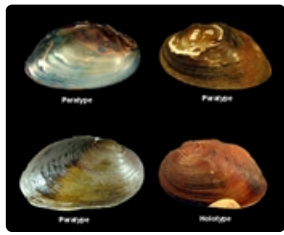




## *Hyridella narracanensis* (Cotton & Gabriel, 1932)



*Hyridella narracanensis*, type specimens (adult size to about 60 mm)



Distribution of *Hyridella narracanensis*.

### Diagnostic features

This small (maximum length about 60 mm) species has an 'amygdaloid' (i.e., almond) shape and a very strong hinge. It is not markedly winged posteriorly, but the posterior end is pointed and ridged. The strong v-shaped chevron beak sculpture is restricted to the umbo.

### Classification

*Hyridella narracanensis* (Cotton & Gabriel, 1932)

*Common name:* Freshwater mussel

*Class:* Bivalvia

*Infraclass:* Heteroconchia

*Cohort:* Palaeoheterodonta

*Order:* Unionida

*Superfamily:* Unionoidea

*Family:* Hyriidae

*Subfamily:* Hyriinae

*Genus:* *Hyridella* Swainson, 1840

*Original name:* *Propehyridella narracanensis* Cotton & Gabriel, 1932. In Cotton, B. C. & Gabriel, C. J. (1932). Australian Unionidae. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria* 44: 155-160.

*Type locality:* Narracan River, Thorpdale, Gippsland, Victoria.

*Synonym:* *Rugoshyria depressa sodalis* Iredale, 1934.

### State of taxonomy

The last major taxonomic revision of Australian freshwater mussels was by McMichael & Hiscock (1958).

Based on the available molecular results, Walker et al. (2014) pointed out that a reassessment of Australian hyriids is needed and one is now in progress.

## Biology and ecology

Shallow burrower in sand/mud in permanent stable streams and rivers. Suspension feeder. Larvae (glochidia) are brooded in the marsupia in the gills of females and, when released, presumably become parasitic on fish gills fins where they may undergo metamorphosis before dropping to the sediment as free-living juvenile mussels.

## Distribution

Coastal rivers and streams in Victoria west of south Gippsland, the Millicent Coast of South Australia and the Boobyalla and Tamar rivers of northern Tasmania with the former the only known extant populations.

## Notes

This species has declined in its distribution and is listed as threatened on the IUCN Red List (Klunzinger et al. 2014). It is also under consideration for listing in Tasmania and nationally.

## Further reading

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To contact the authors for comment or suggestions, please email: [fwmollusc@gmail.com](mailto:fwmollusc@gmail.com)

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