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Lamprohaminoea ovalis (Pease, 1868) - Italy (Liguria): Capo Noli, 10.XI.2024, 6 m depth

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***Lamprohaminoea ovalis* (Pease, 1868) (Gastropoda Cephalaspidea Haminoeidae).** *Lamprohaminoea ovalis* originally described in the genus *Haminoea* W. Turton et Kingston, 1830 is probably better known by its synonym *Haminoea cyanomarginata* Heller et T.E. Thompson, 1983 described for the Red Sea. However, a few years ago genetic studies on the genus *Lamprohaminoea* Habe, 1952 showed the synonymy between the species *L. cyanomarginata* and *L. ovalis* described for the waters of Tahiti. The family Haminoeidae is present in all the seas of the world and *L. ovalis*, which is part of a small group of species with particular coloration, native to the regions of French Polynesia, has had a rapid expansion of its geographical distribution penetrating the Mediterranean through the Suez Canal since 2001 and today is present on almost all the Italian coasts, as well as Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Libya, Malta, Croatia and Spain. It is easy to recognize it in the water for its strong, and at the same time variable, coloration of the animal. Externally, the coat has round yellow/orange spots and rarely small black dots are present. It often happens to encounter populations of *L. ovalis* with a continuous purple line along all the edges and a white background. Its presence in the Ligurian Sea is the most northern report known to date.

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