

2018

Coral spawning predictions for the Southern Caribbean

		Days after full moon	10	11	12	13
Stony corals that spawn monthly from May until October			9-May	10-May	11-May	12-May
			8-Jun	9-Jun	10-Jun	11-Jun
			8-Jul	9-Jul	10-Jul	11-Jul
			6-Aug	7-Aug	8-Aug	9-Aug
			5-Sep	6-Sep	7-Sep	8-Sep
			4-Oct	5-Oct	6-Oct	7-Oct
			3-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov	6-Nov
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (60-0 min BS)	Grooved brain coral		?*	1710-1905	1710-1905	?*

*consecutive monthly spawning events from spring to fall were observed for this species in Curaçao and Bonaire. It is however not known if this occurs across the Caribbean region

		Days after full moon	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Stony corals that spawn in July AND/OR August * split spawning likely to occur			27-Jul	28-Jul	29-Jul	30-Jul	31-Jul	1-Aug	2-Aug	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug
			26-Aug	27-Aug	28-Aug	29-Aug	30-Aug	31-Aug	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep
<i>Acropora palmata</i> (140-190 min AS)	Elkhorn Coral	could happen any of these days (up to day 12) between 2100-2230, this species is highly unpredictable										
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i> (150-190 min AS)	Staghorn Coral		?*	?*	2110-2230	2110-2230	2110-2230	?*	?*			
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (105-155 min AS)	Pilar Coral				2030-2140	2030-2140	2030-2140	?*				

		Days after full moon	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Stony corals that spawn in August AND/OR September AND/OR October					28-Aug	29-Aug	30-Aug	31-Aug	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep
					26-Sep	27-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep	1-Oct	2-Oct	3-Oct
					26-Oct	27-Oct	28-Oct	29-Oct	30-Oct	31-Oct	1-Nov	2-Nov
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (105-155 min AS)	Pilar Coral				1955-2125	1955-2125	1955-2125					
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (40-60 and 220-270 min AS)	Symmetrical brain coral								?*	1850-1945 and 2150-2315	?*	
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (35-110 min AS)	Boulder brain coral									1845-2035	1845-2035	
<i>Montastrea cavernosa</i> (15-180 min AS)	Large-cup Star Coral							?*	1825-2200	1825-2200	?*	
<i>Montastrea annularis complex</i> (195-250 min AS)	Star Corals							2125-2255	2125-2255	2125-2255	?*	
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (210-280 min AS)	Massive starlet Coral							2140-2325	2140-2325	2140-2325		
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i>	Blushing Star Coral							?*	2200-2300	2200-2300	2200-2300	?*
<i>Dichocoenia stokesi</i>	Pineapple coral						1930-2015	1930-2015	1930-2015	1930-2015	1930-2015	1930-2015
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (77-137 min AS)	Flower Coral							?*	1920-0000	1920-0000	1920-0000	1920-0000
<i>Madracis senaria</i>	Ten-ray Star Coral								all night	all night	all night	all night
<i>Agaricia humilis/A. agaricites</i>	Lettuce Coral								all night	all night	all night	all night
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze coral								around 19 days after the full moon (15 Sept, and/or 13 Oct and/or 12 Nov) around 1830			

		Days after full moon	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sea-urchins, -stars, -cucumbers that spawn in August, September or October (see dates above)												
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Black Sea-urchin									1200 till around 2100		
<i>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber									1200 till around 1800, every afternoon		
Ophiuroidea	Brittle stars/serpent stars									1930-2300, every night		
Gorgonians that spawn in August, September or October (see dates above)												
<i>Plexaura</i>	Sea Rods									starting 1900, every day		
Worms that spawn in that spawn in August, September or October (see dates above)												
<i>Hermodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm									1200 till around 1900, every afternoon		
<i>Spirobranchus giganteus</i>	Christmas Tree Worm									2100-2230, every day		
Sponges that spawn in August, September or October (see dates above)												
<i>Neofibularia nolitangere</i>	Do-not-touch-me Sponge						1400-1700	1400-1700	1400-1700	?*		

To observe spawning:
 make multiple dives
 dive in a place with high coral cover
 do not dive deeper than 50ft to maximize bottom time
 use a moderately bright dive light

* Question marks indicate there may or may not be spawning on that night, unpredictable

min BS = minutes before sunset and min AS = minutes after sunset. These indicate the time window of peak release which will vary monthly based on sunset time (www.timeanddate.com)

Note that the times listed in this table are predictions based on last year's observations. They do not guarantee that spawning occurs during this times. The August spawning is especially hard to predict this year due to an early full moon

Please report all spawning observations (i.e. species, time and general observations, pictures if possible) to m.vermeij@carmabi.org

