Gems & Gemology data depository: Expanded localities for cultured pearls, natural pearls, and calcareous concretions.[a]

Country / Area / Body of water	Mollusk	Predominant pearl color	Reference
Cultured and Natural Pearls			
Australia			
New South Wales	*Pinctada maxima* (White-lipped oyster, gold-lipped oyster)	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	Muller (1999), A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Northern Territory—Darwin	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	N. Paspaley (pers. comm., 2000)
Queensland—Cairns	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	Doubilet (1991)
Queensland—Cooktown	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	N. Paspaley (pers. comm., 2000)
Queensland—Thursday Island	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Torres Strait	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	N. Paspaley (pers. comm., 2000)
Western Australia—Broome	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	Muller (1999)
Western Australia—Burrup Peninsula	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	Sheung (1999)
Western Australia—Cygnet Bay, Deep Water Point, Talbot Bay, Willie Creek	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Western Australia—Exmouth Gulf, King Sound, Kuri Bay, Montebello Island, Pender Bay, Roebuck Bay	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	N. Paspaley (pers. comm., 2000)
Western Australia—Shark Bay	*Pinctada albino* (Arafura pearl oyster)	White	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Canada			
British Columbia—Baumfield Marine Station, Burnaby	Abalone: *Haliotis kamtschatkana* (Pinto abalone)	Green to blue, purple, red	Shirai (1994), Fankboner (1995), Wentzell (1998), Koethe and Bell (1999)
China—Freshwater			
Anhui, Jiangxi, Hubei	*Cristaria plicata* (River shell, wrinkle shell), Hyriopsis cumingi (Triangle shell)	White, "cream", yellow, orange, pink, purple, green	Pearl production in China…(1997), A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000), Tao (2000)
Guangdong—Chenghai, Nan Ao, Shantou	*Hyriopsis cumingi*	White, "cream", yellow, orange, pink, purple, green	Prices stable after years…(1998), A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Guangxi	*Hyriopsis cumingi, Hyriopsis schlegi*	White, "cream", yellow, orange, pink, purple, green	Peach (1999), A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000), Scarratt et al. (2000)
Jiangsu—Changzhou	*Hyriopsis cumingi*	White, "cream", yellow, orange, pink, purple, green	Prices stable after years…(1998), A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Jiangsu—Lake Taihu and nearby ponds	*Hyriopsis cumingi*	White, "cream", yellow, orange, pink, purple, green	Sin (1993), Sheung (1999)
Zhejiang—Shaoxing, Zhuji	*Hyriopsis cumingi, Hyriopsis schlegi* (Biwa pearly mussel)	White, "cream", yellow, orange, pink, purple, green	Sheung (1999)
China—Saltwater			
Guangdong—Chenghai	*Pinctada fucata* (Chinese Akoya oyster)	White, "cream," yellow, pink, blue	Chinese Akoya industry... (1999)
Guangdong—Hainan Island	*Pinctada fucata*	White, "cream," yellow, pink, blue	Tao (2000)
Guangxi—Beihai	*Pinctada fucata*	White, "cream," yellow, pink, blue	Akamatsu (1999), Chinese Akoya industry... (1999)
Guangxi—Hepu	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream"	Tao (2000)
Cook Islands[b]	*Pinctada maculata* (Maculated pearl oyster)	Black, gray, blue to green	Buscher (1999)
	Pinctada margaritifera, var. *cumingi* (Black-lipped oyster)	Black, gray, blue to green	Sims and Fassler (1994), Buscher (1999)
	Pinctada maxima	White, "cream," "silver," "golden"	Sims and Fassler (1994)
French Polynesia			
Anuanuraro	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	Federman (1995)
Gambier Islands—Mangareva	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	R. Wan (pers. comm., 1999)
Society Islands—Raiatea, Tahaa	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Tuamotu Archipelago—Ahe	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	Wan (1999)
Tuamotu Archipelago—Aratika	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	Goebel and Dirlam (1989), M. Coeroli (pers. comm., 2000)
Tuamotu Archipelago—Apataki, Arutua, Faaite, Fakarawa, Kauehi, Makemo, Nego Nego, Rangiroa	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Tuamotu Archipelago—Hikueru, Takapoto, Takaroa, Takume	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	R. Wan (pers. comm., 1999)
Tuamotu Archipelago—Kaukura, South Marutea	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	M. Coeroli (pers. comm., 2000)
Tuamotu Archipelago—Manihia	*Pinctada margaritifera*, var. *cumingi*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green	S. Assael (pers. comm., 2000), C. Rosenthal (pers. comm., 2000)
Indonesia			
Flores	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Irian Jaya—Sorong, Wageo	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Maluku—Aru, Ceram	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	Johnson and Koivula (1997d)
Maluku—Bacan, Dobo, Halmahera, Tanimbar, Tual	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)

