*Crustacean and Crustacean Culture

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*Lobster Culture

*Lobster, any of numerous marine crustaceans (phylum Arthropoda, order Decapoda) constituting the families Homaridae (or Nephropsidae), true lobsters; Palinuridae, spiny lobsters, or sea crayfish; Scyllaridae, slipper, Spanish, or shovel lobsters; and Polychelidae, deep-sea lobsters. All are marine and benthic (bottom-dwelling), and most are nocturnal. Lobsters scavenge for dead animals but also eat live fish, small mollusks and other bottom-dwelling invertebrates, and seaweed. Some species, especially of true and spiny lobsters, are commercially important to humans as food.

- *Lobsters
- *Nephropsidae,
- *Palinuridae
- *Scyllaridae
- *The European lobster has been found from the Mediterranean Sea to Northern Norway and west to the Shetland Island and western Ireland. It is usually found in shallow waters less than 40 m deep, where it is night active and shelter in burrows during daytime. Their preferred habitat is moderately exposed areas with a complex bottom substrate of a mixture of sand and rocks. The lobster has a wide diet, hunting live prey and scavenging on dead organisms.

*The lobsters come together in pairs only to mate, and are aggressively asocial at other times. A female receives packages of sperms from the male during the copulation and split up afterwards. When copulating, the gonads are undeveloped and need up to a year to develop and spawn ripe eggs. The eggs are unfertilized when spawned and are fertilised when passing the sperm packages in the oviducts. The fertilized eggs are then attached underneath the tail for another 9 to 11 months. European lobsters spawn from 5,000 to 40,000 eggs, dependent of the size of the female.

*Species

- *Homarus gammarus (L. 1958)
- *Palinurus elephas (Fabricus, 1787)
- *Scyllarus arctus (L. 1758)
- *Scyllarides latus (Laterille, 1803)
- *Nephrops norvegicus (Linnaeus, 1758)













