



***Austropyrgus colensis* Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003**



Austropyrgus colensis (adult size 1.8-2.6 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus colensis*.

Diagnostic features

This species belongs to the *Austropyrgus cooma* group, whose members are characterised by generally pupiform to conical, small to medium-sized shells, where the last whorl and base are evenly convex. *A. colensis* differs from other members of the group in the following combination of characters: shell small to medium in size, broad, with convex spire outline and convex whorls; heavily thickened outer lip; pallial vas deferens straight at prostate gland; ovary lobulate. It is most similar to *A. viridarium*.

Classification

Austropyrgus colensis Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

Original name: *Austropyrgus colensis* Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003. In 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* Supplement 28: 1–109.

Type locality: Tributary of Mt Cole Creek at Victoria Mills Scenic Forest, Mt Cole State Forest, Victoria.

Biology and ecology

In streams on water weeds, hard substrata (rocks etc.) and crawling on litter and sediment. Can be locally abundant. Assumed to feed by scraping bacteria and microalgae. Lay solitary capsules containing a single egg. Direct development.

Distribution

This species is found in a few small streams on Mt Cole, western Victoria.

Notes

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.

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

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

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