

## Virginia Land Snails

### *Discus whitneyi* (Newcomb, 1864)

Family: Discidae

Common name: Forest Disc

#### Identification

Width: 5.0 - 6.7 mm

Height: 2.7- 3.6 mm

Whorls: 4

The body whorl and aperture of this disk's shell are quite round, and the apex is mildly convex. The umbilicus is open and, though not particularly wide, does show all the whorls. Radial ribs adorn this shell's surface.

#### Ecology

*Discus whitneyi* likes moisture and is often found in springs, seeps, or large wetlands. It can also be found in low-lying meadows, roadsides, and near marshes, or even in urban areas. Its distribution at the local scale can be quite disjunct or patchy.

#### Taxonomy

Synonyms for *D. whitneyi* are *D. cronkhitei*, *D. cronkhitei anthonyi*, *D. cronkhitei cronkhitei*, *Helix cronkhitei*, *H. striatella*, *Gonyodiscus cronkhitei*, *G. cronkhitei*, *Patula striatella*, *P. striatella* form *albina*, *Pyramidula cronkhitei*, *P. cronkhitei anthonyi*, *P. striatella* var. *alba*, and *P. striatella* var. *albino*.

#### Distribution

*Discus whitneyi* occurs all through the north-central and north-eastern parts of the United States and into Canada. It shows up in western Virginia and in the south-western corner of the state.

NatureServe Global Rank: G5

NatureServe State Rank: S3

Greg Kimber, Ken Hotopp 7/2012

#### Range Map



Photo(s): Three views of a *Discus whitneyi* shell, by Jeff Nekola ©.

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