



***Marisa cornuarietis* (Linnaeus, 1858)**

Diagnostic features

Despite the species resemblance to planispiral planorbid snails it is



Marisa cornuarietis (adult size 35-50 mm)

nonetheless an ampullariid. Its large size, distinct spiral bands and the presence of an operculum distinguish this species from planorbid snails such as *Planorbella duryi* and *Planorbis corneus*.

Classification

Marisa cornuarietis (Linnaeus, 1858)

Common name: Giant ramshorn snail; Columbian ramshorn snail

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Informal group Architaenioglossa

Order Ampullarida

Superfamily Ampullarioidea

Family Ampullariidae

Genus *Marisa* Gray, 1824 (Type species: *Helix cornuarietis* Linnaeus, 1758) (Synonym *Ceratodes* Guilding,

1828)

Original name: Helix Cornuarietis 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: European Seas (error, probably Venezuela).

Biology and ecology

On sediment and weeds etc. Lays pink coloured gelatinous egg masses on plants etc. below the waterline. Omnivorous and potentially a pest of aquatic crops.

Distribution

Introduced from South America into the United States. Found in aquarium shops in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

Notes

This species is not established in Australia. However, it is commonly found in the aquarium trade and is a potentially capable of becoming established.

Further reading

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

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