

Who's who in Tasmanian Urchins?

Longspined Sea Urchin

Centrostephanus rogersii ('Centro')

Not native to Tasmania, threatening Tasmania's rocky reefs by overgrazing.



Centro



Key ID Features:

Spines

- Hollow
- Longer than body
- Black/purple/brown with a subtle green iridescence

Body colour

- Deep red/black body

Shortspined Sea Urchin

Heliocidaris erythrogramma ('Helio')

A native species in Tasmania that's a healthy part of the ecosystem.



Helio



Key ID Features:

Spines

- Solid
- Shorter than body
- Purple/pale green/brown/white or a combination

Body colour

- Varies, can differ from spine colour



Choose Centro

Both Centro and Helio are commercially fished in Tasmania, but it is Centro that primarily threatens our reef and critical abalone and lobster habitat. It's also plump, delicious, and nutritious!

If you want to help protect our rocky reef ecosystems, choose Centro to catch, cook, order or buy.