



***Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea) expandolabra* Ponder, Egger & Colgan, 1995**



Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea) expandolabra (adult size up to 3.5 mm)



Distribution of *Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea) expandolabra*.

Diagnostic features

This is the 'small aquatic' species of the middle and northern springs in the Lake Eyre supergroup. The shell is much smaller than *F. accepta* and *F. aquatica*. The operculum has rather weak to moderately strong pegs, or they are sometimes absent.

Classification

Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea) expandolabra Ponder, Egger & Colgan, 1995

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Fonscochlea* Ponder, Hershler and Jenkins, 1989

Original name: *Fonscochlea (Fonscochlea) expandolabra* Ponder, Egger & Colgan 1995. In Ponder, W. F., Egger, P. & Colgan, D. J. (1995). Genetic differentiation of aquatic snails (Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae) from artesian springs in arid Australia. *Biological Journal of the Linnaean Society* 56: 553–596.

Type locality: Twelve Mile Spring, northern South Australia.

This species was originally referred to as *Fonscochlea variabilis* forms B and C by Ponder et al. (1989).

Biology and ecology

This form is the small aquatic species living in the Freeling Springs and the Northern Springs. It is generally abundant in the upper outflow of the spring attached to hard objects such as pieces of wood, stones or bone. It is not amphibious. Lives together with *Trochidrobia*.

Distribution

Northern (Twelve Mile Spring; Hawker Springs; Fountain Spring; Big Perry Springs; Outside Springs) and Freeling Springs, Lake Eyre Supergroup, northern South Australia.

Notes

This is one of several species of *Fonscochlea* found in northern South Australia. They are all very similar being separated on small differences in size and shape. They have pupiform shells with adults having a thin to slightly thickened aperture and the operculum usually bears one or more pegs. *Fonscochlea* are among the most geographically isolated tateid snails in Australia.

Further reading

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

Ponder, W. F., Egger, P. E. & Colgan, D. J. (1995). Genetic differentiation of aquatic snails (Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae) from artesian springs in arid Australia. *Biological Journal of the Linnaean Society* 56: 553-596.

Ponder, W. F. (2004). Endemic aquatic macroinvertebrates of artesian springs of the Great Artesian Basin—progress and future directions. *Records of the South Australian Museum Monograph Series* 7: 101-110.

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

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