

## Virginia Land Snails

### *Cochlicopa lubricella* (Porro, 1838)

Family: Cionellidae

Common name: Thin Pillar

#### Identification

Width: 2.1-2.5 mm

Height: 4.5- 6.8 mm

Whorls: 5+

The elongate shell of this animal is small, yellowish-brown, and sometimes has a rosy lip color. It is smaller and more cylindrical than *C. lubrica*, though there may be some size overlap.

#### Ecology

*Cochlicopa lubricella* occurs in colonies on developed sites, sometimes on lawns and around driveways.

Densities may reach dozens per square meter. It is sometimes reported with *C. lubrica*, noting that the two are taxonomically very similar. However, *C. lubricella* tends to favor richer and drier habitats (Kerney & Cameron, 1979).

#### Taxonomy

*Cochlicopa lubricella* has also been known as *Cionella lubricella*.

#### Distribution

*Cochlicopa lubricella* is introduced from Europe. In North America it ranges across southeastern Canada and the Northeastern and Midwestern United States, reported as far west as South Dakota. Its distribution in Virginia is patchy and poorly known.

NatureServe Global Rank: G5

NatureServe State Rank: S2S4

Ken Hotopp, Meegan Winslow 9/2012

#### Range Map



Photo(s): The shell of *Cochlicopa lubricella*, by Jeff Nekola ©.

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

