

# Crayfish Quiz



***Are you a crayfish expert?***



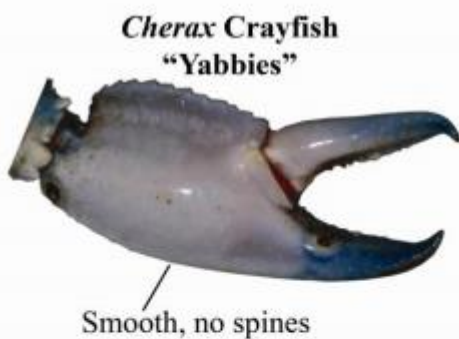
**Q 1**

A yabby is the same thing as a crayfish.

*True or False?*

# False!

Yabbies (*Cherax destructor*) are not native to the Blue Mountains, they come from inland Australia.



There are two spiny crayfish species native to the Blue Mountains: the Giant Spiny Crayfish and the Sydney Crayfish. You can tell them apart from yabbies by the spines on the outside edge of their claws.

Yabbies have been introduced to some parts of the Blue Mountains, including Wentworth Falls Lake, where they pose a threat to the native crayfish species.

## Q2

How long can Giant Spiny Crayfish live?

- A. 3 years
- B. Up to 15 years
- C. Up to 50 years
- D. Over 150 years

## C. Up to 50 years

They can possibly live even longer, we just don't know. They are very slow growing and need to be about nine years old before they breed.



### Q3.

Every year female crayfish hatch over 1000 eggs. Of these, how many are likely to survive to become adults?

A. 800

B. 100

C. 10

D. 1



## D. Only 1 out of 1000!



The rest become food and help nourish the whole creek system. They can be eaten by animals such as turtles, platypus, water rats, water birds, lizards, eels and snakes.

Crayfish play a very important role in the creek ecosystem, so we need to look after them.



## Q4.

Which of the following are threats to crayfish in the Blue Mountains?

- A. Pesticides
- B. Invasive yabbies
- C. Illegal fishing
- D. All of the above

## D. All of the above

In 2012 over 1000 Giant Spiny Crayfish were killed when a pesticide used to prevent termites was spilt into the stormwater system, entering Jamison Creek.

Monitoring shows the crayfish population of Jamison Creek is recovering well, but elsewhere, such as Leura Falls Creek, the population is declining. This is likely to be due to several factors, including pesticides, stormwater impacts, and illegal fishing.



**Q 5.**

**It is illegal to use yabby traps in Blue Mountains waterways.**

*True or False?*

# True



Yabby / opera house traps are banned in public waters of eastern NSW. These nets can cause the drowning of air breathing wildlife, such as native water rats (rakali), platypus and turtles. Illegal fishing poses a threat to the survival of our amazing crayfish

Report illegal fishing to your local fisheries office or Fishers Watch Phoneline on free call 1800 043 536.

Figure 2. Map of yabby/opera house trap closures

