

INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT

Demon shrimp

Photo: J-R Baars



Up to 3 cm long, but usually smaller

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Photo: D Minchin



Urosome cones with spines (tail region)



National Biodiversity Data Centre
www.nationalbiodiversitydatacentre.ie

Invasive species alert for: *Dikerogammarus haemobaphes*

Common name: Demon shrimp

First detection: 30th September 2025 in the Shannon River below Lough Derg

Pathway of arrival: Unknown, but likely to have hitchhiked on watercraft or angling equipment

Why the concern:

- The demon shrimp is an omnivorous non-native invertebrate likely to prey on, and compete with, our native insects and invertebrates; including our native freshwater shrimp
- Disruption to the food web has potential knock-on effects for freshwater biodiversity
- Likely to drive significant impacts on the ecology of freshwater rivers and lakes

What does it look like:

- Up to 3 cm long; but usually smaller
- Identification is difficult and usually requires microscopic examination
- Looks similar to other native and non-native freshwater shrimp

Where might I see it:

- In freshwater and may also occur at the top of estuaries
- Associated with quagga mussels and stones in shallows and perhaps in deeper water
- Has also been found among aquatic plants.

What can I do:

- It is critical that all water users practice Check Clean Dry to help prevent the spread of this species and help protect our waterways.

For guidance on how to prevent the spread of demon shrimp follow the Check Clean Dry code



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Documenting Ireland's Wildlife

For further information or to report sightings visit www.invasives.ie