

Limnoperna fortunei Golden mussel

Phylum: Mollusca
Class: Bivalvia (**Subclass:** Pteriomorpha)
Order: Mytiloida
(**Superfamily:** Mytiloidea) **Family:** Mytilidae



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Synonymised Taxa

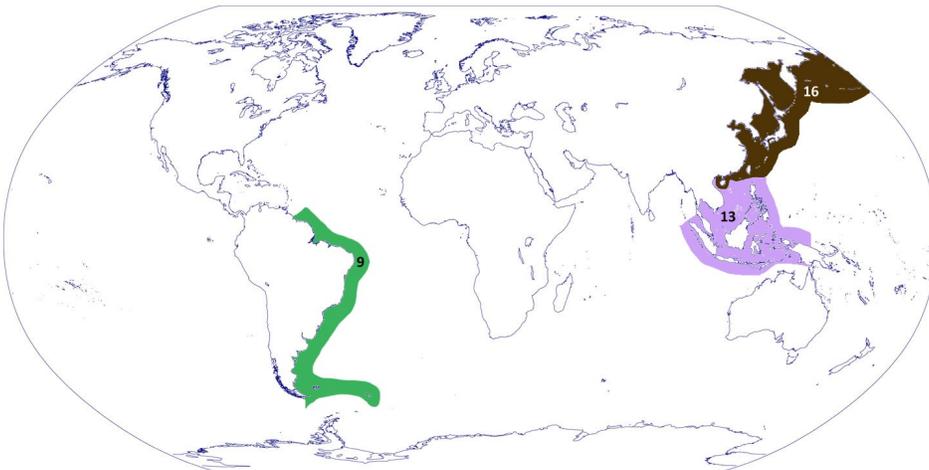
Dreissena siamensis Morelet, 1866
Limnoperna depressa Brandt & Temcharoen, 1971
Limnoperna lemeslei Rochebrune, 1882
Limnoperna supoti Brandt, 1974
Modiola cambodjensis Clessin, 1889
Modiola lacustris Martens, 1875
Mytilus martensi Neumayer, 1898
Volsella fortunei Dunker, 1857
Limnoperna lacustris Morton, 1973
Limnoperna siamensis Brandt, 1974

Larval Period

Planktonic larval stage lasts between 30-70 days before settlement.

Distribution (Bioregions)

Native: 13, 16 **Introduced:** 9



Habitat

A freshwater mussel, but can be found in brackish waters and capable of surviving in higher salinities. Mostly found in estuaries, lakes, wetlands, rivers and urban water courses. It attaches to natural and artificial hard structures using byssal threads. It's able to tolerate low levels of calcium and pH in polluted waters. It can reside in temperate and subtropical climates. Commonly found in depths ranging from 0.5 to 10m, but has been found as deep as 40m.

Temperature Tolerance

8 to 33°C

Salinity Range

0 to 12 ppt

Size

Up to 60 mm.

List

- Woodside
- WA species of concern

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Key Features

- The outside colour of the valves is a distinctive gold, brown to yellow, but some populations can be dark, almost black;
- The valves are shiny and smooth in texture;
- Fine cords radiating concentrically outwards from the umbone to the ventral margin;
- The umbones are subterminal and prosogyrate;
- Valves are equivalve and inequilateral. The bivalve is of a mussel shape;
- The dorsal ligament margin is almost straight and the ligament is opisthodetic and parivincular;
- No septum;
- There are no hinge teeth and no byssal notch;
- Musculature is heteromyarian. Anterior adductor muscle is absent;
- **The interior of the shell has a nacreous layer which differentiates it from all other species in the Dreissenacea super-family. It is purple in colour, with some white below the keel;**
- Filibranch gill anatomy;
- Mantle lobes with 3 marginal folds.

