**New Zealand Half Crab**  

**Status**  
Exotic (established in Australia)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Other Common Names</strong></th>
<th>None Listed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scientific Synonyms</strong></td>
<td>None Listed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Host Types</strong></td>
<td>Marine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Distribution - Regions**  
Australasian - Oceanian

**Distribution - Notes**  
New Zealand, eastern Tas.; intertidal rocky shores.

*Petrolisthes* is a large genus with 35 species in the Indo-West Pacific of which at least ten occur in northern Australia (Haig, 1965, 1972). Only one occurs in southern Australia. It has been confirmed that this species was introduced to Tasmania from New Zealand, probably with ballast rocks at the end of the 1800s (King, 1997).

**Diagnostic Characters:**  
Carapace rounded, about as broad as long; finely granulate, **without dorsal spines**, without supraocular spine, front broadly rounded-triangular, **with smooth margins**. Cheliped **carpus inner margin with obsolete ridge proximally**, outer margin with 1–2 weak spines and sharp distal angle; propodus unarmed, weakly granulate. Merus of walking legs unarmed. **Telson with 7 plates**.

Up to 21 mm long. Reddish-yellow.

**Broad Sweep**  
Marine

**Commodity**  
Marine

**Specifics**

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Specimen Contact Point</strong></th>
<th><a href="mailto:discoverycentre@museum.vic.gov.au">discoverycentre@museum.vic.gov.au</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
<td>Gary Poore</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Web links**  
None Listed
References

The information here is adapted from:


Introduction to Australia based on:


Acknowledgements

Citation


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Diagnostic Images

carapace

Caption: this drawing will be replaced by a photograph of live *Petrolisthes elongatus* when permissions are arranged

Source: Graham Milledge (artist), Museum Victoria
Tail

**Caption:** Drawing of telson of Petrolisthes elongatus

**Source:** Graham Milledge (artist), Museum Victoria
Overview Images

Body form

Caption: Dorsal view of Petrolisthes elongatus

Source: Karen Gowlett-Holmes, Karen Gowlett-Holmes