

The circadian clock gene *bmal1* is necessary for co-ordinated circatidal rhythms in the marine isopod *Eurydice pulchra* (Leach)

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The speckled sea louse, *Eurydice pulchra*

This diminutive isopod crustacean, a predatory marine relative of the pill-bug, swarms in great numbers on surf beaches of NW Europe. Like many other inhabitants of the intertidal zones, *Eurydice* synchronises its biology to the 12.4h ebb and flow of the tides as well as the natural cycles of light and dark. Only recently are we beginning to dissect the molecular genetic basis of circatidal clocks in marine animals, and *Eurydice* is a key model in that endeavour.

Image credit: David Wilcockson