



Amerianna Strand, 1928

Disclaimer

This genus is in need of revision, and the species concepts we have used have not been rigorously tested. This situation can only be resolved by additional molecular and morphological studies involving comprehensive sampling.

Diagnostic features

Members of this genus have a sinistral, cylindrical carinate shell with a flat to low spire. The last whorl is strongly keeled, or with rounded shoulders. The aperture is almost as long as the shell, angular posteriorly, narrowly curved anteriorly, and there is a slight to distinct columellar fold.

The shell surface is usually smooth; some specimens, especially juveniles, possess spiral rows of periostracal hairs. The copulatory organ is an unbranched (uniramous), pendant penis with a terminal or lateral pore; the bursa copulatrix is elongate. There are three ridges on the roof of pulmonary cavity and a rectal ridge (Walker 1988).

Classification

Amerianna Strand, 1928

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Heterobranchia

Megaorder Hygrophila

Order Lymnaeida

Superfamily Planorboidea

Family Planorbidae

Subfamily: Miratestinae

Genus *Amerianna* Strand, 1928

Type species: Physa (America) carinata H. Adams, 1861 (= *Amerianna carinata* (H. Adams, 1861))

Original reference: Adams, H. (1861). Descriptions of a new genus and some new species of the shells from the collection of Hugh Cuming, Esq. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1861: 143-145.

Type locality: Boyne River, Queensland.

Synonyms: *Ameria* H. Adams, 1861 (not *Ameria* Walker, 1854); *Ameriella* Cotton, 1943.

State of taxonomy

The species of *Amerianna* require taxonomic revision - the classification presented here is modified from that presented in earlier versions of this key, but is still based on shells alone.

Biology and ecology

On water weeds, wood, and similar substrates, in ponds and billabongs. Feeds on algae and detritus. Egg mass a jelly strip containing many small eggs. Development direct.

Distribution

Northern regions of Australian mainland, New Guinea, Moluccas, Philippines.

Introduced into Java, Thailand, and Nigeria. The number of species and their distribution is uncertain.

Notes

Relatively small to medium-sized shells with a raised (stepped), flat or depressed spire. The top of the whorls are angled to keeled.

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Further reading

Albrecht, C., Kuhn, K. & Streit, B. (2007). A molecular phylogeny of Planorbioidea (Gastropoda, Pulmonata): insights from enhanced taxon sampling. *Zoologica Scripta* 36: 27-39.

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Walker, J. C. (1988). Classification of Australian buliniform planorbids (Mollusca: Pulmonata). *Records of the Australian Museum* 40: 61-89.

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

To contact the authors for comment or suggestions, please email: fwmolusc@gmail.com

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