

JAPANESE OYSTER DRILL

Ocenebrellus inornatus

WHAT IS IT?

Ocenebrellus inornatus is a small predatory marine snail.

It has a height up to 60mm.

It is beige, brown, orange or striped.

Shell morphology can vary significantly between individuals.

The primary pathway of introduction and spread is movement of shellfish.



WHERE MIGHT I SEE IT?

Typically found in estuaries and coastal waters, in rocky intertidal and shallow subtidal areas.

It can be found on gravel, mud, and shell substrates, usually in oyster beds – both farmed and wild.

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

It preys on oysters, scallops, mussels, clams, cockles, barnacles and other gastropods, by drilling through their shells and ingesting their flesh.

Introduction and establishment in UK waters threatens economically and environmentally significant species, such as the Pacific oyster (*Magallana gigas*), blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) and European flat oysters (*Ostrea edulis*).

WHAT CAN I DO?

REPORT SIGHTINGS

Submit records to [iRecord.org.uk](https://www.record.org.uk) or contact alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk

REDUCE RISK OF INTRODUCTION AND SPREAD THROUGH BEST PRACTICE BIOSECURITY

<https://www.nonnativespecies.org/biosecurity/marine-biosecurity/>

For further information:

<https://www.nonnativespecies.org/non-native-species/information-portal/view/3816>

