

MARINE STINGERS – LITTLE MAUVE STINGER

Pelagia noctiluca

DISTRIBUTION

Common in Australian waters. Occasionally large swarms invade the Sydney region.

COMMON NAME

Little Mauve Stinger

SIZE AND APPEARANCE

A small mushroom-shaped body from 2-6cm in diameter. Unlike most jellyfish, the bell is covered with numerous wart like lumps containing nematocysts (stinging capsules). The bell is usually pink or mauve with 8 pale brown tentacles 10-30cm in length.

FIRST AID

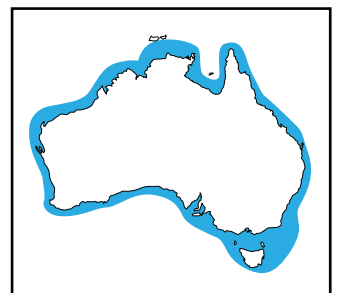
1. Remove any adhering tentacles
2. Wash area with seawater (not freshwater)
3. Place casualty stung area in hot water no hotter than the rescuer can comfortably tolerate for 20 minutes.
4. If pain is unrelieved by heat or if hot water is not available apply a cold pack or ice in a dry plastic bag.
5. Send for medical assistance if symptoms persist.

DID YOU KNOW?

- It is currently unclear whether the Australian Pelagia is the same species as the Mediterranean species.
- The Pelagia can glow if stimulated at night.



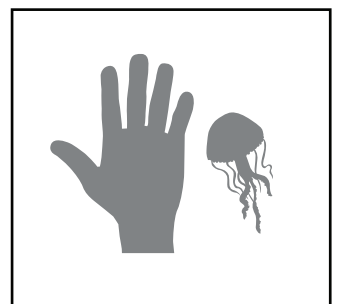
Pelagia noctiluca



Distribution in Australian waters



Pelagia sting



Size relative to human