

Virginia Land Snails

Triodopsis pendula Hubricht, 1952

Family: Polygyridae

Common name: Hanging Rock Threetooth

Identification

Width: 9.5-13.8 mm

Height: 5.0-7.2 mm

Whorls: 5+

The shell of *Triodopsis pendula* is a depressed heliciform and covered with radial striae, as are many threetooth snails. The large final whorl is twice the width of the preceding one. A tooth on the outer lip is wide and rounded. The basal tooth is blunt, while the high *parietal* tooth is curved and connects to the *columella*. In and around the funnel-shaped umbilicus and behind the reflected lip are strong papillae, seen under magnification. The shell is smaller and more depressed than the shell of *Triodopsis vulgata*, and the outer lip tooth is smaller and not as inflected.

Ecology

Triodopsis pendula prefers oak woods and can be found in leaf litter and near logs (Hubricht, 1985).

Distribution

This rare animal is only known from the foothills east of the Appalachian Mountains, in North Carolina and, possibly, abutting Grayson County, Virginia. This Virginia county appears in range maps by Hubricht (1985), though no museum specimens for this location have been encountered. The species is listed as imperiled in Virginia.

NatureServe Global Rank: G3

NatureServe State Rank: S1S3

Virginia's wildlife action plan: Tier II

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Photo(s): Aperture view of *Triodopsis pendula* by Bill Frank ©. Views of another *T. pendula* specimen by Dan Dourson ©.

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