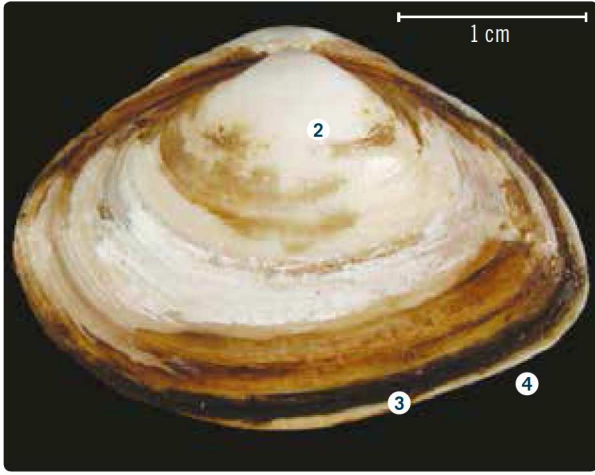


ASIAN CLAM

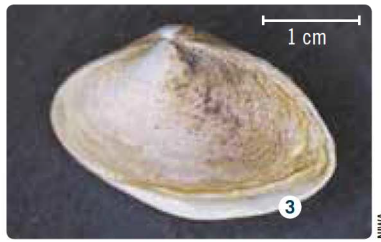
Potamocorbula amurensis

Key features

- 1 Thin, smooth bivalve up to 3 cm long
- 2 Shell yellow, tan or dirty white, frequently with brown staining



- 3 Distinctive “overbite” – one of the pair of shells is larger than the other
- 4 Old shells may have wrinkled edges



Habitat

- Generally subtidal but also intertidal
- Estuaries and sheltered waters
- Soft sediments – sand, mud, clay or seagrass beds
- A range of salinities from salt to fresh water
- Grows well in polluted or nutrient-rich waters

Impact

- Forms vast, dense colonies (> 25 000 per m²)
- Filter-feeder that competes with native species and preys on larvae of fisheries species
- Displaces native, commercial and recreational fisheries species
- High selenium content, which is toxic to animals that eat it
- Disrupts natural ecological balance



*If found anywhere in New Zealand, immediately call

0800 80 99 66

NATIVE SPECIES THAT LOOK SIMILAR



How to differentiate *Potamocorbula amurensis* from:

Corbula zelandica
BASKET SHELL



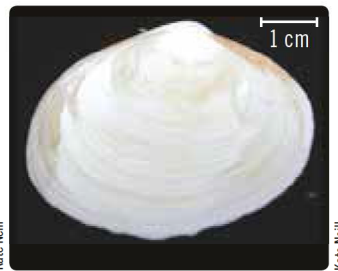
- 1 *Corbula* has a less prominent, regular, even overbite around most of the perimeter of the shell (*Potamocorbula* has an overbite around 1/4–1/3 the perimeter)
- 2 Generally smaller (<1.5 cm)
- 3 Not found in estuaries or sheltered waterways

Mactra (Maorimactra) ordinaria
SURF CLAM



- 1 No overbite
- 2 Not found in estuaries
- 3 Smaller shell (<1.5 cm)

Cyclomactra tristis
SURF CLAM



- 1 *Cyclomactra* has no overbite
- 2 Larger shell (to 6 cm)

To report suspected marine pests or diseases call

0800 80 99 66