



Austropyrgus centralia (Ponder, Colgan, Terzis, Clark & Miller, 1996)



Austropyrgus centralia (adult size 1.4-2.2 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus centralia*.



Aerial view of the northern part of Dalhousie Springs.
Photo: SA Dept of Lands.

Diagnostic features

This species is distinguished from the similar and co-occurring *Caldicochlea harrisi* by its small, conical shell and more evenly conical spire outline. *A. centralia* also differs from both species of *Caldicochlea* in its prominent opercular pegs, multiple (not two) basal denticles on the central teeth, as well as considerable differences in the female genital system and penial morphology.

Classification

Austropyrgus centralia (Ponder, Colgan, Terzis, Clark & Miller, 1996)

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

Original name: Fluvidona centralia Ponder, Colgan, Terzis, Clark & Miller, 1996. In Ponder, W. F., Colgan, D. J., Terzis, T., Clark, S. A and Miller, A. C. (1996). Three new morphologically and genetically determined species of hydrobiid gastropods from Dalhousie Springs, northern South Australia, with the description of a new genus. *Molluscan Research* 17: 49–106.

Type locality: Spring Cd11, Dalhousie Springs, South Australia.

Biology and ecology

Found in a few small (cold) isolated seeps and in shallow lower cold outflows distant from the warm to hot water sources of large springs.

Distribution

Dalhousie Springs, northern South Australia.

Notes

This is one of two species of *Austropyrgus* occurring far outside the range of the majority of species, being found in Dalhousie Springs in the far north of South Australia, while the other (*A. bunyaensis*) is found in southern Queensland.

Most species of *Austropyrgus* are geographically isolated and have restricted ranges, and this one is no exception.

Further reading

Clark, S. A., Miller, A. C. & Ponder, W. F. (2003). Revision of the snail genus *Austropyrgus* (Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae): a morphostatic radiation of freshwater gastropods in southeastern Australia. *Records of the Australian Museum* 28: 1–109.

Colgan, D. J. & Ponder, W. F. (2000). Incipient speciation in aquatic snails in an arid-zone spring complex. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 71: 625–641.

Perez, K. E., Ponder, W. F., Colgan, D. J., Clark, S. A. & Lydeard, C. (2005). Molecular phylogeny and biogeography of spring-associated hydrobiid snails of the Great Artesian Basin, Australia. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 34: 545–556.

Ponder, W. F., Colgan, D. J., Terzis, T., Clark, S. A. & Miller, A. C. (1996). Three new morphologically and genetically determined species of hydrobiid gastropods from Dalhousie Springs, northern South Australia, with the description of a new genus. *Molluscan Research* 17: 49–109.

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/

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

Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved. The Australian Museum.

