

Virginia Land Snails

Inflectarius rugeli (Shuttleworth, 1852)

Family: Polygyridae

Common name: Deep-tooth Shagreen

Identification

Width: 11-15 mm

Height: 7-9 mm

Whorls: 5+

This animal has a very constricted aperture, with large teeth almost blocking the small opening. The parietal tooth is strong and curved; the tooth on the outer lip is recessed; and the small basal tooth is somewhat pointed. The lip is heavily reflected, and guttered behind. The umbilicus of this low, heliciform shell is closed.

The shell of *Inflectarius rugeli* is covered in a microscopic scale-like sculpture, as others in its genus. These scales follow the pattern of the radial striae, but may be worn down in older shells.

Ecology

This animal can be found under leaf litter, logs and other features on wooded hills (Coney et al, 1982; Hubricht, 1985).

Taxonomy

Synonyms for *I. rugeli* include *Helix rugeli*, *Mesodon rugeli*, *Polygyra rugeli*, and *Triodopsis rugeli*.

Distribution

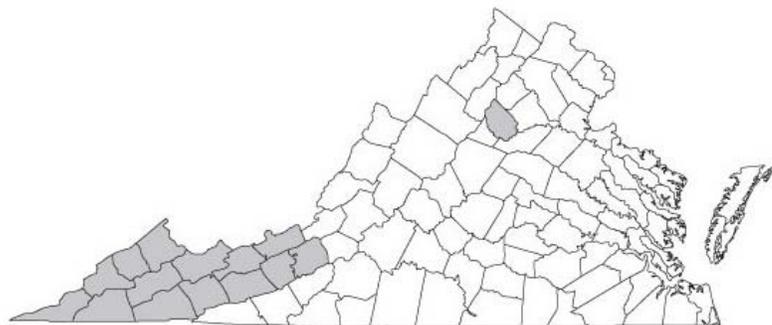
Inflectarius rugeli lives in the southern Appalachian Mountains, from southern Illinois and West Virginia south to Alabama. In Virginia it occurs only in the far western counties.

NatureServe Global Rank: G5

NatureServe State Rank: S3S4

Meegan Winslow, Ken Hotopp 9/2012

Range Map



Photo(s): Views of an *Inflectarius rugeli* shell by Dan Dourson ©, with aperture-plane view of an old shell Ken Hotopp ©.

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