



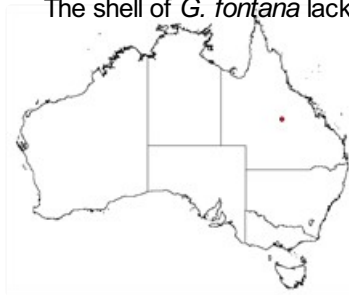
## *Gabbia fontana* Ponder, 2003

### Diagnostic features

The shell of *G. fontana* lacks distinctive sculpture, and is thus



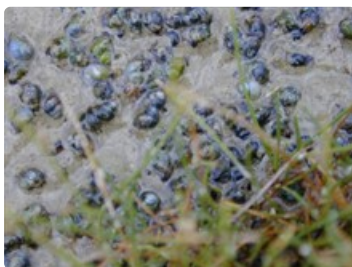
*Gabbia fontana* (adult size 4-5.2 mm)



Distribution of *Gabbia fontana*.



Big Spring, Edgbaston Station, the type locality of *G. fontana*. Photo J. Ponder.



*Gabbia fontana* clustered on edge of a spring, Edgbaston Strn. Photo: C. Lydeard.

superficially similar to the species resembling *G. vertiginosa* (including *G. iredalei* and *G. campicola*). However, it differs from all these in being distinctly umbilicate, and in the central teeth of the radula having only two pairs of cusps on their lateral faces, the inner-most being moderately large, the outer pair being minute. *G. fontana* is also unusual in, when pigmented (the usual condition), the mantle roof is solid black rather than mottled.

### Classification

*Gabbia fontana* Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Bithyniidae

Genus *Gabbia* Tryon, 1865

*Original name:* *Gabbia fontana* Ponder, 2003. In Ponder, W.F. (2003) Monograph of the Australian Bithyniidae (Caenogastropoda: Rissoidae). *Zootaxa* 230: 1-126.

*Type locality:* Big Spring, about 3 km southeast of Edgbaston HS, approximately 31 km northeast of Aramac, Queensland.

## Biology and ecology

This species lives in shallow water on the edges of outflows, or along the damp edges of artesian springs. It can be very abundant.

## Distribution

This species appears to be restricted to artesian springs on Edgbaston Station near Aramac, western Queensland.

## Further reading

Fensham, R., Ponder, W. & Fairfax, R. (2010). *Recovery plan for the community of native species dependent on natural discharge of groundwater from the Great Artesian Basin. Report to Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, Canberra.* Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management, Brisbane. <https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/0cefc83a-3854-4cff-9128-abc719d9f9b3/files/great-artesian-basin-ec.pdf>

Ponder, W. F. (2003). Monograph of the Australian Bithyniidae (Caenogastropoda: Rissoidae). *Zootaxa* 230: 1-126.

Rossini, R. A., Fensham, R. J. & Walter, G. H. (2017). Spatiotemporal variance of environmental conditions in Australian artesian springs affects the distribution and abundance of six endemic snail species. *Aquatic Ecology* 51: 511-529.

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