



Posticobia brazieri (E. A. Smith, 1882)

Diagnostic features

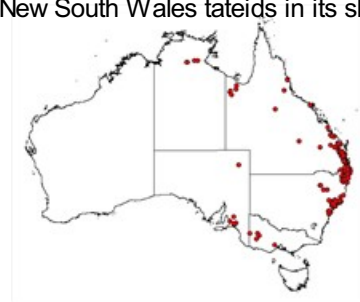
This species differs from other New South Wales tateids in its short,



Posticobia brazieri, keeled and slightly angled specimens (adult size up to 3.3 mm)



Posticobia cf. brazieri from Esey Falls, Northern Territory. Photo: V. Kessner. Length 2.7 mm.



Distribution of *Posticobia brazieri*.



Karuh River, Hunter Valley, one of many localities in which *Posticobia brazieri* is found. Photo S. Clark.



broad shell. Like species of *Fluvidona* and *Austropyrgus*, adults have a slightly thickened aperture, and an operculum bearing several pegs. It may be very common. Some populations mostly consist of smooth-shelled individuals, whereas others have a distinct keel on the periphery of the last whorl.

Classification

Posticobia brazieri (E. A. Smith, 1882)

Common name: Brazier's pebble snail

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Posticobia* Iredale, 1943

Original name: *Hydrobia brazieri* E. A. Smith, 1882. In Smith, E. A. 1882. On the freshwater shells of Australia. *Journal of the Linnean Society of London, Zoology* 16 (92): 225-316.

Type locality: Clarence River, South Grafton, New South Wales.

Biology and ecology

On wood, stones, sediment and water weed; often abundant. Assumed to feed by scraping bacteria and microalgae. Solitary hemispherical capsules with single egg. Direct development. Populations are in slightly brackish to freshwater.

Distribution

Found mainly in the coastal rivers of the eastern half of the Northern Territory and in coastal rivers and lakes of Queensland and New South Wales. A few widely scattered populations are also known from South Australia and western Victoria.

Further reading

Clark, S. A. (2009). The genus *Posticobia* (Mollusca: Caenogastropoda: Rissoidae: Hydrobiidae SL) from Australia and Norfolk Island. *Malacologia* 51: 319-341.

Clark, S. A., Miller, A. C. & Ponder, W. F. (2003). Revision of the snail genus *Austropyrgus* (Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae): a morphostatic radiation of freshwater gastropods in southeastern Australia. *Records of the Australian Museum* 28: 1-109.

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