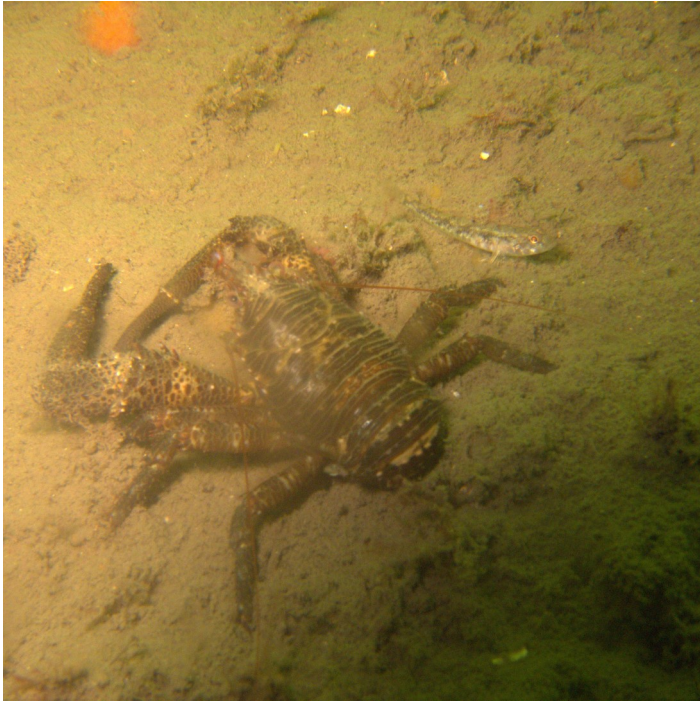


Olive squat lobster (*Galathea squamifera*)

Malacostraca (Arthropoda:Decapoda)



Arthropoda->Crustacea->Malacostraca->Decapoda

IUCN Red List Categorisation: Not assessed

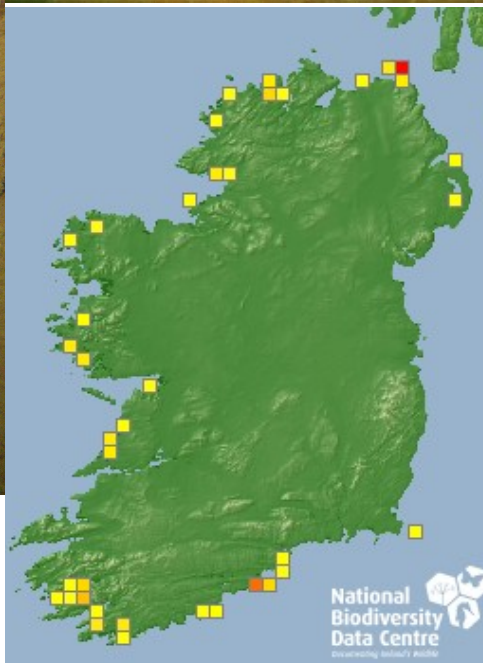
Occurs from Norway to Turkey this species is abundant on the west coast but likely under recorded. Like most crustaceans it is a scavenger and filter feeder. Typically more active at night though not exclusively nocturnal.



The only brown squat lobster in Ireland, it is easily distinguished from the larger lobster species by the lack of a tail fan and from *Galathea strigosa* (spiny squat lobster) by the lack of red colouration. Typically quite, shy and cryptic this species can be difficult to spot even when locally abundant at a site. Easily found during breeding season when animals venture further from their burrows than usual.



Found on all Irish coasts this species is widely under recorded due to its small size, dark colouration and cryptic nature. Can be locally abundant where suitable habitat occurs. Live under stones and rocks on the lower shore and in crevices.



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