



***Stenomelania cf. aspirans* (Hinds, 1844)**



Stenomelania cf. aspirans (adult size up to 80 mm)



Distribution of *Stenomelania cf. aspirans*.

Diagnostic features

A very large black, smooth elongate shell that is always decollate in Australian specimens. The upper part of the whorls is concave, especially noticeably in the more mature whorls.

Classification

Stenomelania cf. aspirans (Hinds, 1844)

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Megaorder Cerithiimorpha

Order Cerithiida

Superfamily Cerithioidea

Family Thiariidae

Genus *Stenomelania* Fischer, 1885

Original name: Melania aspirans Hinds, 1844. In Hinds, R. B. (1844). Descriptions of new species of *Melania* collected during the Voyage of H.M.S. Sulphur. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* 14: 8-10.

Type locality: Fiji.

Biology and ecology

Burrows in sediment and gravel in cool running freshwater streams in tropical rainforest areas. The brood pouch of *Stenomelania* cf. *aspirans* may contain several hundred juveniles in various stages of development.

Distribution

Tropical northeast Queensland. Outside of Australia, this species is found in the Bismark Archipelago, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Fiji and Samoa.

Further reading

Glaubrecht, M., Brinkmann, N. & Pöppe, J. (2009). Diversity and disparity 'down under': systematics, biogeography and reproductive modes of the 'marsupial' freshwater Thiaridae (Caenogastropoda, Cerithioidea) in Australia. *Zoosystematics and Evolution* 85: 199-275.

Iredale, T. (1943). A basic list of the fresh water Mollusca of Australia. *Australian Zoologist* 10: 188-230.

Maaß, N. & Glaubrecht, M. (2012). Comparing the reproductive biology of three "marsupial", eu-viviparous gastropods (Cerithioidea, Thiaridae) from drainages of Australia's monsoonal north. *Zoosystematics and Evolution* 88: 293-315.

Smith, B. J. (1992). Non-marine Mollusca. Pp. i-xii, 1-408 in W. W. K. Houston. *Zoological Catalogue of Australia*, 8. Canberra, Australian Government Publishing Service.

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

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