

# Crustacean and Crustacean Culture

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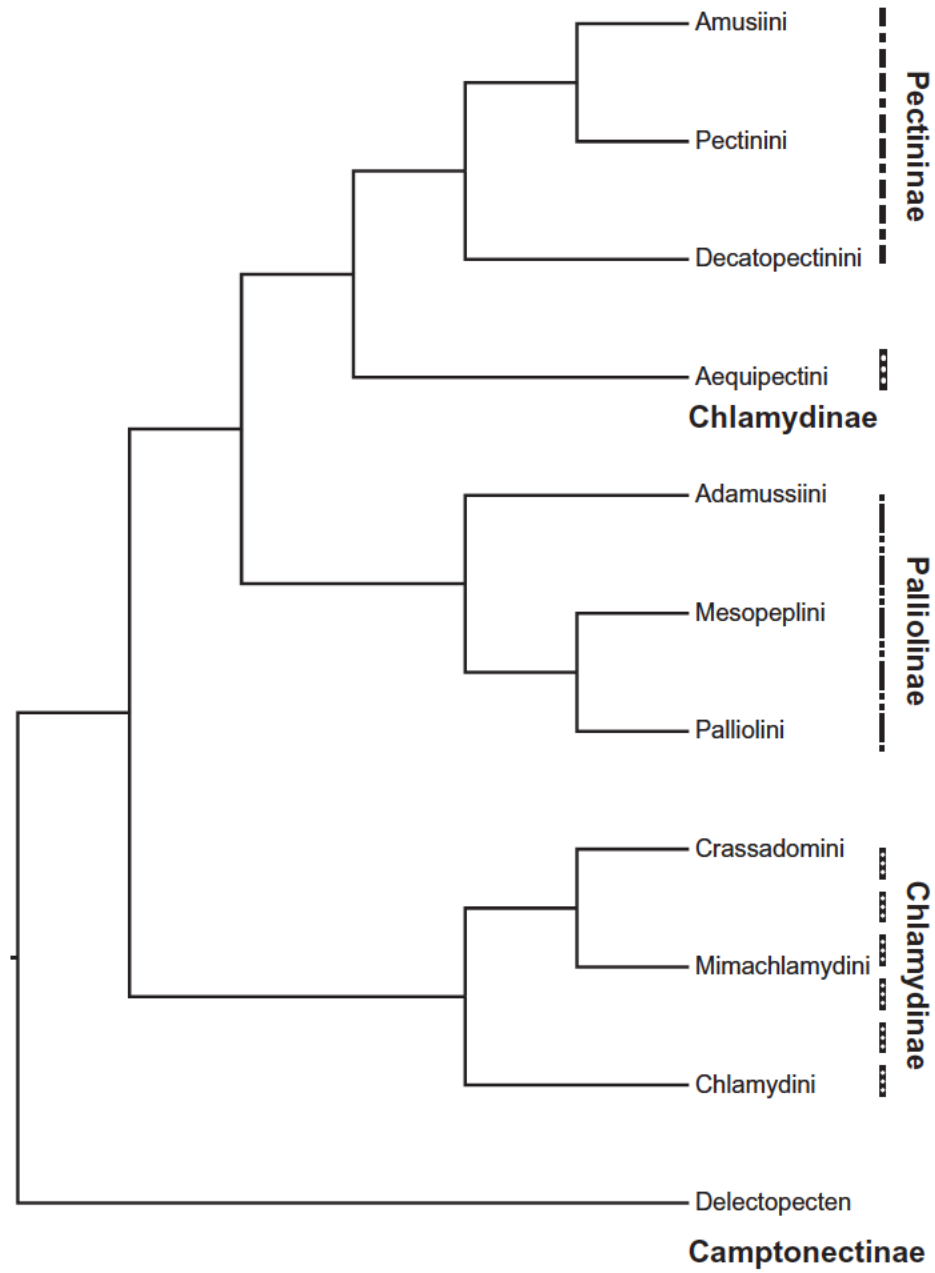
# Scallops

