

# Threatened Species of the Northern Territory

## VICTORIA'S LAND SNAIL

### *Setobaudinia victoriana*

#### Conservation status

Australia: Not listed

Northern Territory: Vulnerable

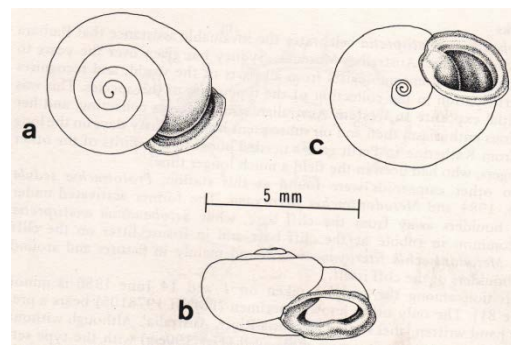


Illustration from Solem 1985

#### Description

*Setobaudinia victoriana* is a small (shell diameter 5.2-6.8 mm) camaenid land snail, with a raised parietal lip, laterally compressed periphery, absence of a palatal node and small umbilicus whose last whorl decoils very rapidly (Solem 1985).

#### Distribution

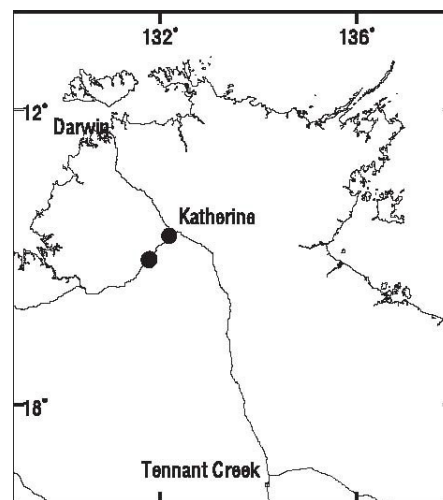
Solem (1985) reported that the few collections of this snail were from in and around a limestone sinkhole adjacent to the Victoria Highway, 86 km SW of Katherine. Some more recent museum collections attributed to this species extend this known range marginally.

*Conservation reserves where reported:*

None

#### Ecology

The recorded specimens were in leaf litter at the base of large limestone boulders in a marshy sink, or buried in soil in open eucalyptus woodland (V. Kessner *pers. comm.*; Solem 1985).



Known locations of *Setobaudinia victoriana*

● = post 1970.

#### Conservation assessment

This snail is known from an extremely restricted range. It is considered to qualify as **Vulnerable** (under criterion D2) based on:

- area of occupancy < 20 km<sup>2</sup>; and
- known to exist at < 5 locations.

#### Threatening processes

It is possible that this land snail has always been extremely restricted in range, and there is no direct evidence that any factors have yet caused a decline in their numbers or distribution. However, in general, land snails

are susceptible to the impacts of an increased frequency and intensity of fire. Exotic pastures, such as gamba grass (*Andropogon gayanus*) and mission grass (*Pennisetum polystachion*) create far more fuel than do the native grasses and hence frequently carry destructive fires. These exotic grasses are all spreading rapidly. Overgrazing by livestock and feral animals can affect land snail habitat by trampling or disturbing aestivation sites and killing the trees on which some species depend. Cane toads, which colonised the range of this snail in about 2005, may have a significant effect, but no studies have assessed this possible impact.

### **Conservation objectives and management**

There are no existing management programs for land snail species in the Northern Territory.

A monitoring program should be established.

Research priorities are:

- i. to conduct further surveys to determine whether populations occur elsewhere; and
- ii. to identify specific threats to the known population.

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### **References**

Solem, A. (1985). Camaenid land snails from Western and central Australia (Mollusca: Pulmonata: Camaenidae). V Remaining Kimberley genera and addenda to the Kimberley. *Records of the Western Australian Museum Supplement* 20, 707-981.