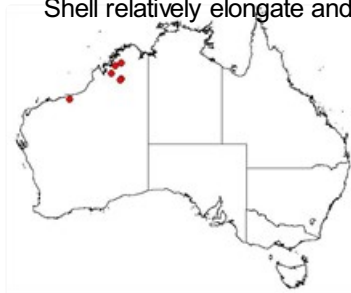




## ***Lortietta froggatti* (Iredale, 1934)**

### **Diagnostic features**

Shell relatively elongate and narrowly hatchet-shaped with the posterior



end flaring, anterior end from umbo relatively short, margin rounded. Posterior end relatively long and almost truncate but rounded. Dark olive brown, bluish internally. Differs from *L. rugata* in being broader in outline. As in all species of the genus, in young specimens the beaks and shell surface lack distinct sculpture.

### **Classification**

*Lortietta froggatti* (Iredale, 1934)

Class Bivalvia

Infraclass Heteroconchia

Cohort Palaeoheterodonta

Order Unionida

Superfamily Unionoidea

Family Hyriidae

Subfamily Velesunioninae

Genus *Lortiella* Iredale, 1934

*Original name: Lortiella froggatti* Iredale, 1934. In Iredale, T. (1934). The freshwater mussels of Australia. *Australian Zoologist* 8: 57-78, plts 3-6.

*Type locality:* Lennard River, Western Australia.

## State of taxonomy

The last major taxonomic revision of Australian freshwater mussels was by McMichael and Hiscock (1958).

Based on the available molecular results, Walker et al. (2014) pointed out that a reassessment of Australian hyriids is needed.

## Biology and ecology

Shallow burrower in sand in streams and rivers. Suspension feeder. Larvae (glochidia) are brooded in the marsupia of the gills of females and, when released, to become parasitic on fish gills or fins where they presumably undergo metamorphosis before dropping to the sediment as free-living juvenile mussels.

## Distribution

Lennard and Fitzroy Rivers of the Kimberley region of Western Australia and the De Grey River east of Port Hedland in the Pilbara region.

## Further reading

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