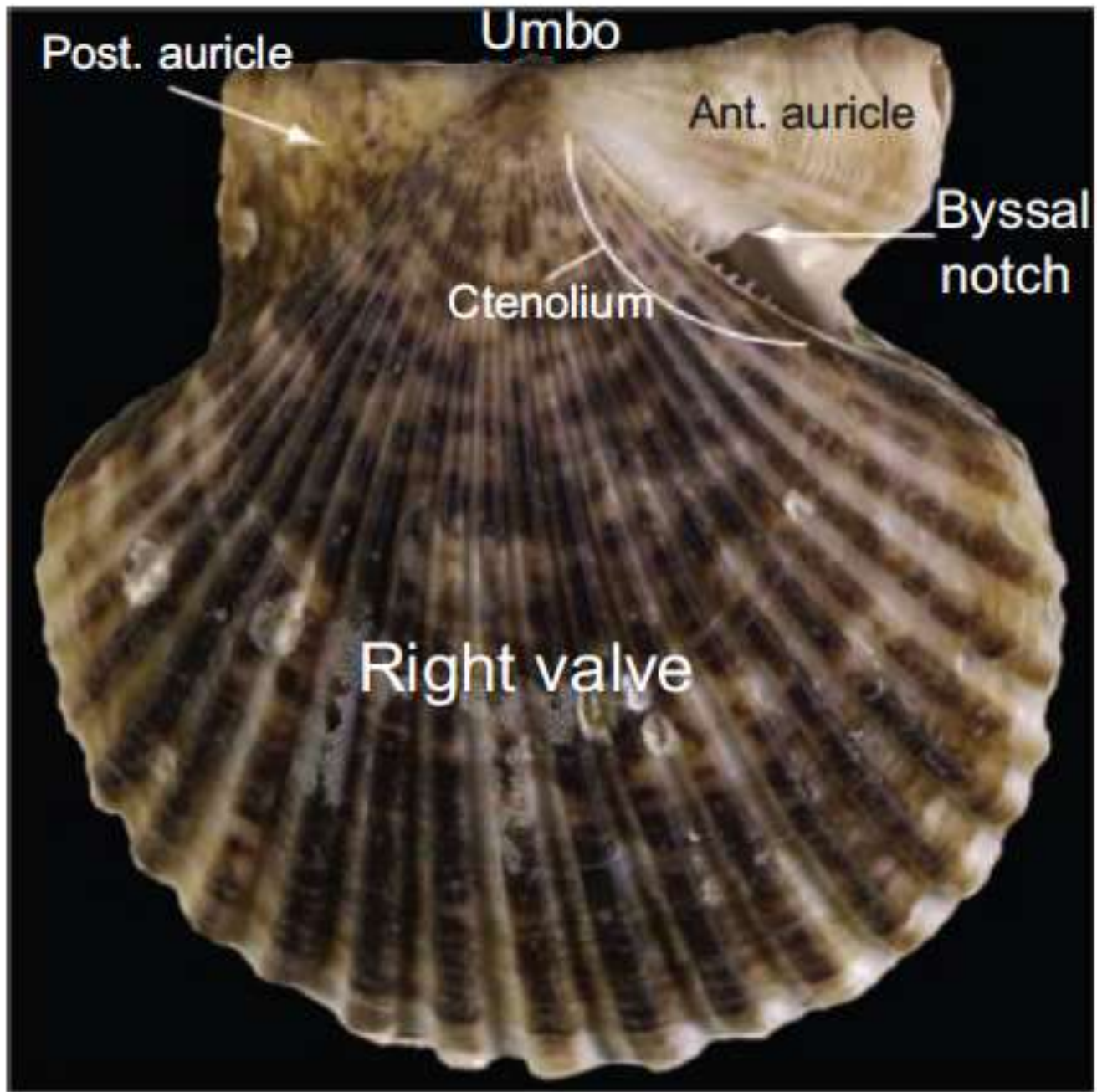


**BIVALVIA**



Scallops more than any other group of bivalves have attracted the interest of naturalists and collectors for centuries. ‘In appearance no other molluscan shells have so pleasing a design and range of colours as pecten shells’ (Cox 1957). In the king scallop *P. maximus*, the left valve is flat and is slightly overlapped by the right one, which is convex. Adults recess in the substrate with the flat valve uppermost. The two valves, which are roughly circular, are held together along the hinge line by a rubbery internal ligament. Typically, there are 15–16 ribs radiating from the hinge.





These alternate with grooves and give the scallop its distinct comb-like appearance. There are two projecting 'ears' or auricles on either side of the umbo; these vary in size and shape and are used, along with other shell characters, to differentiate one species of scallop from the next. There is a large, centrally placed, adductor muscle, a standard seafood commodity that is widely traded and universally available. Distinct annual rings on the shell make ageing of scallops a relatively easy task, compared to mussels and oysters.

# MOLLUSCA

