
The girdled snail, *Hygromia cinctella* (Gastropoda: Pulmonata: Hygromiidae): first Scottish record

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On September 21st 2008 I collected a few small snails from leaves of Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica* (Houtt.) Ronse Decr.) in Hayburn Lane, Partickhill, Glasgow (NS553671).

Among them was a specimen of *Hygromia* (*Hygromia*) *cinctella* (Draparnaud, 1801), the 'girdled snail', a southern European species first recorded in the UK in Devon in the 1950s (www.conchsoc.org/projects/hyg-cinct.php) and which has not until now been recorded north of Leeds (Adrian Norris, pers. comm.). It may be that it had migrated from a nearby garden, having been introduced with new plant material.

A recent survey by the National Museum of Wales confirms that the snail is well-established there (www.museumwales.ac.uk/scan/). It is has also been recorded in many locations across southern England (data.nbn.org.uk), and most probably occurs, as yet unnoticed, elsewhere.

There is some interest in *Hygromia cinctella* as a snail of warm climates, and therefore a possible indicator of climate change. However more study would be required to establish the viability of the species in Glasgow; I will be looking out for it next spring to see whether it has survived the winter.

The Partickhill end of Hayburn Lane is notable for an abundance of snails. These are mainly *Helix aspersa* Mueller (*Cornu aspersum*), though there are also *Cepaea* and *Trochulus* (formerly *Trichia*) species. The lane as a whole is a valuable wildlife corridor alongside a railway line and its former branch leading to the original site of Hyndland Station (personal observations).

I am grateful to Mike Rutherford at Glasgow Museums for identifying the specimen, and to the Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland for information about its British distribution.