

## Virginia Land Snails

### *Pomatiopsis cincinnatiensis* (I. Lea, 1840)

Family: Pomatiopsidae

Common name: Brown Walker

#### Identification

Height: ~4.5 mm

Width: ~3.5 mm

Whorls: ~6

This snail and its sister species are amphibious, with gills for breathing and an operculum. The brown shell of *Pomatiopsis cincinnatiensis* is shaped like a broad cone. It has rounded whorls with impressed sutures, and fine radial growth lines upon the surface. The apex is acute, and the aperture oval and simple (Jokinen, 1992). The shell is shorter and wider than that of *P. lapidaria*.

#### Ecology

*Pomatiopsis cincinnatiensis* is found on muddy stream banks, floodplains, and nearby slopes of medium and large rivers. In Virginia and Tennessee these animals are most frequent in a zone a meter or two above regular water levels (Dillon et al, 2006). They appear to have a simple annual life cycle.

#### Taxonomy

There are no synonyms.

#### Distribution

*Pomatiopsis cincinnatiensis* is found in the upper Mississippi River watershed, from Iowa, Michigan, and Illinois, to Tennessee and western Virginia.

NatureServe Global Rank: G5

NatureServe State Rank: S2

Ken Hotopp 2/2013

#### Range Map



*Photo(s): The shell of Pomatiopsis cincinnatiensis is stouter than its sister species P. lapidaria. Image by Dan Dourson ©.*

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