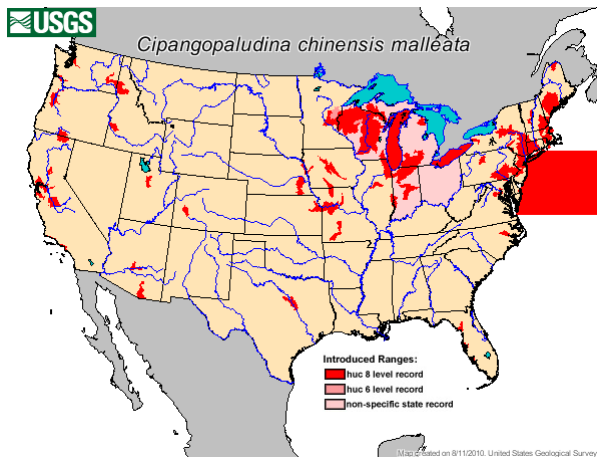


Chinese Mystery Snail

Cipangopaludina chinensis
Viviparus malleatus

Identification Light to dark olive-green smooth, thin shell that is about 60 mm or 2.25 inches in length. Shell can have 6 to 7 whorls.

Why is it a Problem? Known to host *Echinostoma cinetorchis* (human intestinal flukes) and transmit other diseases and parasites. Competes with native snail and fish species for food and habitat.



Range/Habitat Freshwater snail native to Burma, Thailand, South Vietnam, China, Korea, Japan, the Philippines, and Java. Introduced in at least 27 states, especially in the Northeast and the Great Lakes region. Found in the Potomac River, Maryland.

Similar Species Other species of the same genus.

Control and Prevention Do not release unwanted pets or live, unused snails purchased as food into Maryland waters. Clean boats and boating equipment well.

Method of Introduction This species was sold in the Chinese live food market in San Francisco in the late 1800s. Collected by 1914 in Boston. Likely also introduced through aquarium releases and transported via bait buckets and water holding areas on boats.

Want to know more? Check out www.dnr.maryland.gov for more on invasive species in Maryland and what you can do about it.

Legal Status TBD

Sources:

Appendix F; http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/invasive062910.pdf

<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/factsheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1045>

http://www.in.gov/dnr/files/CHINESE_MYSTERY_SNAIL.pdf