



## ***Lymnaea stagnalis* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

### **Diagnostic features**

The large size, tall spire and swollen last whorl make this species one



*Lymnaea stagnalis* (adult size 45-60 mm)

of the most distinctive lymnaeids.

### **Classification**

***Lymnaea stagnalis*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

*Common name:* European pond snail

*Class:* Gastropoda

*Infraclass:* Heterobranchia

*Megaorder:* Hygrophila

*Order:* Lymnaeida

*Superfamily:* Lymnoidea

*Family:* Lymnaeidae

*Genus:* *Lymnaea* Lamarck, 1799 (Type species *Helix stagnalis* Linnaeus, 1758, by monotypy) (many synonyms  
- see <http://www.marinespecies.org/aphia.php?p=taxdetails&id=160345>).

*Original name: Helix stagnalis* Linnaeus, 1758. In Linnaeus, C. (1758). *Systema Naturae per regna tria naturae, secundum classes, ordines, genera, species, cum characteribus, differentiis, synonymis, locis. Editio decimal, reformata*. Tomus 1. Laurentii Salvii, Holmiae [=Stockholm], i-iv, 1-824pp.

*Type locality:* Sweden.

*Synonyms:* *Limnaea tasmanica* Tenison Woods, 1876 and many others (see <http://www.marinespecies.org/aphia.php?p=taxdetails&id=181582>).

## Biology and ecology

Amongst water weeds etc., in ponds. Very rarely seen in the wild in Australia. Feeds on algae and detritus. Egg mass a crescent-shaped jelly strip containing many small eggs. Development direct.

## Distribution

Introduced from Europe, this species is found in a few ponds in Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart and Launceston, and is also occasionally seen in aquaria around the country.

## Notes

This large species is found mainly in aquaria. It has a longer spire than other species found in Australia.

## Further reading

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[https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/freshwater\\_molluscs/](https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/freshwater_molluscs/)

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