



## ***Austropyrgus elongatus* (May, 1921)**

### **Diagnostic features**

Members of the *Austropyrgus elongatus* group are characterised by



*Austropyrgus elongatus* (adult size 2.3-3.4 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus elongatus*.

medium-sized shells with very elongate spires, a straight outline, and convex whorls.

*Austropyrgus elongatus* differs from the only other species of this group (the W Victorian *Austropyrgus eumekes*) in the following combination of characters: shell medium in size, spire very elongated, more convex whorls; 4 pairs of basal cusps on central teeth; ctenidium with short efferent branchial blood vessel connecting it to pericardium.

This species is found in sympatry with *A. colludens*, from which it is distinguished by its more elongate spire.

### **Classification**

*Austropyrgus elongatus* (May, 1921)

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

*Original name: Potamopyrgus elongatus* May, 1921. In May, W. L. (1921). A revised census of the Tasmanian fluviatile Mollusca. *Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania* 1920: 65–75.

*Type locality:* Aspley River, south of Bicheno, eastern Tasmania.

## 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 currently only known from a single location on the Aspley River, south of Bicheno, eastern Tasmania.

## 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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