

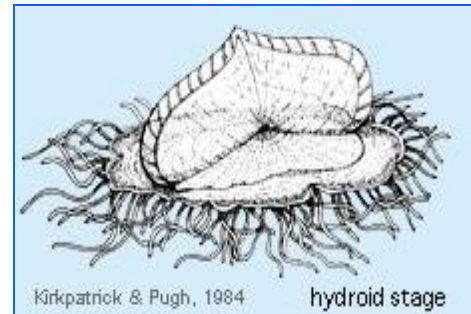
Verella vellella also in the Gulf of Naples

Verella vellella anche nel Golfo di Napoli



From the end of April to May complete or cartilaginous remnants of Jack-sail-by-the-wind (= the english vernacular name of the hydranth) of *Vellella* have been found along the coasts of Reggio Calabria, Lamezia Terme, Vietri sul Mare, Posillipo, Procida, Ischia, Torregaveta, Sabaudia, Ostia, Marina di Carrara and Lerici (1105 km) .

The chronological order of the findings on a more or less S-N line suggests that the hydranth bloom developed first in the South was then transported northward by surface currents.



***Vellella vellella* is a warm water species and occurs regularly in the Gulf of Naples but such massive strandings along all Tyrrhenian coasts have never been reported before.**

Remark: The full life cycle of *Vellella* is not known, as the earliest developmental stages take place at great depth. It is not known whether there is a planula larva in the cycle.