



## Litopenaeus vannamei

Pacific white shrimp, West Coast white shrimp, camaron blanco, langostino, whiteleg shrimp

### Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
  - Exotic shrimp viruses may pose a risk to Gulf of Mexico and Southeastern U.S. Atlantic fisheries, including economically-important penaeid shrimp as well as other crustaceans (Molnar 2008)
2. Geographic extent
  - Native to Mexico has established from Peru to southeastern USA
  - Regionally pervasive



### Geography and habitat

1. Origin: Eastern Pacific from Mexico to northern Peru
2. Introduced: Carolinas and Gulf of Mexico
3. Habitats
  - Marine, estuaries/bays
  - Likes muddy bottoms at depths from the shoreline down to about 72 meters [235 feet] (Molnar 2008)

### Invasion pathways

1. Enclosed facilities
  - Accidental known
  - Cause- Shrimp farming
  - "Aquaculture of the Pacific white shrimp in the United States began with the studies of Parker et al. (1974) who reared the shrimp in a pond system in Texas and in Florida (Molnar 2008).

### Non native locations

1. 42- Carolinian
2. 43- Northern Gulf of Mexico

### Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
2. <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment>
3. <http://apps.acesag.auburn.edu/mediamax/pdata/476.jpg>