



Beddomeia krybetes Ponder & Clark, 1993



Beddomeia krybetes (adult size 2-2.9 mm)



Distribution of *Beddomeia krybetes*.

Diagnostic features

This species is a member of the *B. launcestonensis* group which are of medium size for the genus (2-4.2 mm in length), and rather globular. Their penis is simple. Found in the mid-north and north-eastern parts of Tasmania.

This species differs from other members of this group in its narrower radula, and a male genital system with banana-shaped prostate gland and penis with short, slightly swollen distal end (similar, but not swollen, in *B. kershawi*).

Classification

Beddomeia krybetes Ponder & Clark, 1993

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Beddomeia* Petterd, 1889

Original name: Beddomeia krybetes Ponder & Clark, 1993. In Ponder, W.F., Clark, G.A., Miller, A.C. & Toluzzi, A. (1993). On a major radiation of freshwater snails in Tasmania and eastern Victoria: a preliminary overview of the *Beddomeia* group (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae). *Invertebrate Taxonomy* 7: 501-750.

Type locality: 5 km E of Royal George, on Merrywood Rd, Tasmania.

Biology and ecology

Under large stones and rock slabs in deeper parts of the river. The white egg capsules are laid on the undersides of rocks and are like those of other species of *Beddomeia* - dome-shaped, with broad attachment base, covered with minute, mainly white sand grains and other fragments and containing a single egg. Development direct.

Distribution

This species is only known from two localities in the St Pauls River, a tributary of the South Esk River, one in the township and the second about 5 km upstream. Searches downstream and in tributaries have failed to find it (Karen Richards, pers. comm.). The species occurs with two species of *Austropyrgus*.

Notes

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

This species is on the Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 as Vulnerable.

Further reading

Ponder, W. F., Clark, G. A., Miller, A. C. & Toluzzi, A. (1993). On a major radiation of freshwater snails in Tasmania and eastern Victoria: a preliminary overview of the *Beddomeia* group (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae). *Invertebrate Taxonomy* 7: 501-750.

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https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/freshwater_molluscs/

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