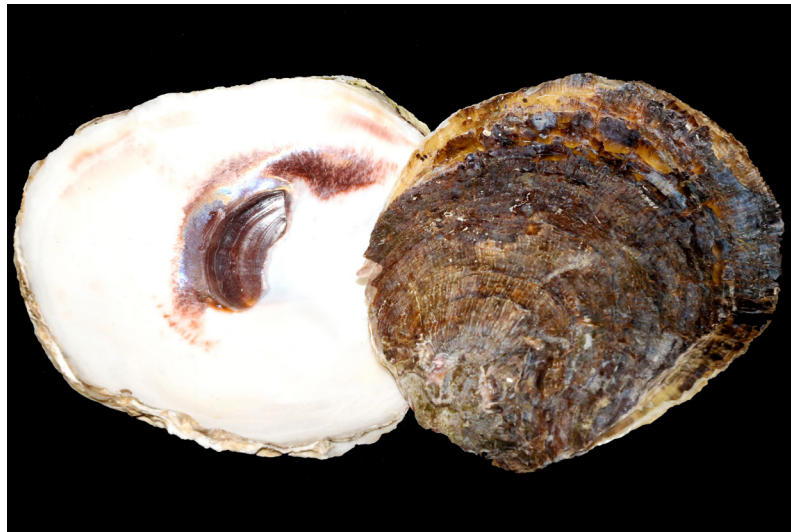


Suminoe oyster

High-risk aquatic animal

Look. Report. Protect. 13 25 23



- Highly invasive species owing to its rapid growth rate.
- Can displace native oysters.
- Impacts on commercial oyster culture.
- Can foul submerged and floating infrastructure including pylons, pontoons and boats with the ability to occupy disturbed habitats including shallow subtidal sites and muddy creeks.
- Early detection and reporting helps protect Queensland's natural environment.

Description

The Suminoe oyster (*Magallana ariakensis*) is a fast growing, large rock oyster belonging to the Ostreidae family of salt-water bivalve molluscs. The shell can grow to up to 240 mm long. The shell provides protection from predation. Colours of the lamellae on the outer surface vary from grey and yellowish, brown to purple, while the inner surface of the valves is smooth and greyish- white, with purple on the edges. The muscle scar on the inner surface of the valves is large and purplish. It has unequal valves and an irregular shape. The internal shell lacks chomata (small ridges on the inside of the shell around its margin).

Suminoe oysters are difficult to identify in the field from other species of native rock oysters, unless you open them or until they grow to a size larger than other species. Very similar in appearance to the black scar oyster (*Magallana bilineata*), another introduced marine pest found in north Queensland.

Biosecurity risk

The Suminoe oyster has been recently detected at Bribie Island, Boggy Creek and Kedron Brook. It can foul submerged and floating infrastructure including pylons, pontoons and boats with the ability to occupy disturbed habitats including shallow subtidal sites and muddy creeks. However, little is known about the potential invasiveness and impacts.

The presence of Suminoe oyster does not impact the quality of commercial oysters grown in Moreton Bay.

What should I do?

If you think you have seen a Suminoe oyster, take a photo if safe to do so, record the location and report it to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or scan the QR code to access our reporting web page. Please take reasonable and practical measures to prevent Suminoe oysters from spreading.

More information

Contact Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or visit biosecurity.qld.gov.au.

