



What are marine pests?



Marine pests are species that are not native to New Zealand's oceans, but which may be introduced by human activities and harm our natural environments and resources.

Many hundreds of non-native species have been introduced to New Zealand waters, but not all of them are harmful. Most have arrived with shipping, either attached to the submerged surfaces of ships ("biofouling") or in the ballast water carried by large vessels to maintain stability.

On this page you can read about some of the world's worst marine pests that we are trying to keep out of New Zealand and some that have recently arrived here.

RELATED PAGES



**Northern Pacific
Seastar**

Not known to be in NZ



**European shore
crab**

Not known to be in NZ



**Chinese mitten
crab**

Not known to be in NZ



Asian clam

Not known to be in NZ



**Aquarium
Caulerpa**

Not known to be in NZ



**Mediterranean
fanworm**

Present in some areas of NZ



**Droplet tunicate
(seasquirt)**

Present in some areas of NZ



**Clubbed tunicate
(seasquirt)**

Present in some areas of NZ



Asian date mussel

Present in some areas of NZ



Asian paddle crab

Present in some areas of NZ



Wakame (Undaria)

Present in some areas of NZ