

INVERTEBRATE FAUNA OF THE FLEET

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Many bottom living marine invertebrate species have, in their life cycles, distribution phases which involve drifting planktonic larvae. At times of settlement (on the sea bed) these larvae can often postpone metamorphosis and, in this manner select, in some degree, the area in which they are to live as adults. The choice of habitat is often determined by the nature of the sediment and may be associated with the presence of bacteria or minute traces of biologically produced chemical substances. Few species are capable of major redistribution after settlement, in consequence, death and destruction of those specimens which, by chance, find themselves in unsuitable habitats, modify the initial patterns of settlement. Differential growth may also result in size differences within the area occupied by a species.

Factors such as the above are secondary to the influences of tidal currents, physical and chemical differences in water quality with respect to the drifting of planktonic larvae.

Table 1 presents a listing of invertebrates recorded from the Fleet. The lines indicate the region(s) of the Fleet from which each species has been reported. A much more satisfactory and comprehensive list of molluscs has been prepared by Seaward (1980). The sources from which the information is derived are indicated by numbers opposite each species. A more detailed account of some records obtained by D.R. Seaward is also included and a short account of the Ostracoda is presented by Dr J E Whittaker.

Table 1. Distribution of Invertebrates within the Fleet (numbers indicate origin of records (see below))

	" Lower" Fleet	Narrows- Herbury	" Upper" Fleet
"Coelenterates"			
Hydroida			
1 <u>Obelia geniculata</u> (L.)			_____
Anthozoa			
5 <u>Actinia equina</u> L.	_____		
5 <u>Anemonia sulcata</u> (Pennant)	_____		
"Worms"			
Polychaeta			
1,2 <u>Nereis diversicolor</u> O.F. Muller	_____		
2,3 <u>Nephtys hombergi</u> Lamarck	_____		
2 <u>Glycera lapidum</u> Quartrefages		_____	
2 <u>Lumbriconereis lattarelli</u> (Audouin, Milne Edwards)		_____	
2,4 <u>Scoloplos armiger</u> (O.F. Muller)	_____		_____
2 <u>Scolecopleps fuliginosa</u> (Clap.)	_____		
2 <u>Audouinia tentaculata</u> (Montague)		_____	
2 <u>Cirratulus Cirratus</u> (O.F. Muller)	_____		
2 <u>Flabelligera affinis</u> Sars.		_____	
2 <u>Notomastus latericeus</u> Sars.	_____		
2 <u>Capitella capitata</u> (Fabricius)		_____	
1,2 & 3 <u>Arenicola marina</u> (L.)	_____		
2 <u>Pomatoceros triqueter</u> (L.)	_____		
"Stipunculids"			
Stipunculoidea			
2 <u>Golfingia elongata</u> (Keferstein)		_____	
"Crustaceans"			
Amphipoda			
4 <u>Gammarus insensibilis</u> Stock.			_____
4 <u>Gammarus duebeni</u> Lillj.			Small drain entering Herbury Bay.

	" Lower" Fleet	Narrows- Herbury	"Upper" Fleet
4 <u>Gammarus zaddachi</u> Sexton	Ditch west of Langton Herring.		
4 <u>Melita palmata</u> (Mont.)			_____
4 <u>Microdentopus gryllotalpa</u> A. Costa.			_____
Isopoda			
4 <u>Idothea chelipes</u> (Pallas.)			_____
4 <u>Cyathura carinata</u> (Kryer.)			_____
4 <u>Ligia oceanica</u> (L.)			_____
4 <u>Sphaeroma rugicauda</u> Leach			_____
Decapoda			
4, 5 <u>Palaemon adspersus</u> (Rathke)			_____
4, 5 <u>Palaemon squilla</u> (L.)			
4, 5 <u>Carcinus maenas</u> (L.)	_____		
5 <u>Inachus dorsettensis</u> (Pennant)	_____		
5 <u>Cancer pagurus</u> L.	_____		
5 <u>Homarus gammarus</u> (L.)	_____		
"Insects"			
4 <u>Clunio marinus</u> Haliday			_____
4 <u>Chersodromia arenaria</u> (Haliday)			_____
4 <u>Ceratinosoma ostiorum</u> (Haliday)			_____

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