

MARINE PEST: Asian bag or Asian date mussel *Musculista senhousia*



Key features

- Shell has zig zag markings & iridescent radiating bands
- Shell olive green/brown & is easily crushed
- Up to 3 cm long

Habitat

- Prefers soft sediments but also fouls artificial hard surfaces
- Up to 20 m depth


Impacts

- Can form mats on soft sediments smothering bottom communities & altering food availability



Known locations ○

- Portland & Port Phillip Bay, Vic; estuary mouths northern Tas; SA; Cockburn Sound, Lower Swan River & Fremantle, WA

 Likely to establish



REPORT IMMEDIATELY OUTSIDE KNOWN LOCATIONS!

1. Note the exact location
2. If possible, collect a sample and freeze in a plastic bag or take a photo
3. See www.marinepests.gov.au for your state contacts



An Australian Government Initiative

What it is not

Native species that look similar to the pest



Cuming's bag mussel *Musculus cumingianus*

Key Features

- Shell is uniformly brown
- Shell has ribs on front & rear but not centre

Habitat

- On rocky reefs inside sea squirts

Known Locations

- Widespread in tropical & warm temperate Australia (i.e. Qld, WA, NT)



Limnoperna [formerly *Xenostrobus*] species

Key Features

- Shell smooth & elongate with radial markings
- Variable shell colour ranging from blue to brown/black
- Shell 3 to 4 cm long

Habitat

- Found in clusters attached to rocks or shells on rocky reefs

Known Locations

- Southern Qld; NSW; Vic; Tas; SA; southern WA



What you can do

- Inspect & clean niche areas & antifoul your vessel regularly
- Clean & dry equipment before transporting & using in a different location

Learn more

Read the national biofouling management guidelines for your sector.

www.marinepests.gov.au

Photograph credits

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