

Macrobenthos of the North Sea -**Anthozoa** M.J. de Kluijver & S.S. Ingalsuo[Species](#) | [Groups](#) | [Key](#) | [Glossary](#) | [Literature](#) | [Index](#)***Stomphia coccinea*****Description**

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(Muller, 1776)

DescriptionDiameter of **base** up to 60 mm, height to 50 mm.**Base** broad, usually wider than the disc, moderately adherent. **Column** variable in shape but typically tapers inward from the **limbus**, flaring out a little just below the disc. It is not divided into regions but in partial contraction often exhibits a **parapet**-like fold at the **margin**; in contraction it forms a hemisphere of firm consistency.**Tentacles:** Tentacles short to moderate, their distinctive arrangement (see definition **Genus Stomphia**) being easily observed in expanded specimens; probably their fullest development is $6 + 12 + 18 + 36 = 72$. If less than 12 tentacles are present in the second **cycle**, those adjacent to a directive are lacking. In life the six primary tentacles typically point inward over the mouth.**Colouration:** **Column** red, orange, white, yellowish or brown, usually blotched irregularly with red, the general colouration often strongly resembling that of *Urticina eques* and other anemones of typically offshore occurrence. Disc translucent, grey, orange or yellow, with the mesenteric insertions indicated by red lines, lips of **actinopharynx** orange or red.Tentacles coloured like the disc, usually with two red bands and a median spot of white near the **base**; a similar white spot is often present on each endocoelic radius. This simple pattern may be partly or completely absent, specimens with a plain orange disc and tentacles being frequent.<< [Previous species](#) | [Next species](#) >>