

# *Sphaeroma serratum*

Serrated isopod



CONICET  
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## MARINE-COASTAL EXOTIC SPECIES GUIDE FOR ARGENTINA

### DESCRIPTION

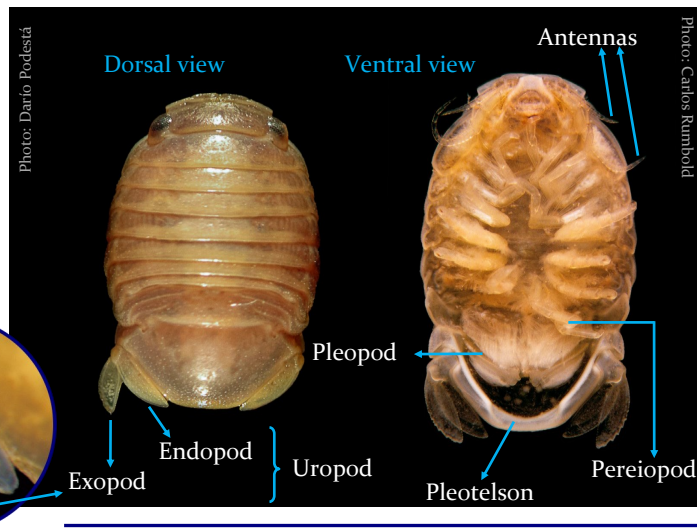
- Smooth and oval body, dorso-ventrally flattened, with 2 pairs of antennas and 7 pairs of pereopods and pleopods.
- Pleotelson straight at the end.
- Uropod exopod and endopod similar in size. Exopod with outer margin serrated.
- Light brown to black body, with different spot patterns.



Length: 3-12 mm



Photo: Carlos Rumbold



### HABITAT

Intertidal and subtidal species, commonly found from tropical to temperate environments. It lives among algae, under rocks and on artificial structures.

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## *Sphaeroma serratum*— Serrated isopod



Photos: Dario Podestà

*Exosphaeroma sp.*

*Pseudosphaeroma sp.*

### SIMILAR SPECIES

- *Exosphaeroma sp.*: Native. Unlike *S. serratum*, it has a slightly triangular pleotelson. Uropod exopod has a smooth outer margin.
- *Pseudosphaeroma sp.*: Native. Anterior region of pleotelson with several prominent tubercles, absents in *S. serratum*. Uropod exopod with smooth outer margin and shorter than the endopod.

### INVASIVE STATUS

*Sphaeroma serratum* is native to Europe. In Argentina was first recorded in 1964, in Mar del Plata port (38° S) and, since then, it has colonized several ports and rocky shores southwards; being Bahía Blanca (39° S) the current limit of its distribution.

### IMPACT ON NATIVE COMMUNITIES

In Argentina, its impacts on native communities are unknown. remains unknown. However, its high abundance in comparison to other species suggests a potential impact on the environments that it inhabits.

### CONTACT US

This guide has been developed by the Grupo de Ecología en Ambientes Costeros (GEAC), from CENPAT (CONICET). If you find this species outside the reported areas, please contact us and let us know the date, locality, approximate number of individuals and, if possible, send us a picture:

 [especiesexoticasarg@gmail.com](mailto:especiesexoticasarg@gmail.com)



Grupo de Ecología en Ambientes Costeros (GEAC)