



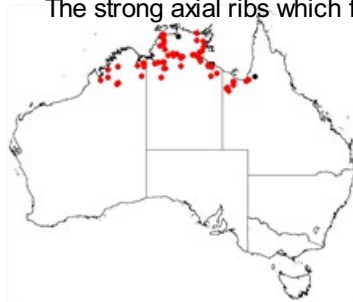
"Thiara" australis Lea & Lea, 1850

Diagnostic features

The strong axial ribs which feature prominently on the apical half of the



"Thiara" australis (adult size up to 30 mm)



Distribution of "Thiara" australis. Black dots indicate additional records from Glaubrecht et al. (2009).



Katherine River, about 5 km W of Katherine. One of the northern rivers in which "T." australis occurs. Photo V. Kessner.



Near junction of Fergusson and Edit Rivers, NT. Habitat of *T. australis*. Photo: V. Kessner.

last whorls are characteristic to this species. The whorls are sometimes weakly to moderately shouldered, sometimes evenly convex.

Classification

"Thiara" australis I. Lea & H. C. Lea, 1850

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Megaorder Cerithiimorpha

Order Cerithiida

Superfamily Cerithioidea

Family Thiaridae

Genus *Thiara* Bolten, 1798

Original name: *Thiara australis* Lea & Lea, 1850. In Lea, I. & Lea, H. C. (1851). Description of a new genus of the family Melaniana, and of many new species of the genus *Melania*, chiefly collected by Hugh Cuming, Esq., during his zoological voyage in the East, and now first described. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1850: 179-197.

Type locality: Victoria River, Northern Territory.

Synonyms: *Melania cerea* Brot, 1860; *Melania decussata* Brot, 1862.

State of taxonomy

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 (2009) indicated that a new generic name might be necessary for this taxon based on unpublished molecular data - those authors referred to this species in the same way we do here.

Biology and ecology

On and in sediment, rocks and water weeds in freshwater rivers, streams, lakes and dams. Embryos brooded in brood pouch in head and released as crawling juveniles (Maaß & Glaubrecht, 2012).

Distribution

Tropical northern Australia.

Further reading

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

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.

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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