

Fish

Toadfish

Scientific Name: *Marilyna pleurosticta*

Other Common Names: Puffer Fish, Blow Fish

General Information: The scales on the Puffer Fish have been modified to form protective plates or spikes. It mainly preys upon soldier crabs, small molluscs including oysters but will eat most anything. This fish as with most Toad Fish are highly poisonous - it should never be eaten. However in Japan, after a long apprenticeship, specially licensed chefs prepare the fish so only a small amount of toxin is retained which produces a numbing effect in the mouth but not enough to cause poisoning although more than 50 Japanese die per year from eating this fish. The toxin of the Toad Fish is concentrated mainly in the ovaries, liver and intestines.

Habitat/Distribution/Growth: Common in coastal waters ranging south to New South Wales. Grows to 150mm.

