



Austropyrgus macaulayi Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003



Austropyrgus macaulayi (adult size 2.2-3.4 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus macaulayi*.

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 macaulayi differs from other members of the group in the following combination of characters: shell small to medium in size, with straight spire outline, outer lip heavily thickened; renal gland about $\frac{1}{4}$ in pallial roof, circular; coiled oviduct with initial U orientated longitudinally backwards.

This species is not found in sympatry with any other species of *Austropyrgus*. However, it is commonly found with the introduced tateid *Potamopyrgus antipodarum* from which it differs in a number of characters including its smaller size, thickened aperture and pegs on the inner side of the operculum.

Classification

Austropyrgus macaulayi Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

Original name: *Austropyrgus macaulayi* 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: Dunns Creek at Bittern-Dromana Road, Red Hill, south of Frankston, 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 small streams on the eastern side of Port Phillip Bay, 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.

To cite this resource: **Ponder, W. F., Hallan, A., Shea, M. E., Clark, S. A., Richards, K., Klunzinger, M. W., and Kessner, V. 2023. Australian Freshwater Molluscs. Revision 2.**

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

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

Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved. The Australian Museum.

