

## 14 foot Oarfish Washes Up in the East Cape



Here is a picture of the 14 foot Oarfish that washed up on the shores of La Capilla in the East Cape. The Oarfish was about 14 feet long, with an estimated weight of 160 pounds. The photo was taken in late May 2007.



The Oarfish is a pelagic species found in all waters of the globe. It is only seen by humans when on the surface or washed up on the beach when sick or dying. Encounters with live Oarfish are extremely rare. They are reported to spawn off the coast of Mexico from July through December.

Living in the world's warmer oceans, it feeds on plankton and is harmless to humans. The longest bony fish in the sea, it can grow up to nine meters long with a bright red crest that runs the entire length of its body.

It is probably the creature that sparked "sea serpent" legends following sightings by ancient mariners.