



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



*Austropyrgus solitarius* (adult size 1.4-1.9 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus solitarius*.



Kimberley Warm Spring. Photo K. Richards.

### 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. solitarius* has a distinctive expanding-conical shell that, with its reflected outer lip and small size, makes it separable from other members of the genus.

*Austropyrgus solitarius* and *A. nanus* are the only two species of this genus known from Tasmanian thermal springs.

### Classification

*Austropyrgus solitarius* Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

*Original name:* *Austropyrgus solitarius* 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:* Kimberley Warm Springs, Tasmania.

## Biology and ecology

Occurs in a single thermal spring.

## Distribution

This species is currently known from a single thermal spring (25°C) from central northern Tasmania (Fig. 18) and is the only tateid present. This species and *A. nanus* are the only two species of the genus to be recorded from this habitat in Tasmania.

## 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.

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