

Biodiversity Record: Snails of the genus *Stenothyra* from Sungei Pandan

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Recommended citation. Tan SK (2023) Biodiversity Record: Snails of the genus *Stenothyra* from Sungei Pandan. Nature in Singapore, 16: e2023052. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2023-0052

Subjects: *Stenothyra glabrata*, *Stenothyra monilifera* and *Stenothyra polita* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Stenothyridae).

Subjects identified by: Tan Siong Kiat.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Sungei Pandan; April 2022, afternoon.

Habitat: Estuarine, mud banks at the seaward side of the mangrove fringe exposed during low tide.

Observers: Tan Siong Kiat, and others.

Observations: Small snails, with shells of around 5 to 6 mm long, were spotted crawling slowly or lying motionless on the surface of wet silty mud and decaying leaves, and in small pools of water. Some examples were collected for the purpose of identification. After cleaning, the material was found to comprise three species, *Stenothyra glabrata* (Fig. 1A), *Stenothyra monilifera* (Fig. 1B) and *Stenothyra polita* (Fig. 1C), all of which were deposited as vouchers in the Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC) of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore.

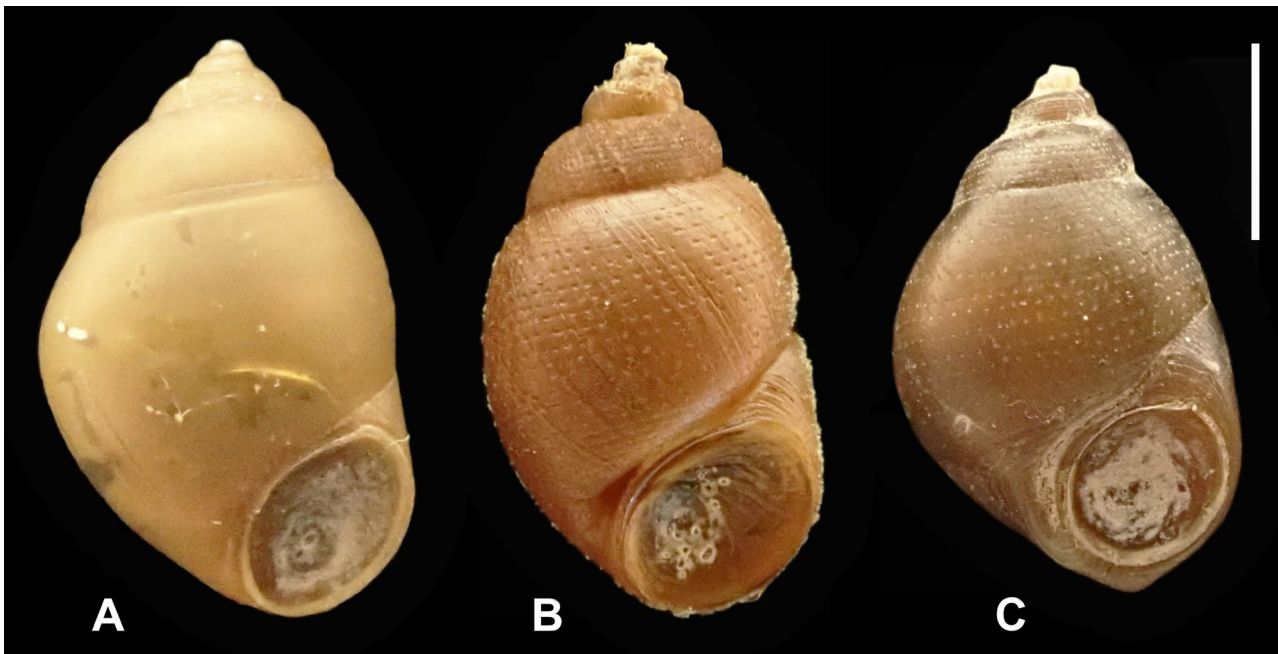


Fig. 1. *Stenothyra* species (shell length ca. 5.0–5.5 mm), from the mangroves at Sungei Pandan; scale bar 2 mm. A, *Stenothyra glabrata*; B, *Stenothyra monilifera*; C, *Stenothyra polita*. (Photograph by: Tan Siong Kiat).

Remarks: Some half a dozen species of the genus *Stenothyra* have been recorded from Singapore (Tan & Woo, 2010; Chan & Lau, 2019). These little snails, typically smaller than 6 mm, can be quite common on wet mud in the mangroves, and brackish drains and canals around Singapore (personal observations). The three species herein featured are relatively large for the genus (see Annandale & Prashad, 1921; Brandt, 1974).

Of the three, *Stenothyra glabrata* is easily distinguished by its smooth and glossy shell. Although the glossiness is obscured by the periostracum in the example figured, this can still be seen where there are nicks (Fig. 1A). This species appears to be a new record (see e.g., Tan & Woo, 2010), but its presence in Singapore is unsurprising. It has been reported from several neighbouring South-east Asian localities (e.g., Brandt, 1974) since it was first described from Penang as *Nematura glabrata* by Adams (1853).

Stenothyra monilifera is more similar in shape to *Stenothyra glabrata*, but has deep sutures, and sculpture of spiral rows of prominent pits (Fig. 1B). It was described from Mergui, Burma (Myanmar) by Benson (1856).

Stenothyra polita has a more distinctly shaped shell because of the prominent keel at its base, and smaller, less prominent pits arranged in spiral lines (Fig. 1C). The shell is also more dorso-ventrally compressed although this is not apparent in Fig. 1. This species was originally described as *Nematura polita* from an unknown locality by Adams (1853), but its type locality was stated to be Singapore by Brandt (1974) citing Benson (1856). However, Benson (1856) had merely reported on the specimen of this species procured from Singapore by his friend, Dr J. F. Bacon.

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