

Spondylus layardi Reeve, 1856

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IDENTIFICATION

Order	: Pectinida
Family	: Spondylidae
Common/FAO Name (English)	: Spiny oyster



Local names: Not available

MORPHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

Shell is solid, pear shaped and moderately inflated with a height of 80 mm. Sculpture of obscure radial ribs ornamented with sparse spinose or narrowly spatulate spines in irregular rows, interstices with dense rows of small overlapping spines. Body color is dark purple or brown with some white or blood coloured spotting at the umbo; spines brown, rarely white; internally blue white with a dark brown, finely crenulated margin.



PROFILE

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

It is distributed in Sri Lanka, Gulf of Aden, Red Sea, Saudi Arabia, Gulf of Aqaba and Philippines. It has been reported from east and west coasts of India and from Lakshadweep Islands.

HABITAT AND BIOLOGY

It is marine, inhabiting reefs. It is found mostly associated with dead corals.

BREEDING IN CAPTIVE CONDITIONS

Information not available

LARVAL REARING

Information not available

NURSERY REARING

Information not available

GROW-OUT

Information not available

FOOD AND FEEDING

Information not available

GROWTH RATE

Information not available

DISEASES AND CONTROL MEASURES

Information not available

PRODUCTION

Information not available

MARKET AND TRADE

It has great demand in international market for making ornaments.

CHALLENGES TO MARICULTURE

The main researchable issues, which have to be sorted out for this species, are (i) Life history study (ii) Healthy broodstock development protocol (iii) Larval rearing protocol and (iv) Culture practices.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

The thorny shell has ornamental value in the global market. Hence its culture would be a good source of income to people culturing them and those involved in its trade.

SUGGESTED READING

Appukuttan, K. K, Chellam, A., Ramadoss, K., Victor, A. C. C. and Meiyappan, M. M. 1989. Molluscan resources. CMFRI Bulletin 43, p. 77-92.

<http://www.biosearch.in/publicOrganismPage.php?id=5818>

<http://www.marinespecies.org/aphia.php?p=taxdetails&id=207880>