



Gyraulus (Gyraulus) hesperus (Iredale, 1943)



Gyraulus (Gyraulus) hesperus (adult size 3.3-3.7 mm)



Distribution of *Gyraulus (Gyraulus) hesperus*.



Freshwater lagoon at Elsie Cemetery, Northern Territory, a location where *Gyraulus hesperus* is found. Photo J. Ponder.



Running Waters, Finke River, Northern Territory.
Habitat of *G. hesperus*. Photo: V. Kessner.

Diagnostic features

G. hesperus differs from other *Gyraulus* in its high, rounded and obtusely angled whorls and strong spiral sculpture.

Classification

Gyraulus (Gyraulus) hesperus (Iredale, 1943)

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Heterobranchia

Megaorder Hygrophila

Order Lymnaeida

Superfamily Planorboidea

Family Planorbidae

Subfamily: Planorbinae

Genus *Gyraulus* Charpentier, 1837

Original name: *Glyptaniscus hesperus* Iredale, 1943. In Iredale, T. (1943). A basic list of the freshwater Mollusca of Australia. *Australian Zoologist* 10: 188-230.

Type locality: Lennard River, north Western Australia.

Biology and ecology

This species lives in water weeds and other vegetation in ponds, billabongs, swamps and sluggish streams and rivers in monsoonal northern and western Australia. Feeds on detritus. Egg mass presumably a jelly strip containing small eggs. Development direct.

Brown (2001) described the anatomy of this species.

Distribution

Tropical northern Australia from the central coast of Queensland to the central coast of Western Australia.

Further reading

Brown, D. S. (1981). Observations on the Planorbidae from Australia and New Guinea. *Journal of the Malacological Society of Australia* 5: 67-80.

Brown, D. S. (1998). Freshwater snails of the genus *Gyraulus* (Gastropoda: Planorbidae) in Australia: the taxa of Tasmania. *Molluscan Research* 19: 105-154.

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Hubendick, B. (1955). Phylogeny of the Planorbidae. *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London* 28: 453-542.

Smith, B. J. (1992). Non-marine Mollusca. Pp. i-xii, 1-408 in W. W. K. Houston. *Zoological Catalogue of Australia*, 8. Canberra, Australian Government Publishing Service.

Willan, E. C. & Kessner, V. (2021). A conspectus of the freshwater molluscs of the Daly River catchment, Northern Territory. *Northern Territory Naturalist* 30: 108-137.

To cite this resource: **Ponder, W. F., Hallan, A., Shea, M. E., Clark, S. A., Richards, K., Klunzinger, M. W., and Kessner, V. 2023. Australian Freshwater Molluscs. Revision 2.**

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

To contact the authors for comment or suggestions, please email: fwmollusc@gmail.com

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