



Pseudosuccinea columella (Say, 1817)

Diagnostic features

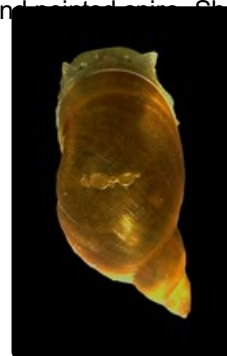
Shell elongate with a large aperture and distinct lines. Shell has fine



Pseudosuccinea columella (adult size 15-20 mm)



Distribution of *Pseudosuccinea columella*.



Pseudosuccinea columella. Esperance, Western Australia. Photo: M. Klunzinger & A. Hara.

spiral threads that are not seen in other lymnaeids in Australia. Animal has fleshy broad triangular tentacles and may be black to pale grey in colour.

Classification

Pseudosuccinea columella (Say, 1817)

Common name: Striated pond snail

Class: Gastropoda

Infraclass: Heterobranchia

Megaorder: Hygrophila

Order: Lymnaeida

Superfamily: Lymnoidea

Family: Lymnaeidae

Genus *Pseudosuccinea* Baker, 1908 (Type species: *Lymnaea columella* Say, 1817).

Original name: *Lymnaea columella* Say, 1817. In Say, T. (1817). Descriptions of seven species of American fresh water and land shells, not noticed in the systems. *Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* 1: 13-16.

Type locality: USA

State of taxonomy

Lymnaeid taxonomy is in urgent need of a comprehensive review.

Biology and ecology

Amongst water weeds and similar substrate in ponds, sluggish rivers and streams etc. Sometimes common. Feeds on algae and detritus. Egg mass a crescent-shaped jelly strip containing many small eggs. Development direct.

Mainly (but not exclusively) in coastal drainages in agricultural and urban areas.

Distribution

Introduced from North America to southern Western Australia, New South Wales, Tasmania and Victoria - mainly (but not exclusively) in coastal drainages in agricultural and urban areas. Also introduced to New Zealand and many other parts of the world.

Notes

This species is more elongate than the other species found in Australia (other than *L. stagnalis*) and differs from all the other species in the shell having fine spiral threads.

Like *Austropeplea* spp. this species is a host of Liver Fluke (*Fasciola hepatica*), a parasite that infects stock and sometimes humans.

Further reading

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

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