

IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

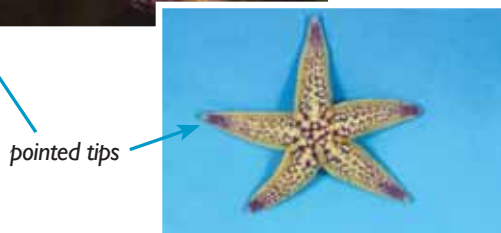
Current Marine Pest

northern Pacific seastar (*Asterias amurensis*)

CURRENT STATUS: Found along the east coast. Not recorded from the north or west coasts

Key features:

5 arms with pointed upturned tips



Mature seastars:

- Have 5 arms with pointed tips which are upturned at the end
- Are mainly yellow but may have purple detail
- Are covered in many small spines with jagged ends that are arranged irregularly along arms

Which native plants look similar?

Coscinasterias muricata (11 arms) and *Uniophora granifera*, however the natives have arms with rounded tips



Coscinasterias muricata



Uniophora granifera

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Habitat:

- Coastal areas not exposed to high wave action (eg estuaries and deep water)
- Soft sediment and reef from intertidal to depths of up to 200 meters
- Often in disturbed habitats (eg wharfs and marinas)

What you can do:

- Clean and antifoul boat hulls regularly
- Using freshwater, CLEAN, DRAIN and DRY vessels and equipment
- Using a mild detergent, disinfectant or soap, wash boats and gear away from shore where it does not drain back into the marine environment

Want more information?

Visit

www.marinepests.gov.au

www.dpiw.tas.gov.au

Or phone

Marine Resources on (03) 6233 3370

