

## *Amphibalanus improvisus* Acorn barnacle

**Phylum:** Arthropoda  
**Class:** Maxillopoda  
**Order:** Sessilia  
**Family:** Balanidae

### Synonymised Taxa

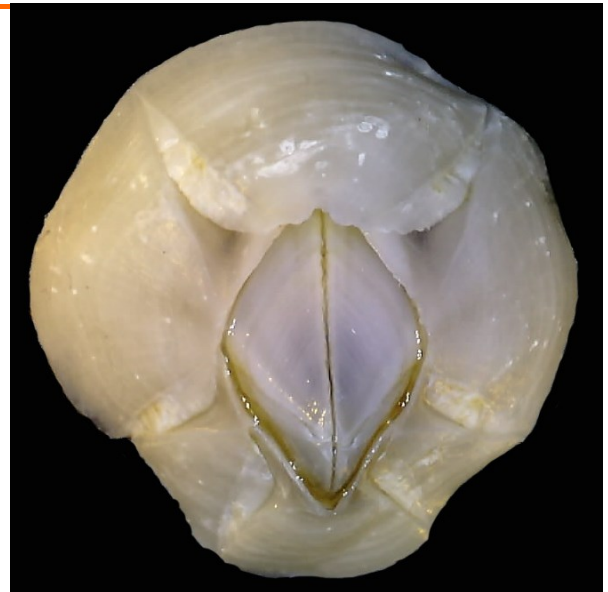
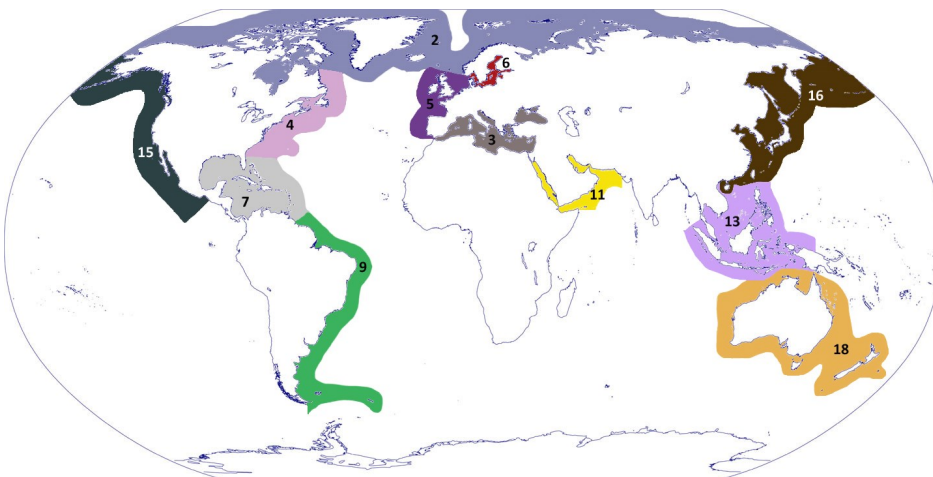
*Balanus improvisus* Darwin, 1854

### Larval Period

When observed in laboratory conditions, larvae remained in the water column 6 to 8 days (at 25°C) before settlement.

### Distribution (Bioregions)

**Native:** 4 **Introduced:** 2, 3 (Black Sea), 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18 (Fremantle, WA and New Zealand—detected not established).



### Habitat

This species is found in low tide to shallow subtidal zones in saline to brackish waters. It can tolerate freshwater. However, it's unable to reproduce in these conditions. It attaches to hard substrates such as rocks, jetties, concrete, plastics, animals with hard surfaces and some macro algae.

