



## *Austropyrgus procerus* Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003



*Austropyrgus procerus* (adult size 2.6-3.3 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus procerus*.

### 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 procerus* differs from the other members of this group in the following combination of characters: shell narrow, with elongated spire; large columellar muscle; osphradium near middle of ctenidium; pallial vas deferens strongly undulating or longitudinally S-shaped at prostate.

### Classification

*Austropyrgus procerus* Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

*Original name:* *Austropyrgus procerus* 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:* Blizzards Creek at Youngs Road, south of Irishtown (in seeping gully), 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 known from a number of small streams and rivers of north-western Tasmania.

## Notes

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