



***Cipangopaludina chinensis* (J. E. Gray, 1833)**



Cipangopaludina chinensis (adult size 40-64 mm)

Diagnostic features

Relatively large, globose, smooth, conical shell with a small umbilicus. Olive green, greenish brown or reddish brown. It is larger in size compared to the similar *Heterogen japonica*, and has more rounded whorls.

Classification

Cipangopaludina chinensis (J. E. Gray, 1833)

Common name: Chinese apple snail, Chinese mystery snail.

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Informal group Architaenioglossa

Order Viviparida

Superfamily Viviparioidea

Family Viviparidae

Subfamily: Bellamyinae

Genus *Cipangopaludina* Hannibal, 1912 (*Type species:* *Paludina malleata* Reeve, 1863). Synonym: *Lecythoconcha* Annandale 1920.

Original name: *Paludina chinensis* Gray, 1833. In Gray, J.E. in Griffith, E. & Pidgeon, E. 1833(-1834). The Mollusca and Radiata. In *The animal kingdom*. Vol. 12. Ed. Cuvier, G. L. C. F. D., London: Whittaker and Co.

Type locality: China.

Synonyms: *Paludina malleata* Reeve, 1863; *Vivipara wingatei* Smith, 1881.

Biology and ecology

Cipangopaludina chinensis is a filter feeder and detritivore, but also browses on microalgae. Prefers freshwater lakes with soft, muddy or silty bottoms, reservoirs, slow-moving freshwater rivers, streams, paddy fields, and ponds.

Distribution

Eastern Russia to China and Japan and South East Asia. Introduced into North America and the Netherlands.

Notes

This snail has not established in Australia, but is included here as a potential invader. It is consumed as food in Asia, and is a host of the human intestinal fluke *Echinostoma cinetorchis*.

Further reading

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