



***Cipangopaludina japonica* (Martens, 1861)**



Cipangopaludina japonica (adult size up to 50 mm)

Diagnostic features

This species is smaller in size than the similar *Cipangopaludina chinensis* and has less rounded whorls. This species can be distinguished from the other introduced viviparid *Sinotaia guangdongensis* (Kobelt, 1906) by the lack of dark spiral ribs.

Classification

Cipangopaludina japonica (Martens, 1861)

Common name: Japanese 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 japonica* Martens, 1861. In Martens, C. A. von 1861. Malakologische Mittheilungen. *Malakozoologische Blätter* 7, 225-228.

Type locality: Japan

State of taxonomy

This species has sometimes been included in the genus *Heterogen* Annandale, 1921.

Biology and ecology

Found crawling on rocks, water plants and on sediment in pond bottoms. It is a filter feeder. Females are slightly larger than males when mature and live up to 8 years and carry 10–120 young. Young are generally born after water temperature rises to 15°C or more (Jokinen 1992).

The Japanese mystery snail is a host to the nematode parasite *Angiostrongylus cantonensis*.

Distribution

Native to Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Known in Australia only from outdoor ponds at Austral Watergardens at Cowan in Sydney.

Notes

This species is only known from outdoor ponds at Austral Watergardens at Cowan in Sydney. It has as far as is known not established in the wild but could do so easily.

Further reading

Chung, P. R. & Jung, Y. (1999). *Cipangopaludina chinensis malleata* (Gastropoda: Viviparidae): A new second molluscan intermediate host of a human intestinal fluke *Echinostoma cinetorchis* (Trematoda: Echinostomatidae) in Korea. *The Journal of parasitology* 85: 963-964.

David, A. A. & Cote, S. C. (2019). Genetic evidence confirms the presence of the Japanese mystery snail, *Cipangopaludina japonica* (von Martens, 1861)(Caenogastropoda: Viviparidae) in northern New York. *BioInvasions Records* 8: 793-803.

Jokinen, E. H. (1992). *The Freshwater Snails (Mollusca: Gastropoda) of New York State*. The University of the State of New York, The State Education Department, The New York State Museum, Albany, New York 12230. 112 pp.

Nasu, K., Yokoyama, Y., Sun, Y., Suzuki-Matsubara, M., Teramoto, T., Moriyama, A., Kawase, M. & Kumazawa, Y. (2020). Mitochondrial genome of *Cipangopaludina japonica* (Gastropoda: Viviparidae) with a tRNA gene rearrangement. *Mitochondrial DNA Part B* 5: 1340-1341.

Ng, T.H., Tan, S.K., Wong, W.H., Meier, R., Chan, S-Y., Tan, H.H. and Yeo, D.C.J. 2016. Molluscs for Sale: Assessment of Freshwater Gastropods and Bivalves in the Ornamental Pet Trade. *PLOS One*. DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0161130.

Van Bocxlaer, B. & Strong, E. E. (2016). Anatomy, functional morphology, evolutionary ecology and systematics of the invasive gastropod *Cipangopaludina japonica* (Viviparidae: Bellamyinae). *Contributions to Zoology* 85: 235-263.

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

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