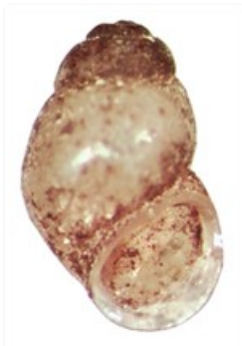




Hemistomia gemma suturalis Ponder, 1982



Hemistomia gemma suturalis (adult size 1.8-2.3 mm) Distribution of *Hemistomia gemma gemma* (red) and *H. gemma suturalis* (green).

Diagnostic features

The smooth pupiform shell is similar to that of *H. pusillior* but the operculum is thicker with a curved calcareous patch (not linear as in *H. pusillior*) and with up to three fused pegs. This subspecies is slightly smaller than *H. gemma gemma* (up to about 2.3 mm in length compared with 2.5 mm), is yellowish-white (not orange-brown) and the suture is strongly canaliculate (weakly to not canaliculate in *H. gemma gemma*).

The penis is simple in all *Hemistomia* species.

Classification

Hemistomia gemma suturalis Ponder, 1982

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Hemistomia* Crosse, 1872

Original name: Hemistomia gemma suturalis Ponder, 1982. In Ponder, W.F. (1982) Hydrobiidae of Lord Howe Island (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Prosobranchia). *Australian Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research* 33: 89-159.

Type locality: Southern tributary of Rocky Point stream, just above connection with main creek a little behind coastal cliff, Lord Howe Island.

Biology and ecology

Found in streams, seepages and pools. It is assumed that like most tateids, the Lord Howe Island Tateidae feed on bacteria, microscopic algae, diatoms and possibly decaying vegetation.

Distribution

Streams on eastern slopes of Smoking Tree Ridge, northern slopes of Mt Lidgebird and Big Slope on eastern side of Mt Gower, Lord Howe Island.

Notes

All the *Hemistomia* species are strongly clustered into distinct geographical locations on Lord Howe Island.

Further reading

Ponder, W. F. (1982). Hydrobiidae of Lord Howe Island (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Prosobranchia). *Australian Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research* 33: 89-159.

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