

MARINE PEST: Rapa or veined whelk *Rapana venosa*



Key features

- Black vein-like pattern on entire shell
- Distinctive deep orange interior
- Large, heavy grey to red/brown shell
- Shell has short spire
- Up to 18 cm long

Habitat

- Intertidal to subtidal
- Estuaries & coastal bays
- Sandy or hard substrates

Impacts

- Predator of native shellfish & aquaculture species
- Affects the ecology of bottom dwelling organisms



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

Known locations

- Not yet in Australia

Likely to establish



What it is **not**

Native species that look similar to the pest



Cartrut shell
Dicathais orbita

Key Features

- Shell sculpted with prominent grooves
- Shell colour grey/brown to green
- Shell height to 8 cm

Habitat

- Found attached to rock platforms & rocky reefs, up to 10 m depth
- One of the most abundant snails intertidally & subtidally on southern coasts of Australia

Known Locations

- Southern Qld to Barrow Island, WA & around Tas



Helmet shell
Semicassis pyrum

Key Features

- Smooth helmet shell
- Shell cream with brown blotches
- Shell height to 7 cm

Habitat

- Found buried under sand during the day, forages at night
- Exposed sand to 480 m depth

Known Locations

- From NSW to Fremantle, WA & around Tas

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

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