



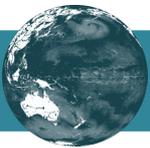
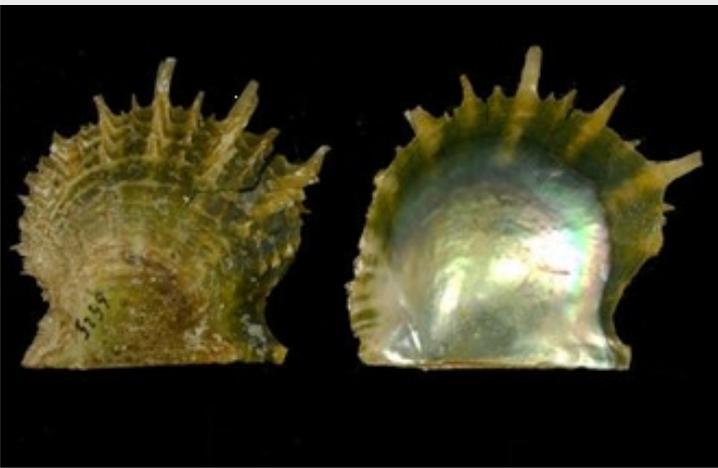
Rayed pearl oyster

Pinctada imbricata Röding, 1798

KEY FEATURES



- Oyster with fragile, thin, compressed, small to medium sized unequal valves, the left valve more inflated, typical size range 50–65 mm
- Outer surface densely set with appressed concentric lamellae and small radially projecting spines, more abundant towards the margins
- External shell colour uniform or with darker markings on radial rays, brownish or reddish with green and bronze tinges
- Internal side highly iridescent nacre, non-nacreous margin glossy and light brown
- Fouling species that attaches to hard subtidal substrate, highly tolerant to a wide range of environmental conditions including chemical contamination



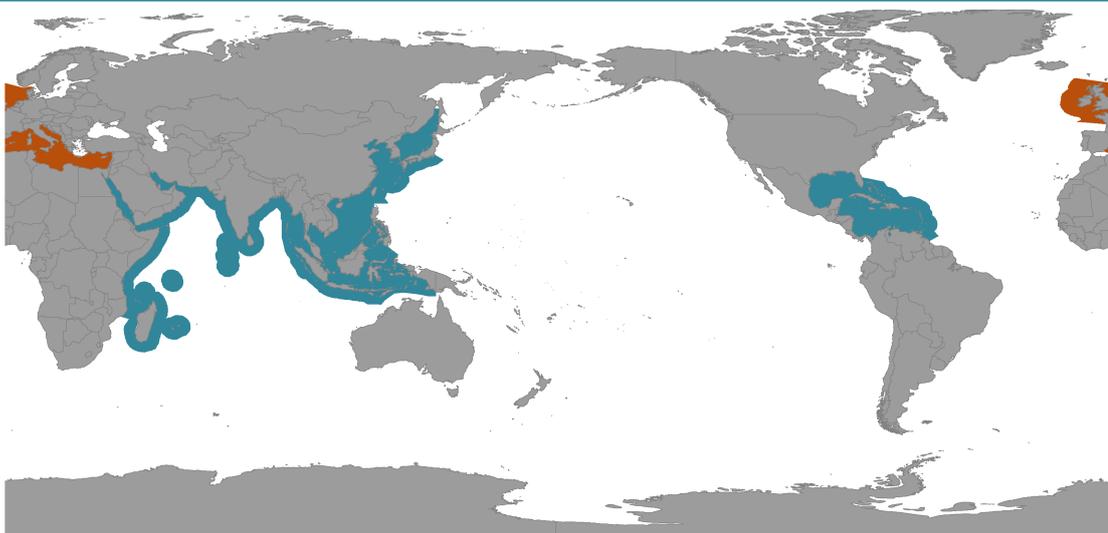
PATHWAY

✓ ballast water

✓ biofouling

✓ aquaculture transfer

- Native
- Cryptogenic
- Non-indigenous





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IMPACTS



Environmental impacts

Considered to be one of the worst invasive species in the Mediterranean in terms of spread and impact. Considered to be a habitat modifier and capable of impacting native oysters by forming monospecific oyster banks



Human health impacts

None known



Social & cultural impacts

None known



Economic impacts

Fouling species recorded to foul mussel lines and commercial shellfish collectors

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

DISTRIBUTION

NOT PRESENT IN TUVALU

Native range Unknown but thought to be Indo-West Pacific and Atlantic Oceans

Non-indigenous range Europe and the Mediterranean

CREDITS AND REFERENCES (click reference for more information)

Images Top and bottom: Joop Trausel and Frans Slieker ([CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](#))

References [Cunha et al. \(2011\)](#), [Lodola et al. \(2013\)](#), [Tëmkin \(2010\)](#)