

Three parallel ridges runnina from blowholes

snout

Bryde's whale (Balaenoptera edeni) Distribution: Almost world wide (see map below and full list of countries in the de-

tailed species account online at: https://wwhandbook.iwc.int/en/species/brydes-

Streamlined body

Adult length: up to 15.5m (female) Adult weight: approximately 20,000kg (female) Newborn: 4m /680kg

Skin may appear mottled with circular scars from cookie Slender, dorsal fin with a Smoky grey body – may cutter sharks or parasites deeply curved trailing edge look brown in some lights to the tip of the V-shaped Tail flukes are black on top and pale underneath

Threats: Entaglement, habitat loss

Habitat: Continental shelf Small schooling fish Diet:

IUCN Conservation status: Data Deficient

Photograph showing the three distinctive almost parallel head -ridges of an inshore Bryde's whale in South Africa. Other species have only one single central ridge. Photo courtesy of Gwenith Penry



Fun Facts

40-70 throat grooves

that extend all the way

to the umbilicus

Bryde's whales are named after Johan Bryde, a Norwegian whaler working in South Africa. The name should be pronounced "Broodah's".

Bryde's whales and sei whales are difficult to distinguish and were often confused at sea and even in whaling records for many years.

Bryde's whale off the coast of Oman. Notice the parasitic fish attached to the base of the dorsal fin.

Small, slender, pointed

flippers - only 1/10th of

body length

Pale underside, may appear

light purple or pink during

activity

Photo courtesy Tim Collins/Environment Society Oman.



As with all baleen whales,

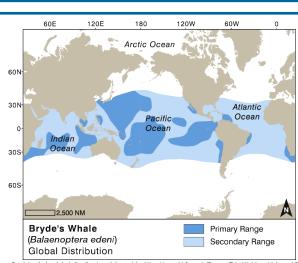
females are generally larg-

er than males, but there is no way to distinguish

them at sea.

Bryde's whale s normally have fairly conspicuous blows. (3-4m high), but can also surface with almost no visible blow when resting or

travelina slowly.



Bryde's whale global distribution. Adapted by Nina Lisowski from Jefferson, T.A., Webber, M.A. and Pitman, R.L. (2015). "Marine Mammals of the World: A Comprehensive Guide to Their Identification," 2nd ed. Elsevier, San Diego, CA. Copyright Elsevier: http://www.elsevier.com

Bryde's whales are also known as 'tropical whales' due to their distribution in tropical and temperate areas between 40° south and 40° North. There are two recognised subspecies of Bryde's whales with partially overlapping ranges: Eden's whale (Balaenoptera edeni edeni), and Bryde's whale (B. e. brydei).