

2022

Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean, continued

October Corals

NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13												
DATE	Sun 9-Oct	Mon 10-Oct	Tue 11-Oct	Wed 12-Oct	Thu 13-Oct	Fri 14-Oct	Sat 15-Oct	Sun 16-Oct	Mon 17-Oct	Tue 18-Oct	Wed 19-Oct	Thu 20-Oct	Fri 21-Oct	Sat 22-Oct												
Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name																									
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> * (70 MBS–10 MAS)	SUNSET 18:20											18:20		18:19	18:18	18:18	18:17	18:17	18:16	18:16	18:15	18:15	18:15	18:14	18:14	18:13
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10–70 MAS)	Maze Coral											17:05–18:25														
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15–225 MAS)	Great Star Coral											18:27–19:27 (Expected nightly until at least Oct 29: new observations are encouraged from any date)														
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25–115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral											18:33–22:03 (Peaks in first 1.5 hrs)														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group; 35–100 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral											18:42–20:12														
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75–270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral											18:52–19:57 (Peaks in first 30 min)														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i> (90–150 MAS)	Boulder Star Coral											19:32–22:47														
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90–160 MAS)	Pillar Coral											19:48–20:48														
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85–160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral											19:50–21:00														
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i> (160–255 MAS)	Blushing Star Coral											19:45–21:00 (Expected every night across the full lunar cycle: new observations are encouraged from any date this month)														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annulans</i> (185–250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral											20:58–22:33														
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185–255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral											21:23–22:28														
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (195–280 MAS)	Massive Starlet Coral											21:23–22:33														
<i>Pseudodiploria clavosa</i> (210–255 MAS)	Knobby Brain Coral											21:33–22:58														
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group; 205–270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral											21:47–22:32														
<i>Madracis senaria</i> (All night)	Ten-Ray Star Coral											21:42–22:47														
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i> (All night)	Lettuce Coral											all night														

November Corals

NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13											
DATE	Tue 8-Nov	Wed 9-Nov	Thu 10-Nov	Fri 11-Nov	Sat 12-Nov	Sun 13-Nov	Mon 14-Nov	Tue 15-Nov	Wed 16-Nov	Thu 17-Nov	Fri 18-Nov	Sat 19-Nov	Sun 20-Nov	Mon 21-Nov											
Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name																								
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> * (70 MBS–10 MAS)	SUNSET 18:08											18:08		18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10–70 MAS)	Maze Coral											16:57–18:17													
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75–270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral											18:17–19:17 (Expected every night until at least Nov 28: can you help us find the end date?)													
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85–160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral											19:22–22:37													
												19:33–20:48 (Has been observed throughout Sept/Oct, we welcome new observations in Nov and beyond)													

Fall Sponges, Stars, Gorgs, and More

NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13											
DATE	11-Aug 10-Sep	12-Aug 11-Sep	13-Aug 12-Sep	14-Aug 13-Sep	15-Aug 14-Sep	16-Aug 15-Sep	17-Aug 16-Sep	18-Aug 17-Sep	19-Aug 18-Sep	20-Aug 19-Sep	21-Aug 20-Sep	22-Aug 21-Sep	23-Aug 22-Sep	24-Aug 23-Sep											
Scientific name	Common Name																								
<i>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber											12:00–18:00													
<i>Hermodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm											12:00–19:00													
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Long-Spined Sea Urchin											12:00–21:00													
<i>Neofibularia nolitangere</i>	Touch-Me-Not Sponge											14:00–17:00													
<i>Plexaura, Pseudoplexaura, Eunicia</i>	Sea Rods											starting at 19:00													
<i>Plexaura homomalla</i>	Black Sea Rod											19:00–23:00													
<i>Ophiuroidea</i>	Brittle Sea Star/Serpent Star											19:30–23:00													
<i>Pseudopterogorgia</i> spp.	Sea Plume											20:00–23:00													
<i>Spirobranchus giganteus</i>	Christmas Tree Worm											21:00–22:30													

Abbreviations & Colors

NAFM: Nights After the Full Moon
MBS: Minutes Before Sunset
MAS: Minutes After Sunset
Pale Blue: Spawning may be possible but data are sparse:
 Please help us make new discoveries by diving these dates!
Pale Yellow: Spawning is possible:
 Spawning has been observed on these dates
Bright Orange: Spawning is likely:
 Spawning is often observed on these dates
Red: Spawning is very likely:
 Spawning is reliably observed on these dates

Tips for Observers

- Make multiple dives on multiple nights
- Dive in a place with high coral cover
- Enter the water before predicted times
- Dive shallower than 50 ft to maximize bottom time
- Use a moderately bright dive light
- Scan the water column for clouds of spawn

Notes & Thanks

- Spawning predictions are based on previous observations, but spawning is never guaranteed (especially in a changing climate). When in doubt, go for a dive!
- Spawning times vary based on your local sunset times. To look up your local sunset times, visit www.sunandmoon.com.
- Your discoveries help coral research and conservation! Please send your spawning observations (species, date, time, location, and pictures if possible) to carmabilog@gmail.com or share your observations on the Coral Spawning Research Facebook page. To contribute to the Coral Restoration Consortium spawning database, contact v.chamberland@secore.org.
- Special thanks to everyone who contributed their spawning observations over the past three decades - we wish you a safe and productive spawning season!
- Suggested Citation: MJA Vermeij, VF Chamberland, and KL Marhaver, "Coral Spawning Predictions, Southern Caribbean, 2007–2022." CARMABI, Curacao.