Country / Area / Body of water	Mollusk	Predominant pearl color	Reference
Nusa Tenggara Barat—Gili Air	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Sulawesi—Banggai, Togian	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Sumatra—Lampung	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Sumbawa	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Timor—Kupang	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Japan—Freshwater			
Lake Biwa	*Hyriopsis schlegeli*	White, "cream," pink, "silver", brown, orange, gray, blue	Shirai (1994)
Lake Kasumiga	*Hyriopsis cumingi–Hyriopsis schlegeli* hybrid	White, "cream," lavender, pink	C. Gregory (pers. comm., 2000)
Japan—Saltwater			
(Area not specified)	Abalone: *Haliotis*	Blue-green, red	Cropp (1997)
Ehime—Uwajima	*Pinctada fucata martensii*	White, "cream," yellow, gray, blue	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Kagoshima; Kumamoto	*Pinctada fucata martensii*	White, "cream," yellow, gray, blue	S. Akamatsu (pers. comm., 1999)
Mie—Ago, Kashikojima, Toba	*Pinctada fucata martensii*	White, "cream," yellow, gray, blue	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Mie—Ise	*Pinctada fucata martensii*	White, "cream," yellow, gray, blue	Akamatsu (1999)
Nagasaki—Goto Shisushima	*Pinctada fucata martensii*	White, "cream," yellow, gray, blue	Akamatsu (1999), A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Nansei Shoto—Amamioshima, Ishigakishima, Okinawa	*Pinctada margaritifera*	Black, gray, brown, blue to green, purple, yellowish green, white	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Nansei Shoto—Amamioshima	*Pinctada maxima*	White, "cream," "golden," "silver"	A. Muller (pers. comm., 2000)
Mexico			
Baja California	*Pteria sterna* (Western winged pearl oyster)	Black, gray, "silver," blue to green	Hurwit (2000)
Baja California—La Paz[b]	*Pinctada mazatlanica* (Panamanian pearl oyster)	Black, gray, "silver," blue to green	Crowningshield (1991), Cariño and Monteforte (1995)
Guyamas	*Pinctada mazatlanica*	Black, gray, "silver," blue to green	M. Goebel (pers. comm., 2000)
Myanmar	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream," "silver"	Tun (1999), Themelis (2000)
New Zealand			
Stewart Island	Abalone: *Haliotis iris* (Paua, iris, or rainbow abalone)	Green to blue, purple, red	Wentzell (1998), McKenzie (1999)
North America			
Pacific Coast	Abalone: *Haliotis rufescens* (Red abalone), *H. fulgens* (Green abalone)	Green to blue, purple, red	Hurwit (1993, 1994), Fankboner (1995), Koethe and Bell (1999)
Philippines			
Mindanao—Davao, Zamboanga	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream"	Shirai (1994)
Palawan; Surigao Strait	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream"	D. Fiske (pers. comm., 1999)
Visayan Islands—Bohol, Cebu, Panay	*Pinctada maxima*	"Golden," white, "cream"	Doumenge (1991), Muller (1999)
South Africa	Abalone: *Haliotis*	Green to blue, purple, red	Fankboner (1995)
United States—Freshwater			
Tennessee—Kentucky Lake, Tennessee River	*Megalonaias nervosa*	White, "gray, "silver," with "rose" or blue overtone	Latendresse (1999)
Texas: San Angelo	*Megalonaias nervosa*	White, "gray, "silver," with "rose" or blue overtone	Kane (1990)
United States—Saltwater			
Hawaii[b]	*Pinctada margaritifera*	Black, gray, "silver," blue to green	Walther (1997)
Vietnam—Freshwater			
Ho Tay	*Cristaria plicata*	White, "cream," pink	Bosshart (1993)
Vietnam—Saltwater	*Pinctada fucata*	White, "cream," yellow, pink	Vietnam produces Akoya (1999)
Calcareous Concretions			
Bahamas	*Strombus gigas* (Conch "pearl")	Pink, yellow, brown, white	Fritsch and Misiorowski (1987)
Bermuda	*Strombus gigas*	Pink, yellow, brown, white	Fritsch and Misiorowski (1987)
China			
South China Sea	*Melo melo* (Melo "pearl" or Indian volute)	"Tan," brown, orange, pink	Shirai (1994), Content (1999), K. Scarratt (pers. comm., 2000)
Cuba	*Strombus gigas*	Pink, yellow, brown, white	Fritsch and Misiorowski (1987)
India	*Melo melo*	"Tan," brown, orange, pink	Shirai (1994)
Indonesia	*Melo melo*	"Tan," brown, orange, pink	Shirai (1994), Content (1999), K. Scarratt (pers. comm., 2000)
Malaysia	*Melo melo*	"Tan," brown, orange, pink	Shirai (1994), Content (1999), K. Scarratt (pers. comm., 2000)
Myanmar	*Melo melo*	"Tan," brown, orange, pink	Content (1999), K. Scarratt (pers. comm., 2000)
United States	*Strombus gigas*	Pink, yellow, brown, white	Shirai (1994)
Vietnam			
Halong Bay[b]	*Melo melo*	"Tan," brown, orange, pink	Jobbins (1992), Scarratt (1992), Content (1999)

[a]This table provides additional information that is not found in table 3 (pp. 326–327) of the Shigley et al. article "Gem Localities of the 1990s," published in the Winter 2000 issue of Gems & Gemology.
[b]Indicates areas that reemerged in the 1990s after declining earlier in the 20th century due to overharvesting and environmental degradation.

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