



***Trochidrobia smithi* Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins, 1989**



Trochidrobia smithi (adult size 1.7-2.1 mm)



Distribution of *Trochidrobia smithi*.

Diagnostic features

Shell with short spire and open umbilicus; reaches 2.1 mm in maximum diameter. This species and *Trochidrobia punicea* are virtually identical in shell characters but differ anatomically. They are sympatric in only a few springs.

Classification

Trochidrobia smithi Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins, 1989

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Trochidrobia* Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins 1989

Original name: Trochidrobia smithi Ponder, Hershler & Jenkins, 1989. In Ponder, W. F., Hershler, R. & Jenkins, B. (1989). An endemic radiation of hydrobiid snails from artesian springs in northern South Australia: their taxonomy, physiology, distribution and anatomy. *Malacologia* 31: 1-140.

Type locality: Twelve Mile Springs, South Australia.

Biology and ecology

Shallow water in lower parts of artesian spring outflow living together with species of *Fonscochlea*.

Distribution

Found in the Middle Springs, South-western Springs and the Northern Springs of the Lake Eyre Supergroup, northern South Australia.

Notes

All of the *Trochidrobia* species are very similar in shell morphology with minor differences in size and protoconch sculpture. The main differences are anatomical - particularly the coiling pattern of the oviduct in the female genital system. There are also geographical clusters of species and species associations (see Ponder, Hershler and Jenkins, 1989).

Further reading

Murphy, N. P., Breed, M. F., Guzik, M. T., Cooper, S. J., & Austin, A. D. (2012). Trapped in desert springs: phylogeography of Australian desert spring snails. *Journal of Biogeography* 39(9): 1573-1582.

Ponder, W. F., Hershler, R. & Jenkins, B. (1989). An endemic radiation of Hydrobiidae from artesian springs in northern South Australia: their taxonomy, physiology, distribution and anatomy. *Malacologia* 31: 1-140.

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

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