

There are : **±44** species in the world

and **4** are in Mexico

Hippocampus

Seahorses

Pacific

H. ingens

H. reidi

H. erectus

H. zoosteræ

Atlantic

Spines on the head and body

Independently swiveling eyes

Two pectoral fins for stabilizing and steering

Vertical swimming

Dorsal fin for propelled motion

Brood pouch

Bony plates instead of scales

Prehensile tail for grasping

Intertidal zone

Seagrass meadows

Mangroves

Macroalgae

Soft corals

Sponges

Reef

They feed on:

Shrimp

Worms

Amphipods

Copepods

Crustacean larvae

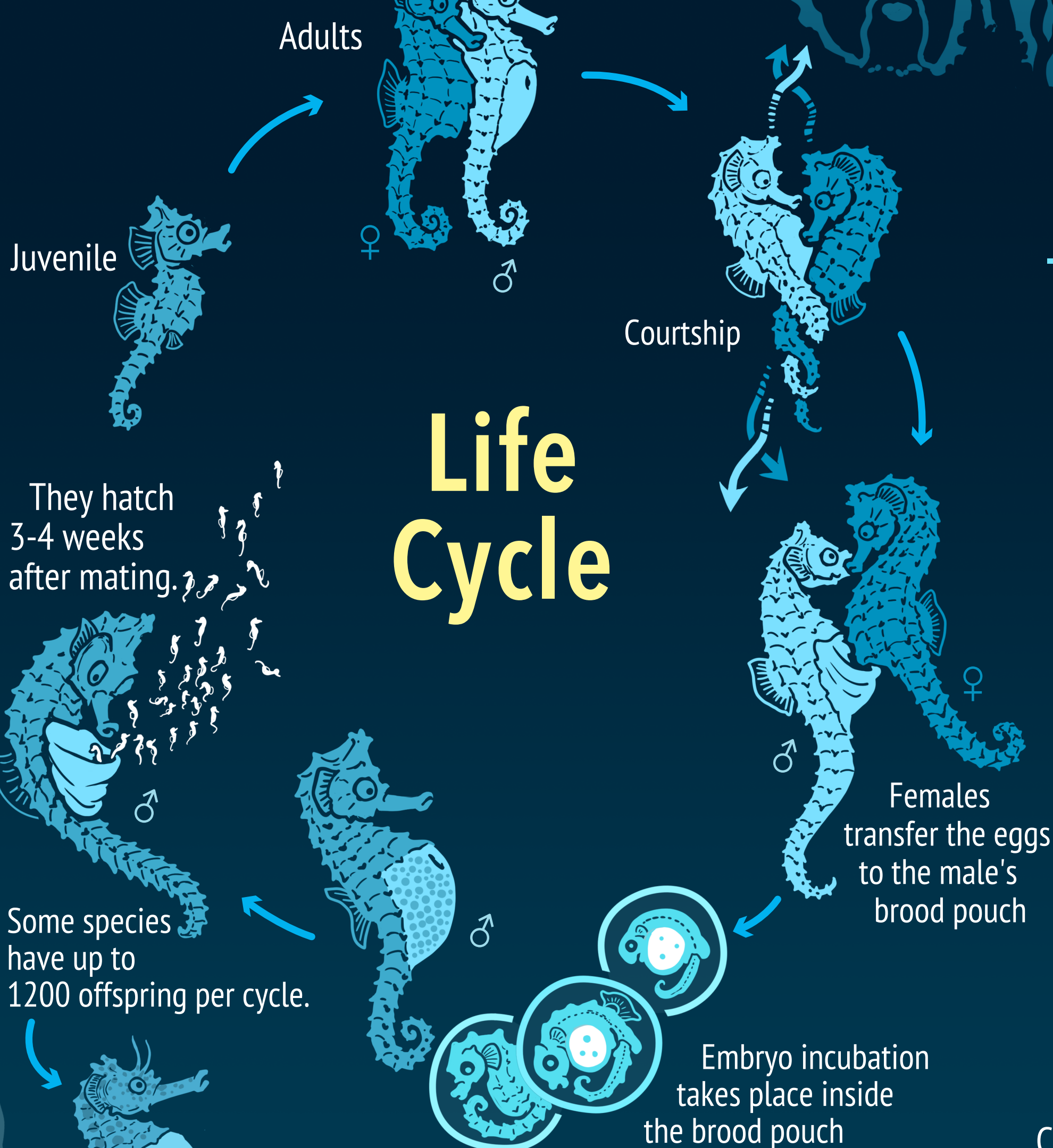
Are prey of:

Fishes

Crabs

The toothless tubular snout sucks prey.

Life Cycle



They hatch 3-4 weeks after mating.

Some species have up to 1200 offspring per cycle.

Live 4 to 5 years

Masters of camouflage:

They have extending skin filaments called "cirrus" and change color to match their background

Cirrus

H. bargibanti

The largest

H. zoosteræ 2.5 cm

H. abdominalis

The smallest
H. japapigu 1.6 cm

35 cm

Threats:

Commercial fishing

Habitat destruction

Increase in water temperature

Curious and souvenirs

As aquarium pets

Garbage

Pollution

Exotic food

Chinese traditional medicine

2 species of seahorse are Endangered
12 are Vulnerable
1 Near Threatened

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