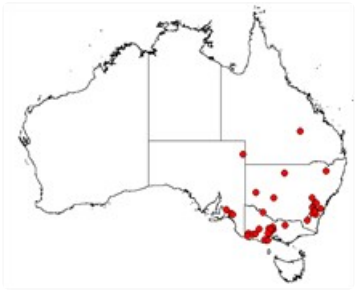
Glyptophysa (*Glyptophysa*) *aliciae* (Reeve, 1862)

Glyptophysa (Glyptophysa) aliciae (adult size 10-15 mm)



Distribution of *Glyptophysa (Glyptophysa) aliciae*

Diagnostic features

The taxonomy of *Glyptophysa* is very poorly understood. This is the only species with periostracal ridges and shouldered whorls.

Only *Bayardella spp.have* similar heavy periostracal spiral ridges. *B. cosmeta* has a narrower spire and a less distinct shoulder and tends to be smaller than *G. aliciae*.

Classification

Glyptophysa* (*Glyptophysa*) *aliciae (Reeve, 1862)

Common name: Alice's pouch snail.

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Heterobranchia

Megaorder Hygrophila

Order Lymnaeida

Superfamily Planorboidea

Family Planorbidae

Subfamily: Miratestinae

Genus Glyptophysa Crosse, 1872

Subgenus Glyptophysa

Original name: *Physa* (*Ameria*) *aliciae* Reeve, 1862. Reeve, L.A. (1862). On a new form of *Physa*, of the section *Ameria*, received from George French Angas Esq., of Angaston, South Australia, corresponding member of the Society. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1862: 105-107.

Type locality: Lower Murray River, South Australia.

Synonyms: *Physa cingulata* Clessin, 1886; *Glyptamoda ellea* Iredale, 1943; *Glyptamoda aliciae interna* Iredale, 1944; *Glyptamoda orta* Iredale, 1944.

Biology and ecology

This distinctive species is rather uncommon. It lives on water weeds and wood - often wedged into crevices - in ponds and streams. A somewhat cryptic species. Its biology is unstudied.

Distribution

Queensland to South Australia including Lake Eyre division. Occurence is rather sporadic.

Notes

Unlike most species in the genus, this one appears to be relatively clear-cut with its strong spiral cords and shouldered whorls. Nevertheless, it does exhibit variation and the species concept does require verification.

This genus is in need of revision, as the species concepts we have used have not been rigorously tested. Unpublished molecular data indicate that the species units we are here using appear to be justified, however they are not accompanied by clear-cut morphological characters that allow separation based on shell characters alone. As the species units appear to be overall concordant with state boundaries, we have used these boundaries to delimit species. This situation is not ideal, and can only be resolved by additional molecular and morphological studies involving dense sampling.

Further reading

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Smith, B. J. and Kershaw, R. C. (1979). *Field guide to the non-marine molluscs of south eastern Australia.* Australian National University Press, Canberra, Australia.

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

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