



## Thecacera pennigera

Sea slug, nudibranch, Winged Thecacera

### Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
  - “Feeds on arborescent bryozoans which are part of the 'fouling community'. May impact native species” (Molnar 2008).

### Invasive potential

- A fouling organism requiring assisted transport to expand alien range.

### Geographic extent

- Locally patchy

### Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: Originally found on the Atlantic coast of Europe, incl Nether lands
2. First introduction 1982
3. Recorded in Australia (NSW) 1982. Most likely transported on ships hulls and fouling communities.
4. Marine, intertidal zones, fouling communities
5. Feeds on bryozoans which are part of 'fouling communities'



### Invasion Pathways

1. Hull/Surface Fouling
  - Accidental probable

### Non native locations

- 41- Virginian
- 43- Northern Gulf of Mexico
- 70- Floridian

### 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://www.seaslugforum.net/find/thecpen>
4. [http://www.sms.si.edu/irlspec/thecacera\\_pennigera.htm](http://www.sms.si.edu/irlspec/thecacera_pennigera.htm)