

Virginia Land Snails

Ventridens cerinoideus (Anthony, 1865)

Family: Gastrodontiidae

Common name: Wax Dome

Identification

Width: 7.2 – 9.0 mm

Height: 4.8 – 5.5 mm

Whorls: 6.75+

The surface of *Ventridens cerinoideus*'s shell is glossy, with weak radial striations. The shell has a pale yellow color. The lip is dilated slightly at the point where it meets the axis, nearly covering the umbilical perforation. The shell is similar in shape to other *Ventridens*, though it is almost always smaller than *V. gularis*, and its apex is lower. Two teeth are present in younger specimens, but are lost just before maturity.

Ecology

This coastal species is found in floodplains, swamps, and marshes, and on roadsides, usually under litter.

Taxonomy

Synonyms for *V. cerinoideus* are: *Helix cerinoidea*, *Ventridens gularis cerinoideus*, *Zonites cerinoideus*, and *Zonitoides (Ventridens) cerinoideus*.

Distribution

Ventridens cerinoideus inhabits the Atlantic coastal plain, extending from northern Florida up the coast to Maryland. It is only found in the eastern counties of Virginia and barely reaches the Piedmont.

NatureServe Global Rank: G4

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Greg Kimber, Ken Hotopp 11/2012

Range Map



Photo(s): Drawings of *Ventridens cerinoideus* shells from Pilsbry (1946), with permission from the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia at Drexel University. Lectotype shell images by Francisco Borrero/ANSP at Drexel University ©.

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