

Virginia Land Snails

Euchemotrema leai (A. Binney, 1841)

Family: Polygyridae

Common name: Lowland Pillsnail

Identification

Width: 7.0-9.5 mm

Height: 4-6 mm

Whorls: 6+

Euchemotrema leai has a similar rounded shape to *E. fraternum*, but it is slightly smaller, smoother and less hairy, and more tightly-whorled, having one more shell revolution. The narrow aperture holds a single blade-like tooth, or lamella. The reflected lip nearly covers the umbilicus.

Ecology

This animal's habitat is primarily low, wet terrain. *Euchemotrema leai* may be found in marshes and swamps, floodplains, and grassy meadows (Hubricht, 1985).

Taxonomy

Synonyms for *E. leai* include: *Helix leai*, *H. monodon*, *Polygyra monodon*, *P. m. peoriensis*, *Stenotrema leai*, and *S. monodon*.

Distribution

The Lowland Pillsnail is distributed widely in central North America – from southern Canada and the upper Midwest to the Gulf Coast. The subspecies *E. leai leai* is recognized to the north, and *E. leai aliciae* to the south. In Virginia it is *E. leai aliciae* that has been reported, and only from Craig County.

NatureServe Global Rank: G5

NatureServe State Rank: S1S3

Virginia's wildlife action plan: Tier IV

Ken Hotopp, Meegan Winslow 8/2012

Range Map



Photo(s): *Euchemotrema leai* image by Bill Frank ©. The southern *Euchemotrema leai aliciae* shell by Larry Watrous ©.

[Click photo\(s\) to enlarge.](#)

