

SCUBA LUV DIVE REPORT "CRITTER OF THE WEEK" (808) 870-2738 " IMPERIAL NUDIBRANCH"



The nudibranch is a gastropod and is a part of the largest moluscan class ,with more than 30,000 living species identified. It has a distinct head, mouth and sensory organs. They have a broad foot used for creeping about. The Imperial Nudibranch was abundant in Hawaii until the 1970's when they almost disappeared. They made a come back in the mid 1990's . Their white bodies, edged with dark purple, are covered with gold spots. The rhinophores are black with white flecks and the gills are white, edged with black. They commonly occur in pairs, one trailing behind the other . They are active during the day and grow to about 2 1/2 "!

DATE OF REPORT: JUNE 14, 2014 WATER TEMP.: 79 DEPTH: 21' PHOTO BY : MATT ONELLION

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