

# Where to find mangrove fauna

Trunks & branches



Leaves & stems



Bark



Pneumatophores



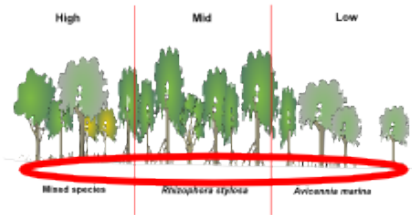
Burrows

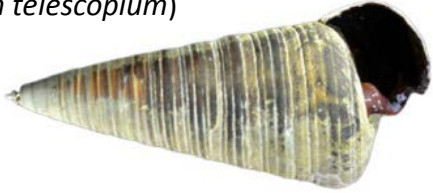






Mounds

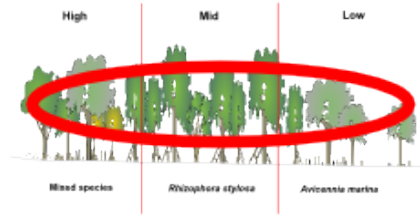








# Ground molluscs



Common name & Species	Description
<p><b>Longbum</b> (<i>Telescopium telescopium</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="759 585 816 643" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Large (100 mm) straight-sided, conical shaped shell. Usually purple inside the aperture. Commonly found in the High and Mid zones.</p>
<p><b>Lesser longbum</b> (<i>Terebralia palustris</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="759 875 816 933" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Large (120 mm) heavy shell, similar to the Longbum, but with a flared outer lip, wavy lines and an open spout-like hole at the base. Commonly found in the High and Mid zones at the base of trees.</p>
<p><b>Mud creeper</b> (<i>Terebralia semistriata</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="759 1145 816 1203" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Mid-sized (60 mm) shell with a large flared outer lip (absent in juveniles), commonly with broad dark spiral colour bands. Commonly found in the High and Mid zones.</p>
<p><b>Red-mouth nerite</b> (<i>Dorsita violacea</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="759 1404 816 1462" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Small (20 mm) flattened, oval shaped variably coloured shell. Juveniles commonly with purple wavy lines. Usually found in or near small puddles in the High and Mid zones, but also found in the Low zone.</p>
<p><b>Onchidium slug</b> (<i>Peronia</i> sp.)</p>  <input data-bbox="759 1667 816 1725" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Large (70 mm) cream coloured, air-breathing slug covered in large warty bumps or pustules. Found in the Low zone, usually near the aerial roots (pneumatophores) of the Grey Mangrove (<i>Avicennia marina</i>) trees.</p>

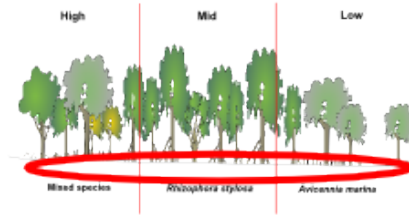
# Tree-living molluscs



Common name & Species	Description
<p><b>Thin periwinkle</b> (<i>Littoraria filosa</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="761 556 818 614" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Small (25 mm) conical, ribbed, thin shell, ranging in colour from bright yellow, pink to brownish-grey. Commonly found glued to the branches and leaves of trees in the Mid and Low zones.</p>
<p><b>Striped periwinkle</b> (<i>Littoraria articulata</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="761 755 818 813" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Small (20 mm) smooth conical shell with spirally arranged reddish coloured dashed lines. Commonly found on the branches and leaves of trees in the Low zone.</p>
<p><b>Obtuse Treecreeper</b> (<i>Cerithidea anticipata</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="761 967 818 1025" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Mid-sized (50 mm) thin shell with knobbly, narrow axial ribs. Commonly found attached to the trunks and branches of trees in the High and Mid zones.</p>
<p><b>Black nerite</b> (<i>Nerita balteata</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="761 1193 818 1251" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Large to mid-sized (45 mm) heavy, dark coloured shell. Usually darkish-grey, but sometimes with spiral stripes. Commonly found on the trunks of trees in the Mid and Low zones.</p>
<p><b>Tiger oyster</b> (<i>Planostrea pestigris</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="761 1392 818 1450" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Large (70 mm) thick, pale coloured shell, usually with faint purple stripes. Found within tree hollows and on trunks and lower branches of trees within the Low zone.</p>
<p><b>Jingle shell</b> (<i>Enigmonia aenigmatica</i>)</p>  <input data-bbox="761 1644 818 1702" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Mid-sized (40 mm), extremely thin iridescent shell, commonly golden or purple in colour. Found attached to the upper surface of leaves (golden) or on the trunks and roots or trees (purple) in the Mid and Low zones.</p>



