

Trait	Modalities	Abbreviation	Functions and processes
Size	< 10 mm	Very_small	Secondary production, r and k strategies, space utilization (Thrush et al., 2006)
	10 to 20 mm	Small	
	20 to 50 mm	Small_Medium	
	50 to 100 mm	Medium	
	>100 mm	Large	
Feeding mode	Deposit feeder	DF	Resource utilization and availability, nutrient cycling and benthic-pelagic coupling (Thrush et al., 2006)
	Suspension feeder	SF	
	Grazer	Grazer	
	Predator/scav	Pred/Scav	
Adult movement	No movement	None	Behaviour regarding disturbance, foraging mode, ability to escape predation, migratory requirements, dispersal, fluxes (Queirós et al, 2013; Solan et al,2004)
	Within habitat range	Within_habitat	
	Beyond habitat range	Beyond_home	
Habitat	Tube dweller	Tdw	Sediment reworking potential, species interactions, Biogeochemical requirements, niche creation, refuge, nursery, below sediment oxygenation
	Burrow dwelling	Bdw	
	Attached	Att	

Free living FI

Reproduction	Asexual	asx	Colonization potential, r and k strategies, larvae as a source of food, recovery potential, juvenile survival and recruitment success
	Internal	Int	
	External (broadcast spawner)	Ext_Bsp	
	External (Pseudocopulation)	Ext_Pco	

Development stage	Direct	Dev_direct	Colonization potential, r and k strategies, larvae as a source of food, recovery and dispersal potential, juvenile survival and recruitment success
	Indirect - planktotrophic	Dev_plankto	
	Indirect - lecithotrophic	Dev_lecitho	

Bioturbation	Epifauna	Bioturb_N	Food acquisition, foraging mode, protection against epibenthic and benthopelagic predators, impact on biogeochemistry, organic matter re-distribution, habitat provision demographic control (predation), nutrient cycling (Thrush et al., 2006 , Solan et al., 2004; Queirós et al., 2013)
	Surficial modifiers	Bioturb_S	
	Biodiffusors	Bioturb_B	
	Upward/Downward conveyors	Bioturb_UDC	

Life span	Short (< 2 years)	Short_life_span	Large slow growing species, with longer life spans, to less vulnerable faster growing ones, facing disturbance, longevity increases reproductive successes over time (Cusson and Brouget, 2005)
	Medium (2 to 5 years)	Medium_life_span	
	Long (> 5 years)	Long_life_span	
