



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



Austropyrgus gordonensis (adult size 2-3 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus gordonensis*.

Diagnostic features

This species belongs to the *Austropyrgus sparsus* group, whose members are characterised by the following shell features: small to medium-sized shells, conical, with convex to slightly convex whorls. In females, the coiled oviduct is of an inverted U-shape or with two or more bends, loops or twists.

Austropyrgus gordonensis differs from other members of the group in the following combination of characters: shell small to medium in size, spire elongate to average in length; spire outline straight, anus near mantle edge; pallial vas deferens strongly undulating from prostate gland to penis; penis with pigmentation absent or on medial section only.

Austropyrgus gordonensis can be distinguished from the co-occurring *A. salvus* (in the upper Gordon and Franklin Rivers), by its larger, narrower shell.

Classification

Austropyrgus gordonensis Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

Original name: *Austropyrgus gordonensis* 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 Gordon River, on western side, slightly upstream of Snag Point, Tasmania.

Biology and ecology

In streams and springs 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 known from a number of small streams and rivers in southwestern Tasmania. Most of the known localities occur along the Gordon River and some of its tributaries below its junction with the Franklin River.

Notes

Although most species of *Austropyrgus* are geographically isolated and have restricted ranges, a few such as *A. gordonensis* have wider ranges.

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/

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