

# *The Invasive Crabs*



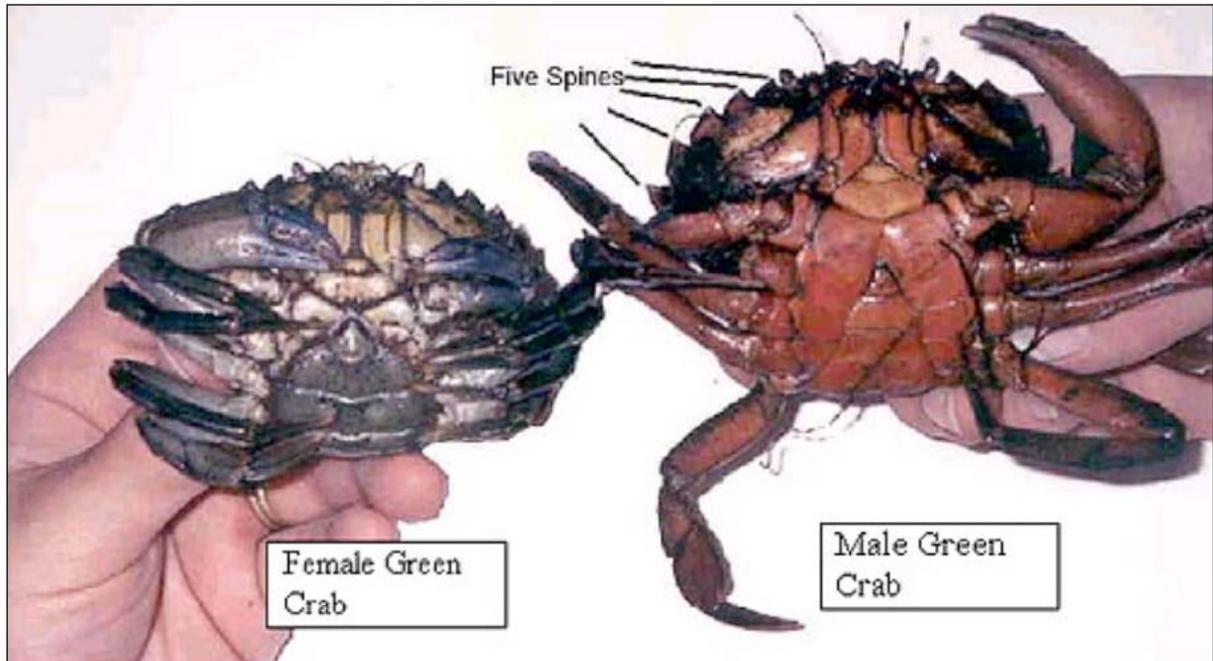
*European Green crabs* have 5 “teeth” (spines) on each side of the eye. This is the green color but they can be any color: red, yellow, brown. Don't be deceived if you find a red "Green Crab". It lives in sandy beaches and lagoons of estuaries (where fresh water of a river and salt water of the ocean mix and create brackish water) and rocky beaches.



*Asian  
Shore*

*Asian Shore crabs* are smaller than the European Green crab. It has a more squarish body (carapace) and 3 “teeth” (spines) instead of 5, on each side of the eye. Their claws are larger in comparison to their small body size. Notice the and brown and tan mottled color. The crab resides mainly in cobblestone and rocky beaches. They have also been reported to be found in the links of metal chains on docks and moorings.

## How to tell the males from the females



On the right is a male Green crab. Notice the tail flap is thin and shaped like a light house or the Washington monument. On the left is a female Green crab. The abdomen (tail flap) is wider and more rounded.

# *Native Crab*

## *Rock Crab*



***Rock crabs*** have 9 or 10 “teeth” (spines) ) on each side of the eye. Any crab with more than 5 teeth (spines) is a native crab: a **Rock crab** or a **Jonah crab**.