



## ***Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea) Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins, 1989***

### **Diagnostic features**

Shell thin to moderately thick, aperture with thin to slightly thickened peristome. Operculum with prominent to weak pegs, sometimes absent in two species. Head-foot with cephalic tentacles only slightly longer than snout.

Female genital system unusual in having two equal sized sperm sacs (a bursa copulatrix and 'seminal receptacle') with their ducts emerging from their dorsal sides. Penis with swollen, unpigmented base bearing prominent concentric creases; distal two thirds smooth and tapering to point, often pigmented and muscular.

### **Classification**

***Fonscochlea*** Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins, 1989

*Class* Gastropoda

*Infraclass* Caenogastropoda

*Order* Littorinida

*Suborder* Rissoidina

*Superfamily* Truncatelloidea

*Family* Tateidae

*Genus* *Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea)* Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins, 1989

*Type species: Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea) accepta* Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins, 1989

*Original reference:* Ponder, W. F., Hershler, R. & Jenkins, B. (1989). An endemic radiation of hydrobiid snails from artesian springs in northern South Australia: their taxonomy, physiology, distribution and anatomy. *Malacologia* 31: 1-140.

*Type locality:* Welcome Springs near Lake Eyre South, South Australia.

Two subgenera are recognised:

*Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea)* Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins, 1989

*Fonscochlea (Wolfgangia)* Ponder, Hershler and Jenkins, 1989

### State of taxonomy

The typical subgenus includes five of the six known taxa of *Fonscochlea*. It encompasses two radiations, one of small species and the other of large species.

### Biology and ecology

A largely aquatic subgenus, generally abundant at the head of springs and their outflows.

### Distribution

Northern South Australia, Mound Springs of the Lake Eyre Supergroup. An extensive series of small springs that extend in a line between Oodnadatta and Marree in South Australia.

### Further reading

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To contact the authors for comment or suggestions, please email: [fwmollusc@gmail.com](mailto:fwmollusc@gmail.com)

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