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CLEAN & UNCLEAN FISH by **Rob Montcahn**

There has been a few articles written about clean and unclean fish in the past, but those articles were not an in depth coverage of the hundreds of species that abound in Australian waters.

In recent years many name changes have occurred. They have been changed by the fish co-op to make the fish sell better, example (shark to flake).

**God made three distinct classes of fish.**

**(1)HERBIVORES:-** Like cattle, are a grazing fish with large to medium scales. **All these fish are clean.**

**(2)CARNIVORES:-** They eat smaller fish, and have medium to small scales. Some have no scales, and others have very fine scaly covering like dandruff **Some are clean**

**(3)SCAVENGERS:-** **All are unclean** and eat dead or rotting fish.

Many fish in these modern times have in them mercury and heavy metals, many have cancerous growth, others have a toxin called Ciguaterias that has killed quite a few people.

With the large number of foreign ships coming to our harbours and pumping out their bilges, we are getting many strange creatures that have already devastated large areas of our coastal waters and are affecting our fish life.

Large scaled herbivores do not frequent the harbour areas, most of the others do.

Fish names listed below have been taken from a number of Australian reference books, plus what I have compiled in nearly fifty years of fishing and diving.

Because there are thousands of species and sub- species plus many New Zealand and tropical fish I can only give you a general listing of our popular coastal species.

**Clean are:**

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Amberjack	Drummer	Latchet	Pearl Perch
Barramundi	Emperor	Luderick	Pigfish
Bass	Flathead	Mangrove Jack	Pike
Batf sh	Garfish	Morwong	Rainbow Runner
Bream	Goatfish	Moses Perch	Red Emperor
Carp	Groper	Mullet	Salmon
Cod	Herring	Mulloway	Sampson
Coral Trout	Javalin Fish	Nanygai	Sargent Baker
Dart	Job Fish	Parrot Fish	Snapper
<i>Dhu-fish</i>	Kingfish	Perch	Snook