



"*Stenomelania*" *denisoniensis* (Brot, 1877)



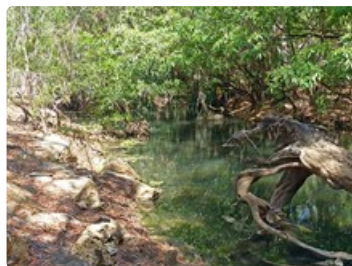
"*Stenomelania*" *denisoniensis* (adult size may exceed 36.5 mm). Photography modified from Glaubrecht et al. (2009).



Stenomelania denisoniensis. Living animal. Photo: M Klunzinger.



Distribution of "*Stenomelania*" *denisoniensis*. Black dots indicate additional records from Glaubrecht et al. (2009).



Small channel of Roper River, Northern Territory. Habitat of *S. denisoniensis*. Photo: V. Kessner.

Diagnostic features

A variable species with a long, slender shell and small aperture, smooth or sculptured with some spiral threads and distinct axial growth lines. Usually with angled shoulder just below the suture, in some individuals this shoulder is strong. In some populations most shells are decollate, while in others they are not. They can also be variable in size.

Classification

"*Stenomelania*" *denisoniensis* (Brot, 1877)

Common name: Denison marsh snail

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Megaorder Cerithiimorpha

Order Cerithiida

Superfamily Cerithioidea

Family Thiaridae

Genus *Stenomelania* Fischer, 1885

Original name: *Melania denisoniensis* Brot, 1877. In Brot, A. (1877). Die Melaniaceen (Melanidae) in Abbildungen nach der Natur. *Systematisches Conchylien-Cabinet* 1(24): 193-272, plates 25-30.

Type locality: Port Denison, Queensland.

Synonyms: *Stenomelania denisonensis ultra* Iredale, 1943; *Stenomelania denisonensis tacita* Iredale, 1943.

Biology and ecology

On and in sediment, rocks and on water weeds in freshwater rivers, streams, lakes and dams. A detritus and algal feeder. *Stenomelania denisoniensis* broods larvae in a brood pouch in the head which may contain a dozen shelled juveniles and many unshelled juveniles in different embryonic stages.

Distribution

Tropical and subtropical Australia (the northern half of the continent).

Notes

Glaubrecht et al. (2009) indicated that a new generic name might be necessary for this taxon based on unpublished molecular data - those authors referred to this species in the same way we do here.

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.

Iredale, T. (1944). Guide to the freshwater shells of New South Wales. Part 2. *Australian Naturalist (Sydney)* 11: 113-127.

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.

Willan, E. C. & Kessner, V. (2021). A conspectus of the freshwater molluscs of the Daly River catchment, Northern Territory. *Northern Territory Naturalist* 30: 108-137.

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

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