

## Freshwater snail *Stenophysa spathidophallus* at Jurong

**Subject:** *Stenophysa spathidophallus* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Physidae).

**Subject identified by:** Contributors.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Jurong Central Park; 3 April 2013; 1500–1600 hrs.

**Habitat:** Concrete drain in urban parkland. Substrate consists of sand and soft mud.

**Observer:** Lee Ding Lun Terence.

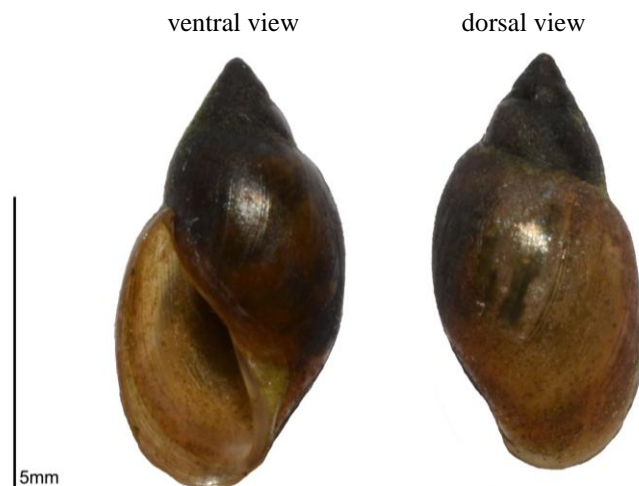
**Observation:** *Stenophysa spathidophallus* was found among a population of *Melanoides tuberculata* in the drain. Two specimens measuring 5 mm and 8 mm are deposited in the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research at the National University of Singapore, under the catalogue number ZRC.MOL.5656.

**Remarks:** *Stenophysa spathidophallus* is the only member of the Physidae recorded from Singapore so far and is believed to have been introduced via the aquarium trade (Taylor, 2003). This species was described from specimens collected near Upper Seletar Reservoir, Singapore, in 1985 (see Taylor, 2003), but has neither been found nor reported by later workers. This record thus represents the first subsequent Singapore record of *Stenophysa spathidophallus* in 28 years. *Stenophysa spathidophallus* superficially resembles the locally common, and similarly sinistral, *Physastra sumatrana* (family Planorbidae), but the shell of the latter is relatively broader, has a relatively shorter spire and more deeply impressed sutures (see Tan et al., 2012). The shell of *Stenophysa spathidophallus* is however, quite indistinguishable from that of *Stenophysa marmorata* from Central America and the West Indies, and can only be confidently separated by penial morphology (see Taylor, 2003). Nevertheless, the latter has not been found in Singapore.

### References:

Tan, S. K., S. Y. Chan & G. R. Clements, 2012. *A Guide to Snails and Other Non-marine Molluscs of Singapore*. Singapore Science Centre, Singapore. 176 pp.

Taylor, D. W., 2003. Introduction to Physidae (Gastropoda: Hygrophila); biogeography, classification, morphology. *Revista de Biologia Tropical*, **51**: 1–287.



Photograph by Ng Ting Hui.

Contributors: **Ng Ting Hui** & **Tan Siong Kiat**

Contact address: [ng.tinghui@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ng.tinghui@nus.edu.sg) (Ng)