

Virginia Land Snails

Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841)

Family: Zonitidae

Common name: Amber Glass

Identification

Width: 4.5-5.2 mm

Height: 2.5-2.8 mm

Whorls: 4.2-4.3

Nesovitrea electrina is an average sized *Nesovitrea*, having a depressed shell with a slightly rounded apex and whorls that increase relatively rapidly but gradually in size. The final whorl does not increase more rapidly than previous whorls. The umbilicus is about on quarter to one fifth the shell width. The shiny and translucent shell is sculptured with closely and irregularly spaced narrow indentations that run parallel to the indistinct growth lines. These grooves extend from the apical surface becoming progressively weaker and less numerous towards the umbilicus. In addition, there is sometimes microscopic sculpture of very weak incised spiral lines. The shell is uniformly translucent amber-brown. The dorsal surface of the body is nearly black fading to dark gray on the sole of the foot. Internally, the apex of the penis has circular pilasters.

Ecology

This animal is found in a wide variety of wet habitats including wet prairies, freshwater marshes, lake margins, and wet forests. It is tolerant of a wide range of soil pH and is found on acidic, neutral and basic soils (Nekola, 2010).

Taxonomy

There are many synonyms for *Nesovitrea electrina*, including *Helix electrina*, *H. janus*, *Zonites radiatulus*, *Z. viridulus*, *Hylania pellucida*, *H. radiatula* *Electrina*, *Vitrea radiatula*, *Vitrea hammonis*, *Retinella hammonis*, and *R. electrina*.

Distribution

Nesovitrea electrina has a remarkably wide range from the Arctic Ocean south to Virginia. In Virginia the species is known only from counties in the extreme north and southwest parts of the state.

NatureServe Global Rank: G5

NatureServe State Rank: S2/S4

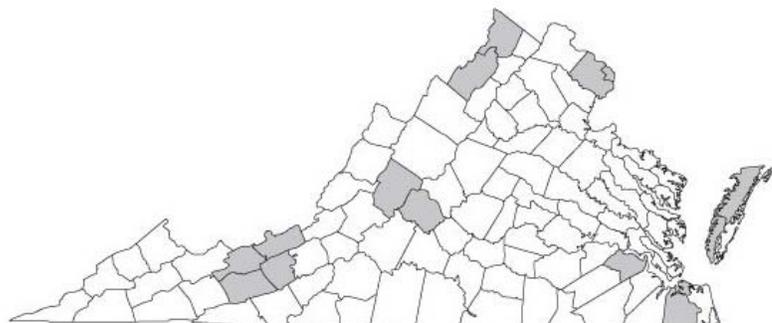
John Slapcinsky 10/2012



Photo(s): Views of a *Nesovitrea electrina* shell by Robert Forsyth ©.

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Range Map





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