



## ***Beddomeia* Petterd, 1889**

### **Diagnostic features**

Small (between about 2.0 mm and 6.3 mm in maximum length), subpupiform to conic to depressed trochiform. Periostracum thin to well developed, colourless to brown. Teleoconch whorls convex, sculpture of faint growth lines; periphery of last whorl usually evenly rounded, sometimes subangled, rarely sharply angled. Aperture ovate, inner lip thin and narrow to thick and broad, columellar swelling absent or present. Outer lip thin, prosocline (rarely orthocline), never opisthocline. Umbilicus wide to small, or closed and represented by chink.

Operculum oval, flat, thin, transparent pale yellow, simple, with eccentric nucleus. Outer surface with simple growth lines.

*Beddomeia* is mainly distinguished from other tateid genera, including other members of the *Beddomeia* group, on anatomical characters with the main distinguishing feature being the bursa copulatrix in the female genital system being globular and of medium size, and not extending to the posterior pallial wall. The bursal duct arises from the anterior edge of the bursa. Unlike typical tateids, some species of *Beddomeia* have a posterior pallial tentacle.

### **Classification**

***Beddomeia*** Petterd, 1889

*Class* Gastropoda

*Infraclass* Caenogastropoda

*Order* Littorinida

*Suborder* Rissoidina

*Superfamily* Truncatelloidea

*Family* Tateidae

*Genus* *Beddomeia* Petterd, 1889

*Type species: Tasmaniella launcestonensis* (Johnston, 1879) [= *Amnicola launcestonensis*] by subsequent designation (Cotton 1942).

*Original reference:* Petterd, W. F. (1889). Contributions for a systematic catalogue of the aquatic shells of Tasmania. *Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania* 1888: 60-83.

*Type locality:* Still water, though in communication with the South Esk, in caverns, cataract, Launceston, Tasmania.

*Synonyms:* *Brazieria* Petterd, 1889; *Petterdiana* Brazier, 1896; *Tasmaniella* Ancey, 1898; *Pseudampullaria* Ancey, 1898; *Petterdiella* Pilsbry, 1900; *Beddomena* Iredale, 1943; *Valvatasma* Iredale, 1943

## State of taxonomy

We follow Ponder *et al.* (1993) in this resource. There are several more *Beddomeia* taxa in Tasmania than are currently recognised by Ponder *et al.* (1993).

## Biology and ecology

In rivers, lakes, seeps and streams under stable rocks in strong flow or in still water under leaves and sedges, on roots, macrophytes, moss, and on submerged logs in side channels and pools. Egg capsules ovoid, dome-shaped, with broad attachment base, covered with minute, mainly white sand grains and other fragments; 0.67-1.33 mm in maximum length; containing a single egg. Development is direct.

## Distribution

Northern Tasmania, with two taxa doubtfully included in the genus in south-western Tasmania.

## Notes

All species of *Beddomeia* are geographically isolated and have restricted ranges.

At least one species (*Beddomeia tumida*) is possibly extinct due to flooding of its habitat for a hydroelectric project. Several other species have very small ranges and some of those are threatened or vulnerable.

Recent work by Wilke *et al.* (2013) revealed that this genus, like *Phrantela* and *Victodrobia*, are not closely related to other Tateidae.

## Further reading

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