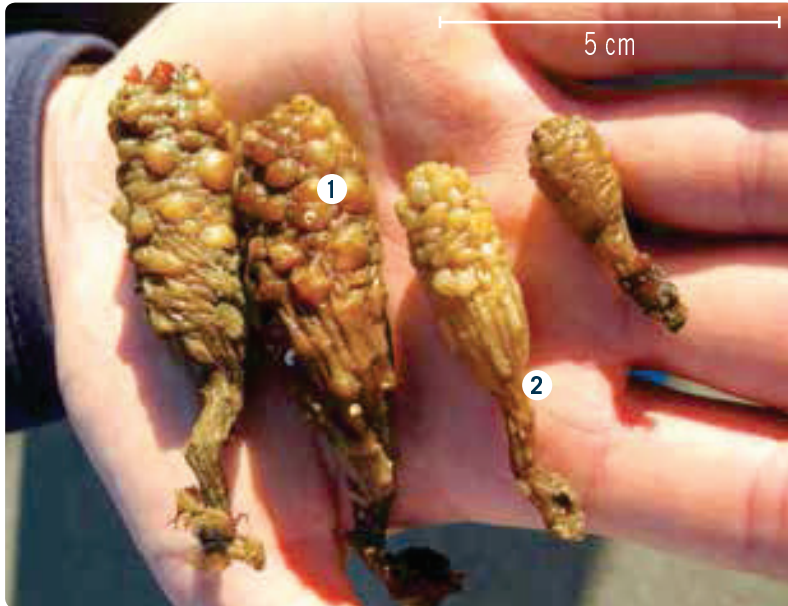


# CLUBBED TUNICATE/LEATHERY SEA SQUIRT

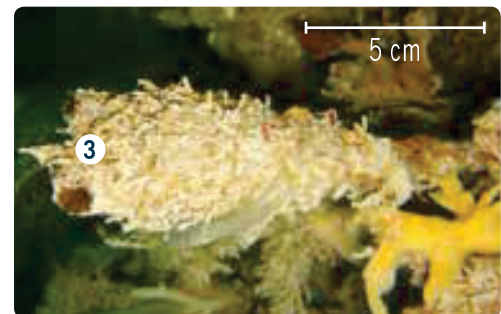
*Styela clava*

## Key features

- 1 Brown with lumpy, leathery skin
- 2 Woody stalk, generally longer than the body, with longitudinal folds



- 3 Two closely spaced siphons at the top of the body, usually surrounded by warty projections



## Habitat

- Low intertidal to 25 m depth
- Rocky coast and reef
- Boat hulls
- Wharves, pontoons and aquaculture structures
- Grows on other organisms

## Impact

- Can form dense colonies excluding other organisms
- Highly effective filter-feeder
- Preys on larvae of commercially important fisheries species
- Displaces native and fisheries species
- Fouls boats, aquaculture installations and other marine structures



# NATIVE SPECIES THAT LOOK SIMILAR



Jeannine Fischer

How to differentiate *Styela clava* from:

## *Pyura pachydermatina* SEA TULIP

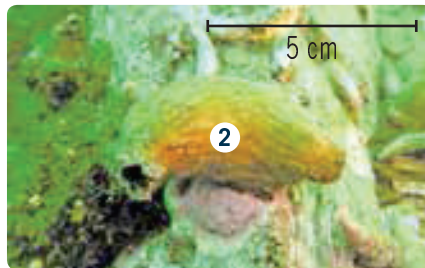


John Barkla

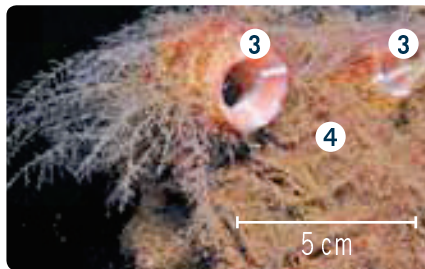


Chris Woods

## *Cnemidocarpa bicornuta* and *C. nisiotis*

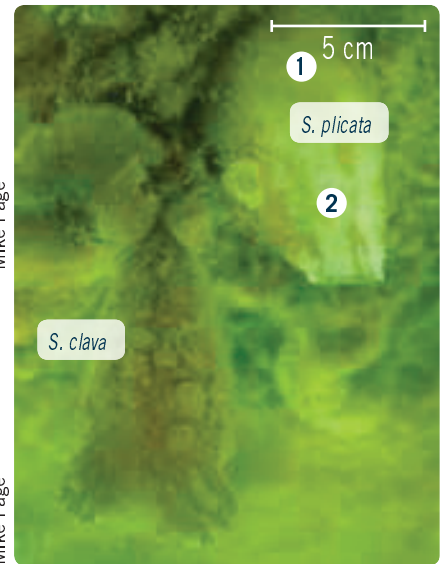


Mike Page



Mike Page

## *Styela plicata*



Serena Wilkens

- 1 *Styela* is light or dark brown; *Pyura* is white to purplish-red
- 2 *Pyura* has a much longer stalk – up to three-quarters of its overall length – and can grow to over half a metre long; *Styela* only reaches 16cm
- 3 *Pyura* has a bulbous body with ridges along its length; *Styela*'s body lacks ridges along its length

- 1 Neither *Cnemidocarpa* species has a stalk
- 2 *C. biornuta* has a wide saddle between the siphons, whereas *Styela*'s siphons are close together
- 3 *C. nisiotis* has siphons at opposite ends of the body. The body is flattened against the substrate, not stalked
- 4 The body of *C. nisiotis* can be obscured by heavy fouling, whereas *Styela* is always prominent

- 1 *S. plicata* has no stalk
- 2 Generally has a smooth, white to cream-coloured body and is not usually fouled with other species such as hydroids and bryozoans

To report suspected marine pests or diseases call  
**0800 80 99 66**