



Suterilla fluviatilis Fukuda, Ponder & Marshall, 2006



Suterilla fluviatilis (adult size 1.6-1.9 mm)



Distribution of *Suterilla fluviatilis*.

Diagnostic features

Shell globose to ovate-conic, up to 1.9 mm in length, thick, opaque, uniformly yellow-brown (white in some specimens); with narrow, open umbilicus. Teleoconch whorls convex, suture distinctly impressed; spire about equal to aperture in length; whorls smooth except for fine growth lines, fine spiral striae present or absent; aperture with thin outer lip and thick, wide columellar lip, inner lip thin across parietal area; aperture not extending across umbilicus; no varix. Operculum simple, pyriform, paucispiral, horny, translucent, yellowish.

Head with short, narrow, cephalic tentacles approximately equal to half width of head with the eyes situated near central part of bases of these tentacles. A distinct transverse crease at posterior end of snout and confluent with anterior edges of tentacle bases. Omniphoric grooves distinct. Anterior pedal mucous gland along entire edge of foot, as many small, slender cells opening beneath inconspicuous propodial flap. Foot short and broad, sole slender, flat, smooth when foot extended. Mantle cavity with only two rudimentary gill filaments.

The main differences between *S. fluviatilis* and other species of *Suterilla* (all of which are marine) are anatomical. They include the S-shaped rectum, lack of a flange on the penis, the albumen gland being markedly shorter than the capsule gland, a large bursa copulatrix (also in *S. neozelanica*) and a wide, folded bursal duct that enters the bursa mid anteriorly.

Classification

Suterilla fluviatilis Fukuda, Ponder & Marshall, 2006

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Assimineidae

Subfamily: Omphalotropidinae

Genus *Suterilla* Thiele, 1927 (Type species *Cirsonella neozelanica* Murdoch, 1899).

Original name: *Suterilla fluviatilis* Fukuda, Ponder & Marshall, 2006. In Fukuda, H., Ponder, W. F., and Marshall, B. 2006. Anatomy and relationships of *Suterilla* Thiele (Caenogastropoda: Assimineidae) with descriptions of four new species *Molluscan Research* 26(3): 141-168.

Type locality: Cascade Point, Broken Bridge Creek, Norfolk Island.

Biology and ecology

Lives amphibiously on and under bryophytes on a wet rock face next to a small waterfall.

Distribution

This species is known only from a single stream on Norfolk Island, where it is found on bryophytes on wet rock next to a small waterfall near the coast.

Notes

This is the only species of *Suterilla* known to live in a freshwater habitat.

Further reading

Beesley, P. L., Ross, G. J. B. & Wells, A., Eds. (1998). *Mollusca: The Southern Synthesis. Parts A & B*. Melbourne, CSIRO Publishing.

Fukuda, H. (2019). Assimineidae H. & A. Adams, 1856. Pp. 94-100 in C. Lydeard & Cummings, K. S. *Freshwater Mollusks of the World: a Distribution Atlas*. Baltimore, John Hopkins University Press.

Fukuda, H. & Ponder, W. F. (2003). Australian freshwater assimineids, with a synopsis of the Recent genus-group taxa of the *Assimineidae* (Mollusca: Caenogastropoda: Rissooidea). *Journal of Natural History* 37: 1977-2032.

Fukuda, H., Ponder, W. F. & Marshall, B. A. (2006). Anatomy and relationships of *Suterilla* Thiele (Caenogastropoda: Assimineidae) with descriptions of four new species. *Molluscan Research* 26: 141-168.

To cite this resource: **Ponder, W. F., Hallan, A., Shea, M. E., Clark, S. A., Richards, K., Klunzinger, M. W., and Kessner, V. 2023. Australian Freshwater Molluscs. Revision 2.**

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

To contact the authors for comment or suggestions, please email: fwmollusc@gmail.com

Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved. The Australian Museum.

