



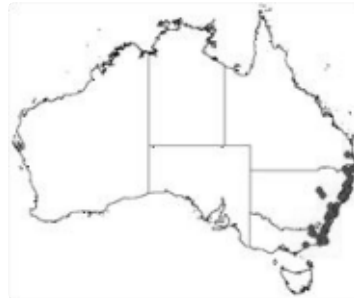
## *Hyridella depressa* (Lamarck, 1819)

### Diagnostic features

This species is more elongate (maximum height relative to maximum length about 50%) than the other species of *Hyridella*, and the postero-dorsal margin is angled and the dorsal margin anterior to the beaks slopes away markedly while it is flatter in the other species. The beak sculpture is fine, as in *H. drapeta*.



*Hyridella (Hyridella) depressa* (adult size approximately 55-75 mm)  
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Distribution of *Hyridella (Hyridella) depressa*.  
(C:/tmp/Mollucs/Images/hyridella\_hyridella\_depressa/hyridella\_depressa.jpg)

### Classification

*Hyridella depressa* (Lamarck, 1819)

**Common name:** Freshwater mussel

*Class* Bivalvia

*Subclass* Heteroconchia

*Superorder* Palaeoheterodonta

Order Unionida

*Superfamily* Unionoidea

*Family* Hyriidae

*Subfamily:* Hyriinae

*Genus* Hyridella Swainson, 1840

**Original binominal:** *Unio depressa* Lamarck, 1819. Lamarck, J.B.P.A. (1819). *Histoire Naturelle des Animaux sans Vertèbres*. Paris : J.B.P. Lamarck Vol. 6 (1) 2nd Edn 343 pp.

**Type locality:** Nepean River, near Sydney, New South Wales.

**Synonyms:** *Propehyridella nepeanensis novata* Iredale, 1943; *Unio mutabilis* Lea, 1859; *Unio paramattensis* Lea, 1862. *Rugoshyria depressa monticola* Iredale, 1934; *Rugoshyria depressa vicinalis* Iredale, 1934; *Rugoshyria depressa bega* Iredale, 1943; *Rugoshyria depressa lowanna* Iredale, 1943.

### 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 re-assessment of Australian hyriids is needed.

## Biology and ecology

Shallow burrower in silty sand/mud in streams and rivers, including small mountain streams in flowing water. Suspension feeder. Larvae are brooded in the gills and are parasitic on fish. It is the most common species in coastal rivers and streams (except for Hunter and Shoalhaven Rivers) and does not occur in billabongs.

Additional information on the biology and ecology of members of this family can be found in Fauna of Australia, vol. 5A, p. 296-298.

## Distribution

Coastal rivers and streams of coastal southeast Queensland, New South Wales (although absent from the Hunter and Shoalhaven Rivers) and eastern Victoria and in most areas in this range is the most common freshwater mussel (H. Jones, pers. comm.).

## Further reading

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