# Crabs



## Common name & Species

## Description

**Banana fiddler**  
(*Uca mjoebergi*)




Small to mid-sized (20-50 mm) crab with mottled brown carapace and reddish to yellow coloured legs. Males with large orangy-yellow major claw. Found in the High zone. Photo: Tanya Detto

**Capricorn fiddler**  
(*Uca capricornis*)




Small to mid-sized (20-50 mm) crab with a black carapace with yellow to blue patches. Females with bright blue legs, males with black. Male crabs with a large dull whitish-yellow major claw. Commonly found in the soft muds of the Mid and Low zones.

**Flame-backed fiddler**  
(*Uca flammula*)




Small to mid-sized (20-50 mm) crab with a black carapace with two bright orange-red stripes and bright orange-red legs. Male crabs with a vivid orange-red major claw. Commonly found in the Mid and Low zones especially on creek banks. Photo: Keith McGuinness

**Common grapsid**  
(*Perisesarma* spp.)



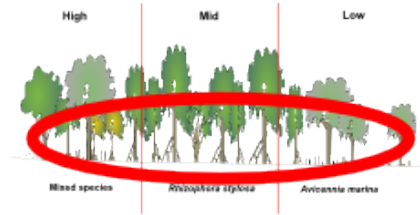

There are two very common *Perisesarma* species in Darwin mangroves. They are small to mid-sized (20-40 mm) crabs with a mottled dirty black-brown carapace. *P. darwinensis* has yellowish dots near the mouth and cherry-red claws; *P. semperi* has muddy, furry carapace and dull orangey claws. Photo: Keith McGuinness

**Swiss Army crab**  
(*Neosarmatium australiense*)




Large to mid-sized (80 mm) shy, chunky, square-shaped crab with a furry reddish-brown carapace and orangey-red to yellow-red claws. Builds conspicuous hooded burrows. Found in the High zone, mainly active at night.

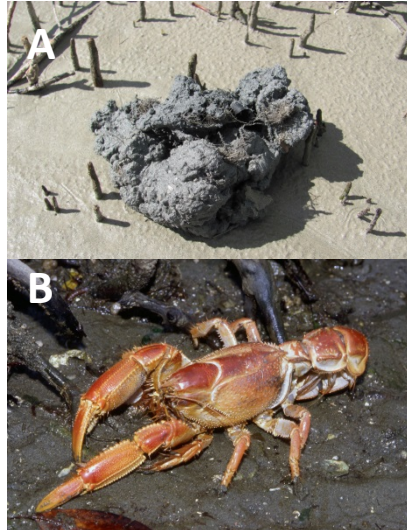
# Other crustaceans



## Common name & Species

## Description

**Mud lobster**  
(*Thalassina squamifera*)



Large (200 mm) burrowing, shy, orangey-brown elongate lobster-like animal which is part of the ghost shrimp or mud shrimp family. Although mud lobsters are rarely seen during the day they are easily located by their large dark coloured muddy mounds. Commonly found from the High to the Low zone. Photo B: Ryan photographic

**Blue-striped hermit**  
(*Clibanarius longitarsus*)



Small to mid-sized (20-50 mm) brownish-green coloured crab with blue longitudinal stripes on each leg. Animals utilize a wide range of shells for their protective homes, ranging from Moon shells to Longbums. Commonly found foraging in small puddles or perched on *Rhizophora stylosa* prop roots in the Mid and Low zones.

**Star barnacle**  
(*Microeuraphia withersi*)



Small (15 mm) flattened, grey-coloured, star-shaped barnacle. Usually found in thick aggregations clustered on the trunks and roots of *Rhizophora* and *Avicennia* trees where it can filter feed during high tides. Mainly found in the Low zone.