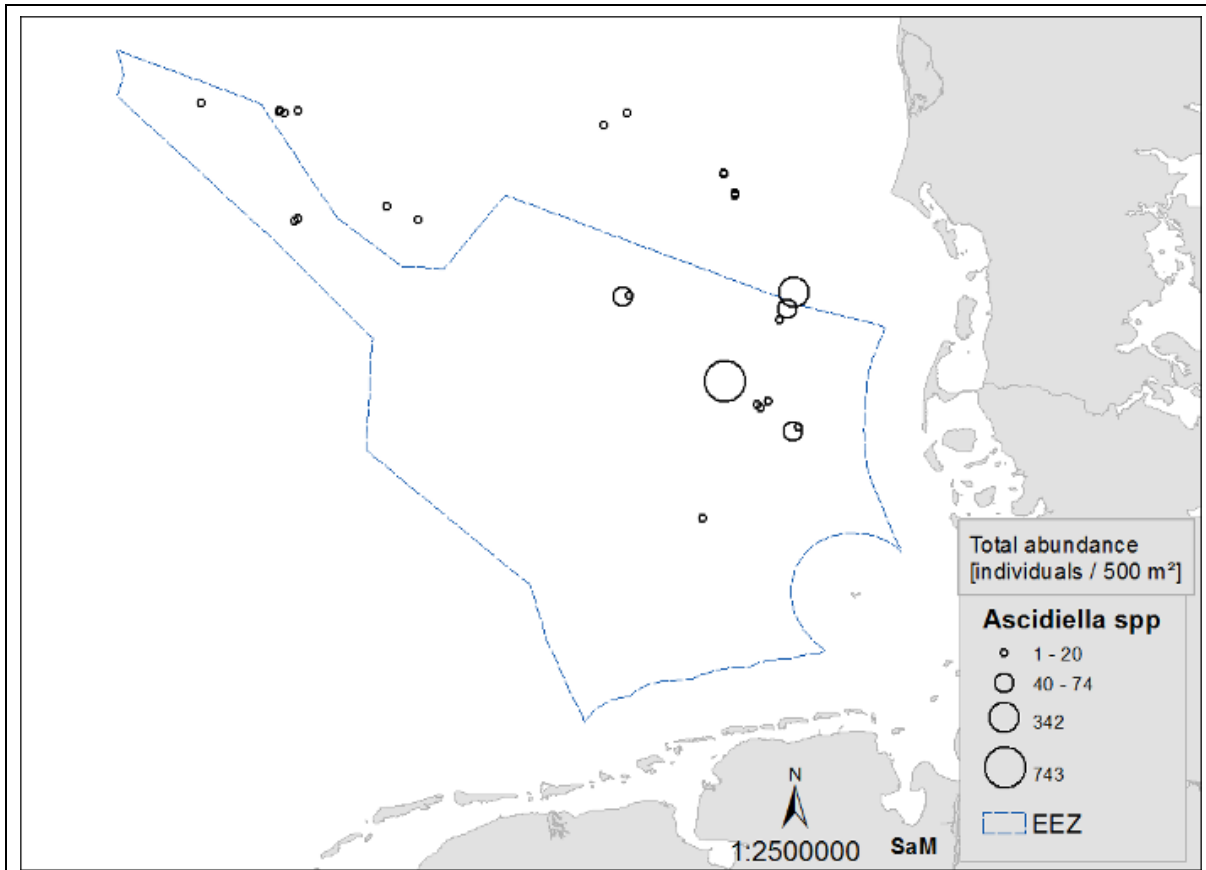


Abundance of the sea squirt *Ascidella* spp.

| GENERAL OVERVIEW | |
|--|---|
| Dataset name: <i>Total abundance of the sea squirt Ascidella spp. in the south-eastern North Sea</i> | |
| Project: <i>International Bottom Trawl Survey (IBTS)</i> <i>North Sea – Observation and Assessment of Habitats (NOAH)</i> | |
| Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Hermann Neumann, Ulrike Kleeberg (Web Services) [HZG] | |
| Contact: <i>Senckenberg am Meer,</i> <i>Südstrand 40, 26382 Wilhelmshaven, Hermann.Neumann@senckenberg.de</i> | |
| DATASET SPECIFICATIONS | |
| Dataset Parameter(s) and supplied Unit(s): <i>extend if necessary</i> <i>1. Abundance (individuals per 500 m²)</i> | |
| Date(s) available: <i>1998 – 2014 (July/August); except of 2001 and 2002</i> | |
| Validated: <i>Yes</i> | Version Date: <i>17.03.2015</i> |
| Current State: <i>final</i> | |
| Format: <i>ESRI shape- /layer file</i> | |
| Citation: <i>Neumann, H., Reiss, H., Rakers, S., Ehrich, S., Kröncke, I., 2009. Temporal variability of southern North Sea epifauna communities after the cold winter 1995/1996. ICES J Mar Sci 66, 2233-2243.</i> <i>Neumann, H., Reiss, H., Ehrich, S., Sell, A., Panten, K., Kloppmann, M., Wilhelms, I., Kröncke, I., 2013. Benthos and demersal fish habitats in the German Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the North Sea. Helgoland Mar Res 67, 445-459.</i> | |
| DATASET DETAILS | |
| Abstract <i>The map shows the total abundance (ind. / 500 m²) of the sea squirt Ascidella spp. from 1998 to 2014 (365 stations). Sea squirts or ascidians are sessile, sac-like invertebrate filter-feeders. Sessile species such as ascidians are known to be sensitive to trawling disturbance.</i> | |



Acquisition and Processing Description:

Samples were taken with a 2-m beam trawl from 1998 to 2014 and catches were sieved over 5-mm mesh size. 365 stations were sampled (usually 24 per year, which were randomly distributed within 24 statistical rectangles of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)). Sampling did not take place in 2001 and 2002. Abundance data were standardized to a tow length of 250m.

Notes and Limitations:

Sampling did not take place in 2001 and 2002