

## FAO SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

FAMILY: STROMBIDAE

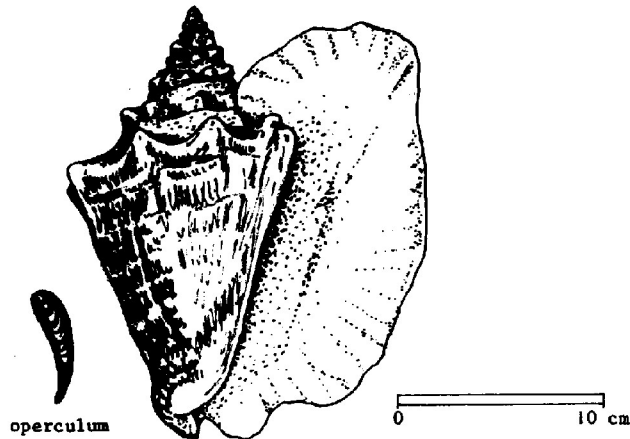
FISHING AREA 31  
(W Cent. Atlantic)*Strombus gigas* Linnaeus, 1758

OTHER SCIENTIFIC NAMES STILL IN USE: None

## VERNACULAR NAMES:

FAO: En - Pink conch  
Fr - Strombe rose  
Sp - Cobo rosado

## NATIONAL:



## DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERS:

Shell large, moderately heavy; outer lip large, flaring, fairly thick, with a U-shaped notch just above the short siphonal canal; spire with numerous short, sharp knobs; last whorl with 2 or 3 fairly large, sometimes triangular, knobs; periostracum fairly thick, smooth, yellowish, flakes off when dry. Operculum horny, brown, sickle-shaped.

Colour: aperture and lips bright shell pink, with borders of yellow; old specimens have a heavy thick lip covered with an aluminum-like, grey glaze; albino shells very rare.

## DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS OF SIMILAR SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA:

*Strombus goliath* of Brazil: larger (over 30 cm), with a tan, not pink, aperture; no knobs on the spire whorls.

*S. costatus*: smaller (18 cm), with a white or greyish aperture; no knobs on the spire whorls.

*S. rarinus*: much smaller (9 cm); a cream-coloured aperture with salmon-pink deep inside; exterior grey with dark purple-brown mottlings).

