



***Ferrissia* Walker, 2003**

Disclaimer

The Australian freshwater limpets are in need of revision so the classification presented here is likely to be changed.

Diagnostic features

Small limpet-like snails, occasionally with a septation and detached cap-like structure at the shell apex as sometimes seen in *Ferrissia petterdi*. Apex radially striated.

Classification

Ferrissia Walker, 1903

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Heterobranchia

Megaorder Hygrophila

Order Lymnaeida

Superfamily Planorboidea

Family Planorbidae

Subfamily: Ancyliinae

Genus *Ferrissia* Walker, 1903

Type species: *Ancylus rivularis* Say, 1817

Original reference: Walker, B. (1903). Notes on eastern American Ancyli. *The Nautilus* 17(2/3): 13-19, 25-31

Synonyms: *Pettancyclus* Iredale, 1943 *Problancyclus* Iredale, 1943; *Forcancyclus* Iredale, 1944

State of taxonomy

The Australian freshwater limpets have not been revised - it is highly likely that additional taxa will eventually be recognised.

Biology and ecology

On and under leaves, on wood and stones, in ponds, billabongs, streams and rivers. Sometimes in drains. Usually common. Feeds on detritus. Eggs are laid as single hemispherical capsules containing a single egg. Development direct.

Distribution

Australasia, Africa, Middle East, India, Indonesia, Japan. Throughout Australia.

Notes

Ferrissia species differ from the similar *Stimulator consetti* from north-western Australia in having slightly larger and often broader shells that usually lack an internal shelf.

Hubendick (1967) used the genus *Pettancylyus* for the Australian taxa but, as with the species, the generic relationships of the Australian taxa need revision. Albrecht et al. (2007) included one unnamed Australian species in their phylogeny of Planorbidae and it was separated from *Ferrissia rivularis* by a rather long branch. These latter authors treated *Pettancylyus* as a subgenus of *Ferrissia*. We have previously used *Pettancylyus* for these taxa but in this version of the key have adopted a more conservative approach.

Further reading

Albrecht, C., Kuhn, K. & Streit, B. (2007). A molecular phylogeny of Planorboidea (Gastropoda, Pulmonata): insights from enhanced taxon sampling. *Zoologica Scripta* 36: 27-39.

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Hubendick, B. (1964). Studies on Ancyliidae: the subgroups. *Göteborgs Kungliga Vetenskaps och Vitterhets Samhälles Handlingar Sjätte Följden B* 9: 1-72.

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Shea, M. (1995). Freshwater molluscs of Sydney. *Australian Shell News* 88: 4-6.

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

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