

Fish

Stonefish

Scientific Name: *Synancia verrucosa/horrida*

Other Common Names: Devil Fish,

General Information: The most dangerous of the Scorpion-fish, so named because of resemblance to weed covered stones. Normally Stone fish lie partly embedded in sand amidst rocks or coral rubble and are very difficult to detect. At low tide they may be covered by a few centimetres of water or even completely exposed. They can survive for several hours out of water as long as they do not dry out. They use their pectoral fin to dig depressions in which the fish lies.

Habitat/Distribution/Growth: Moreton Bay through to Western Australia in estuaries, local creeks and tidal flats. The reef Stone Fish (*Verrucosa*) is found over coral reef tidal flats. It grows to 350mm.

Special Characteristics: Ability to look exactly like a rock covered with weeds and algae. The head is characterised by bony parts with deep hollows and fleshy sections.

