

Virginia Land Snails

Anguispira kochi (Pfeiffer, 1821)

Family: Discidae

Common name: Banded Globe

Identification

Width: 19.5-31.0 mm

Height: 15-21 mm

Whorls: 6

The shell of *Anguispira kochi* is a robust heliciform shape, the largest in its Family (Pilsbry, 1948). The lip is simple and the umbilicus is wide. The surface is a matte yellow with two dark brown spiral bands above.

Ecology

The habitat of *Anguispira kochi* is leaf litter and coarse woody debris, on river bluffs and in dry woods (Pilsbry, 1948; Hubricht, 1985). In Michigan, Goodrich (*in* Pilsbry, 1948) reports it is an animal of old forest, rarely found even in second-growth timber. Although it is widespread, this species is not common in the East - it is often found as a subfossil shell or in river drift.

Taxonomy

Synonyms for *A. kochi* are *Helix solitaria*, *H. kochi*, *Patula solitaria*, and *Pyramidula solitaria*.

Distribution

Anguispira kochi is reported from southern Michigan, west and south to Indiana and Tennessee, and east into Pennsylvania, but also in a disjunct population in the Pacific Northwest. These are the first reports of this species in Virginia, where it was collected in Scott County by John Slapcinsky and in Alleghany County by Ken Hotopp and team.

NatureServe Global Rank: G5

NatureServe State Rank: not ranked

Ken Hotopp 1/2013



Photo(s): The Anguispira kochi shell is taller and smoother than many of its relatives. Image by Bill Frank ©.

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Range Map



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