

***Faxonius limosus***

**System:** Freshwater

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Arthropoda	Malacostraca	Decapoda	Cambaridae

**Common name** Spiny-cheek Crayfish (English)

**Synonym** *Cambarus pealei* ,Girard, 1852  
*Astacus affinis* ,Say, 1817  
*Orconectes limosus* ,(Rafinesque, 1817)  
*Astacus limosus* ,Rafinesque, 1817

**Similar species**

**Summary** Spiny-cheek crayfish (*Faxonius limosus*) was intentionally introduced to Europe from the USA; the primary introduction was to Germany in 1890 and secondary introductions were made to Poland and France. It has now spread to over 20 countries in Europe. The reason for introduction was to replace the economically important noble crayfish, *Astacus astacus*, whose populations had dwindled to crayfish plague. However, spiny-cheek crayfish also acts as a vector for the plague. It has spread naturally through water courses. Other pathways of spread include due to its use as bait and fish food, and accidental introductions as a hitchhiker on crayfish nets.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

**Pathway**

**Principal source:**

**Compiler:** Shyama Pagad (IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group)

**Review:**

**Publication date:**

**ALIEN RANGE**

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| [1] AUSTRIA            | [1] BELARUS        |
| [1] BELGIUM            | [1] BULGARIA       |
| [1] CROATIA            | [1] CZECH REPUBLIC |
| [1] DENMARK            | [1] ESTONIA        |
| [1] FRANCE             | [1] GERMANY        |
| [1] HUNGARY            | [1] ITALY          |
| [1] LATVIA             | [1] LITHUANIA      |
| [1] LUXEMBOURG         | [1] MONTENEGRO     |
| [1] MOROCCO            | [1] NETHERLANDS    |
| [1] POLAND             | [1] ROMANIA        |
| [1] RUSSIAN FEDERATION | [1] SERBIA         |
| [1] SLOVAKIA           | [1] SLOVENIA       |

[1] SPAIN  
[1] UKRAINE

[1] SWITZERLAND  
[1] UNITED KINGDOM

**Red List assessed species 4: EN = 1; VU = 1; DD = 1; LC = 1;**

[Astacus astacus](#) **VU**

[Austropotamobius torrentium](#) **DD**

[Austropotamobius pallipes](#) **EN**

[Pontastacus leptodactylus](#) **LC**

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# GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Faxonius limosus*

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