### Temperature Tolerance

0 to 30°C

### Salinity Range

0.8 to 34ppt

### Size

Up to 20 mm diameter and 6 mm in height

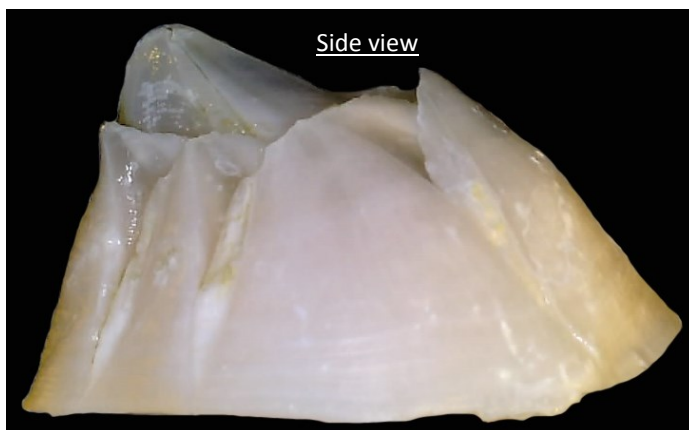
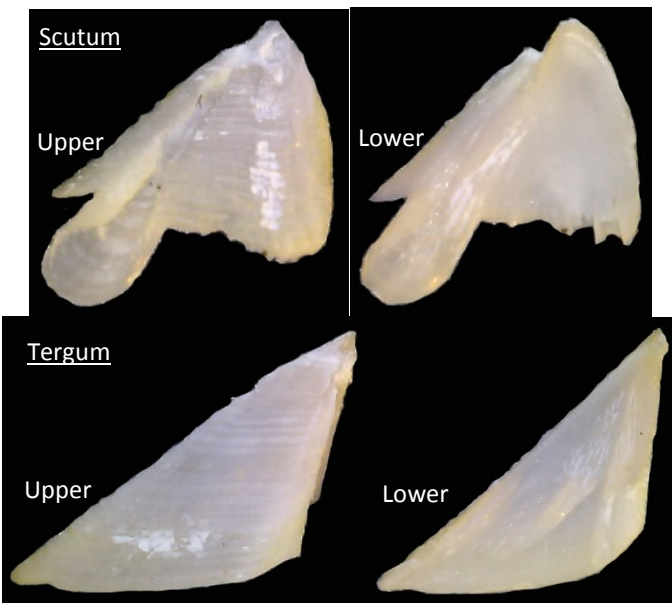
### Lists

- CCIMPE
- WA species of concern
- Woodside

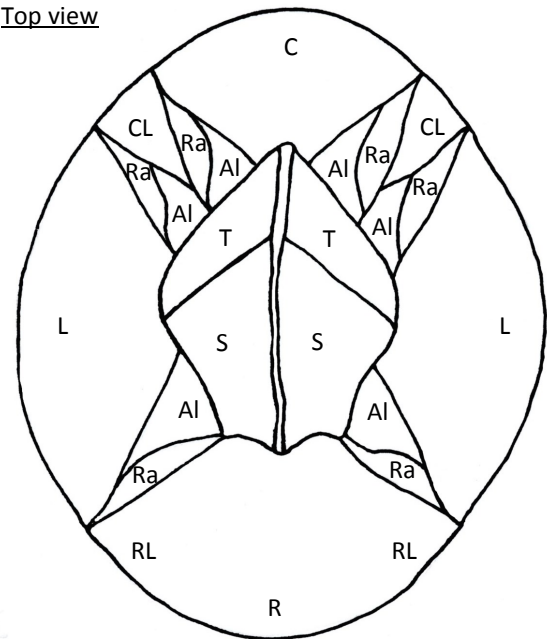
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### Key Features

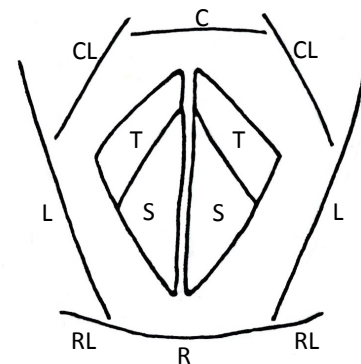
- Sessile barnacle with a **white conical shell**;
- The **texture is smooth**;
- The base is radially calcareous;
- There are **6 plates**. The **rostrum and rostrolateral plates are fused as one**;
- The radii overlap the alae;
- The **aperture of the shell is diamond** or rhombus shaped;
- The scutum plates have striation;
- When the operculum is open for feeding, a white and lilac spotted membrane is present around the aperture.



Top view



Basic arrangement



### Key

- C—carina (plate)  
 CL—carinolateral (plate)  
 L—lateral (plate)  
 R—rostrum (plate)  
 RL—rostrolateral (plate)  
 S—scutum (moveable operculum plate)  
 T—tergum (moveable operculum plate)  
 Al—alae  
 Ra—radii