



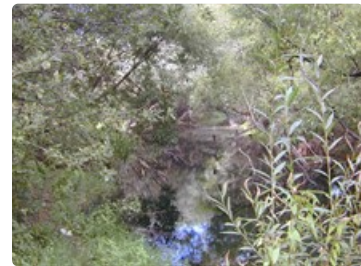
Austropyrgus vulgaris Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003



Austropyrgus vulgaris (adult size 2.3-3.1 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus vulgaris*.



Fitzroy River where *Austropyrgus vulgaris* 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 vulgaris differs from the other members of this group in the following combination of characters: shell small to medium in size, with straight spire outline and convex whorls; central teeth with 3 pairs of basal cusps; penis attached well to right side of head; bursal duct parallel sided.

This species is found in sympatry with four species of *Austropyrgus* (*A. latus*, *A. goliathus*, *A. eumekes* and *A. sinuatus*) throughout its currently recognised range. Its shell can be separated from *A. latus* and *A. goliathus* by its smaller size and slightly more rounded whorls, from that of *A. eumekes* by its much shorter spire and broader shape and from *A. sinuatus* by its lack of a curved outer lip.

Classification

Austropyrgus vulgaris Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

Original name: *Austropyrgus vulgaris* 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: Mt Emu Creek, just below weir, at Ayrford Road, south of Terang, 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 small streams and rivers of western Victoria.

Notes

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