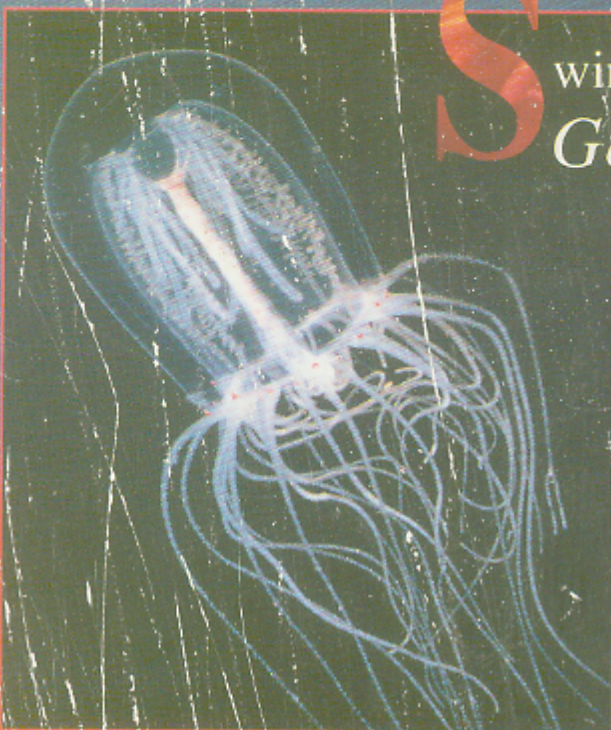




# Swimming of a hydromedusa, *Gonionemus vertens*.

Powerful contractions of the hemispherical bell propel the medusa through the water. This small medusa, about 1.5 cm in diameter, occurs in shallow coastal waters along the Pacific coast of North America, from Puget Sound to Alaska, and along the coast of Japan and the Kamchatka peninsula. It develops from a microscopic polyp stage, attached to sea grass and other submerged vegetation. A related species, *Gonionemus murbachii*, is found along the Atlantic coast of the northeastern United States.

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