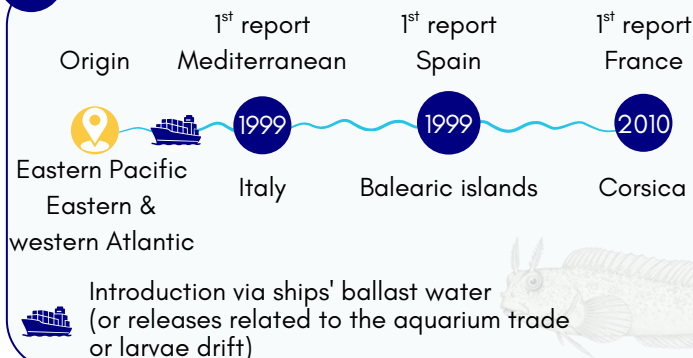


Sally lightfoot crab - *Percnon gibbesi*



ITS HISTORY



ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS

As a specialized herbivore, the sally lightfoot crab primarily targets macroalgae, particularly *Posidonia oceanica*. It shows a strong preference for reproductive fruits, significantly reducing the recruitment and establishment rates of new *Posidonia* seedlings, thereby affecting the development of an already threatened species. At high densities, it exerts additional pressure on benthic communities, which are already weakened by other environmental factors.

FUN FACTS

Commensalism
with the black sea
urchin *Arbacia
lixula*

Can ingest up to
75% of its body
weight per day

Difficult to
photograph as
it is fearful

IDENTIFICATION CRITERIA

Carapace: Square and smooth, with 3 teeth on the front and 4 anterolateral teeth.

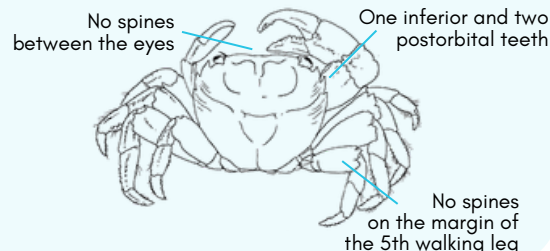
Colors: Greenish-brown carapace, orange claws and eyestalks, bright yellow bands on the legs, pale ventral side



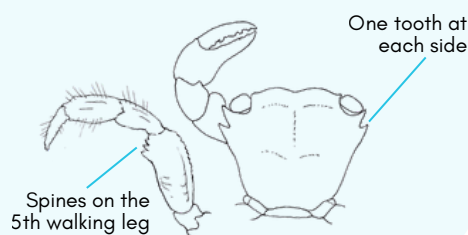
SIMILAR SPECIES

Marbled crab - *Pachygrapsus marmoratus*

Native Mediterranean species



Mottled shore crab - *Pachygrapsus transversus*



Report your observation

MINKA



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