



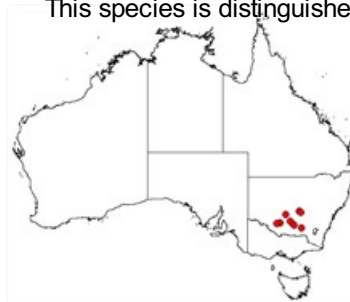
Alathyria condola Iredale, 1943

Diagnostic features

This species is distinguished by its heavy, subcircular and swollen



Alathyria condola (adult size 90-200 mm)



Distribution of *Alathyria condola*.

(MHI near 65%) shell; length to about 200 mm; dorsal posterior end not winged, usually excavated posterior to the beaks; hinge teeth strong.

Classification

Alathyria condola Iredale, 1943

Common name: Freshwater mussel

Class Bivalvia

Infraclass Heteroconchia

Cohort Palaeoheterodonta

Order Unionida

Superfamily Unionoidea

Family Hyriidae

Subfamily Velesunioninae

Genus *Alathyria* Iredale, 1934

Original name: Alathyria condola Iredale, 1943. In Iredale, T. (1943). Guide to the freshwater shells of New South Wales. *Australian Naturalist* 11: 85-95.

Type locality: Murrumbidgee River, Narrandera, New South Wales.

State of taxonomy

The last major taxonomic revision of Australian freshwater mussels was conducted by McMichael & Hiscock (1958). Based on recent molecular results, Walker et al. (2014) suggested that a reassessment of Australian hyriids is needed.

Biology and ecology

Shallow burrower in sediments of rivers, creeks, and reservoirs (usually in flowing water). Suspension feeder. The life cycle of this species has not been reported, but presumably larvae (glochidia) are brooded in marsupia in the gills of the female and, when released, attach to fish gills or fins where they undergo metamorphosis before detaching from the fish and dropping to the sediment as free-living juveniles.

Distribution

Lachlan, Macquarie and Murrumbidgee Rivers, New South Wales. There is unconfirmed evidence that the species has spread toward the Murray River through the channels of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

Further reading

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To cite this resource: **Ponder, W. F., Hallan, A., Shea, M. E., Clark, S. A., Richards, K., Klunzinger, M. W., and Kessner, V. 2023. Australian Freshwater Molluscs. Revision 2.**

https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/freshwater_molluscs/

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