



***Radix* Montfort, 1810**

Diagnostic features

Small to large, oval to ear-shaped freshwater lymnaeid snails with a



Some additional species of *Radix* not dealt with individually

large aperture. The animal has large triangular tentacles.

Species of *Radix* have shells sculptured with fine axial lamellae and the prostate has a single large fold. Many species with a solid black band parallel to the mantle collar and there is a uterine appendix. Species of *Radix* have 17 pairs of chromosomes, compared with 16 pairs in *Austropeplea* and *Bullastra* and 18 pairs in *Lymnaea* and *Pseudosuccinea*.

Classification

Radix Montfort, 1810

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Heterobranchia

Megaorder Hygrophila

Order Lymnaeida

Superfamily Lymnoidea

Family Lymnaeidae

Subfamily: Amphipepleinae

Genus *Radix* Montfort, 1810

Type species: *Radix auriculatus* Montfort, 1810.

Original reference: Montfort D. de (1810). *Conchyliologie systématique, et classification méthodique des coquilles; offrant leurs figures, leur arrangement générique, leurs descriptions caractéristiques, leurs noms; ainsi que leur synonymie en plusieurs langues. Ouvrage destiné à faciliter l'étude des coquilles, ainsi que leur disposition dans les cabinets d'histoire naturelle. Coquilles univalves, non cloisonnées*. Tome second. pp. [1-3], 1-676. Paris: Schoell.

Type locality: Europe.

Synonyms: *Gulnaria* Leach in Turton, 1831; *Neritostoma* Klein in H. & A. Adams, 1855; *Auriculariana* Servain, 1881.

State of taxonomy

Lymnaeid taxonomy is in urgent need of a comprehensive review.

Biology and ecology

On submerged water plants in ponds, swamps and poorly drained pasture, and along edges of streams, commonly on damp mud above water line. Biology similar to other lymnaeids. Feeds on algae and detritus. Egg mass a crescent-shaped jelly strip containing many small eggs. Development direct.

Distribution

Species are found in Eurasia, North America, north Africa, South America, India and Asia, including Indonesia.

Introduced to many other parts of the world.

Notes

Like *Austropeplea*, this genus is a host of liver fluke (*Fasciola hepatica*), a parasite that infects livestock and sometimes humans. The genus is also known to host many parasites in Europe and Asia, including *Fasciola gigantica*, a parasite of cattle and sheep.

We treat two non-native species assigned to *Radix* in this resource but there are others that may be introduced and some have been intercepted by Australian Biosecurity officials. These include the species illustrated above.

Further reading

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

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