

Virginia Land Snails

Discus nigrimontanus (Pilsbry, 1924)

Family: Discidae

Common name: Black Mountain Disc

Identification

Width: 7.4 mm

Height: 2.4 mm tall

Whorls: 5+

The shell of *Discus nigrimontanus* looks flattened when seen from the side, with a low apex and a shallow, open umbilicus. The top of the whorls are bluntly angled, with the bottom even more blunt and sloping inward slightly. The shell is covered with coarse radial ribbing and it has a thin lip, as in most of its relatives. This species is similar in some ways to *D. bryanti*, though *D. nigrimontanus*' whorls are not as sharply angled.

Ecology

Discus nigrimontanus is usually found in thin leaf litter in rocky upland woods (Hubricht, 1985).

Taxonomy

It has reportedly hybridized with *D. patulus*, giving rise to the form *edentulus* common in Arkansas (Hubricht, 1985). A synonym for this species is *Gonyodiscus bryanti nigrimontanus*.

Distribution

This species has been reported in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. In Virginia it has been found only in the westernmost parts, in Grundy and Russell counties.

NatureServe Global Rank: G4

NatureServe State Rank: S1S3

Virginia's wildlife action plan: Tier IV

Greg Kimber, Ken Hotopp 7/2012

Range Map



Photo(s): A *Discus nigrimontanus* shell exhibits slightly "tilted" whorls, by Larry Watrous ©.

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