



Austropyrgus latus Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003



Austropyrgus latus (adult size up to 3.3 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus latus*.



Ewens Ponds, a sinkhole south of Mt Gambier, where both *Austropyrgus latus* and *A. fonscultus* occur. Photo C. Lydeard.



Genelg River at Dartmore, a locality where *Austropyrgus genelgensis* and *A. latus* occur. Photo C. Lydeard.

Diagnostic features

This species belongs to the *Austropyrgus rectus* group, with members characterised by small to medium-sized, narrow to broad shells, with spires of average length to very elongate, a straight outline and typically flattened to slightly convex whorls. The coiled oviduct has one or more bends, loops or twists.

Austropyrgus latus differs from the other members of this group in the following combination of characters: shell broad, with straight spire outline and flattened whorls; pallial vas deferens strongly undulating at base of penis;

penis unpigmented; female genital opening of medium length and overlapping anterior end of capsule gland.

Classification

Austropyrgus latus Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

Original name: *Austropyrgus latus* 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: Surrey River at Princes Hwy, south of Heywood, 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 widespread throughout the streams and rivers of south-eastern South Australia and western Victoria.

Notes

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