



Austropyrgus tateiformis Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003



Austropyrgus tateiformis (adult size 2.8-3.7 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus tateiformis*.



Tributary of Blackwater Rivulet. Habitat of *A. tateiformis* and several other species of *Austropyrgus* and *Beddomeia*. Photo: K. Richards.

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 tateiformis differs from the other members of this group in the following combination of characters: shell narrow, with very elongate spire; ctenidium with short efferent branchial blood vessel joining pericardium; pallial vas deferens with overlying loops/coils at prostate; penis unpigmented.

This species is found in sympatry with *A. conicus* and *A. smithii*, from which it can be distinguished by its larger, taller (narrower) shell with straight-sided whorls.

Classification

Austropyrgus tateiformis Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

Original name: *Austropyrgus tateiformis* 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: Tributary of Blackwater Rivulet, at Blackwater Road, 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 few locations in north-western 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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https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/freshwater_molluscs/

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