

Snow crab Chioncecetes opilio MAJIDAE

Size: carapace up to 16.5 cm (1.35 kg)

Peculiarities: long flattened legs (1); chelate legs shorter than the others (2); rostrum divided

into two short triangular horns (3). Female a lot smaller than the male.

Habitat: On muddy or sandy bottom from 40 to 250 fathoms (70-460 m).

Food: Omnivorous, it eats bivalve molluscs, worms, small crustaceans, sea stars,

detritus and even fishes.

Enemies: Cod, skates, haddock, seals...

Relation to man: the most commercially important crab of the Atlantic coast.