

Virginia Land Snails

Inflectarius inflectus (Say, 1821)

Family: Polygyridae
Common name: Shagreen

Identification

Width: 9.5- 12.0 mm
Height: 5.0- 7.5 mm
Whorls: 4+

The shell of *Inflectarius inflectus* is depressed and imperforate. Its outer lip is reflected, creating a gutter behind it on the final whorl. It has three teeth in the aperture, a long parietal tooth, a short, blunt and slightly recessed palatal tooth, and narrow basal tooth. The shell is a bit larger and the basal tooth is more visible than in its congener *I. rugeli*.

Ecology

Inflectarius inflectus can be found in many habitats. Look for it under leaf litter, logs and rocks in wooded areas, under railroad ties, on roadsides, in gardens and even under trash in urban areas (Hubricht, 1985). In Tennessee, it has been associated particularly with wet soils of higher acidity (Coney et al, 1982).

Taxonomy

Inflectarius inflectus has also been known as *Helix clausa*, *H. inflecta*, *H. (Triodopsis) inflexa*, *Mesodon inflectus*, *Polygyra inflecta*, *P. i. var. media*, *P. herberti*, *Triodopsis inflecta*, and *Xolotrema clausa*.

Distribution

This central and southern US snail ranges from southern Michigan, as far west as Oklahoma and Texas, and as far south as Louisiana and Florida. In Virginia it is found only in the western counties.

NatureServe Global Rank: G5
NatureServe State Rank: S3

Ken Hotopp, Meegan Winslow 8/2012

Range Map



Photo(s): *Inflectarius inflectus* Live animals and mating pair by Bill Frank ©. Shell, showing a slightly more open aperture than *I. rugeli*, by Larry Watrous ©.

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