## Spawning observations

Australia

**Species:** *Stichopus herrmanni*

**Location:** One Tree Island, Great Barrier Reef, Queensland, Australia.

**Date and time:** Late spring (November) through to summer (December to February), typically in January near sunset (17:30–18:30 local time – AEST).

**Moon phase:** Spawning was most common the day following the new moon.

**Observers/Photographers:** Maria Byrne and Kennedy Wolfe

**Notes:** Individuals climbed up coral bommies to elevated spawning locations. Males spawned before females. Small fishes ambushed the anterior end of spawning individuals, consuming the gametes that were released.



**Figure 1.** Broadcast spawning behaviour of *Stichopus herrmanni* showing (left) the erect posture typical of spawning holothuroids, and (right) a male releasing sperm which attracts small fishes. (Photos: Maria Byrne and Kennedy Wolfe).

## Mediterranean Sea

**Species:** *Holothuria tubulosa*

**Location:** Colera, Punta Negra, Mallorca, Balearic Islands, Spain.

**Date and time:** 2 July 2017, 17:00 local time – (CEST).

**Observers/Photographers:** Frederic Champagnat and J. Moisson

**Notes:** The site is a rockslide followed by a slope, up to a *Posidonia* seagrass bed at 20 m depth on a sandy bottom.

Many individuals were spawning, showing the same behaviour, some at 20 m depth and several others between 12 and 15 m.



**Figure 2.** Male *Holothuria tubulosa* spawning. (Photo: J. Moisson).



**Figure 3.** Several *H. tubulosa* showing typical erected spawning behaviour. (Photo: J. Moisson).