



## *Austropyrgus grampianensis* (Gabriel, 1939)



*Austropyrgus grampianensis* (adult size 1.6-2.1 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus grampianensis*.



Jimmy Creek, Grampians, habitat for *Austropyrgus grampianensis*. Photo C. Lydeard.

### 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. grampianensis* differs from other members of the group in the following combination of characters: shell small, with convex spire outline and convex whorls; aperture slightly disjunct; seminal receptacle at anterior edge of bursa copulatrix.

### Classification

*Austropyrgus grampianensis* (Gabriel, 1939)

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

*Original name: Bythinella grampianensis* Gabriel, 1939. In Gabriel, C. J. (1939). The freshwater Mollusca of Victoria. *Memoirs of the National Museum of Victoria* 11: 100–139.

*Type locality:* Near Silverband Falls, Grampians, 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 currently known from two small creeks in The Grampians, 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.

Gabriel, C. J. (1939). The freshwater Mollusca of Victoria. *Memoirs of the National Museum of Victoria* 11: 100-139.

Smith, B. J. & Kershaw, R. C. (1979). *Field guide to the non-marine Molluscs of South-eastern Australia*. Canberra, A.N.U. Press.

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