



Garden Pond Snails in Wales

Are there snails living in your garden pond? Why not go out and check for yourself? Here are some of the most common. Let us know what you find and where you found it on Twitter via @CardiffCurator.

Find more nature guides or get in touch with our museum scientists for help with identification: museum.wales/collections/on-your-doorstep



Wandering Pond Snail

Ampullaceana balthica

This common snail can be found in many ponds and water features, grazing on rocks and plant surfaces.

The shell is short and blunt with a large, oval opening. It has a greyish body, with speckles and triangular tentacles (flaps above the eye spots).

*Actual size
(15mm tall)



Great Pond Snail

Lymnaea stagnalis

King of the pond! This species likes mature, well-vegetated ponds. It floats at the surface in warm weather.

The shell is tall and pointed with a large, almost rectangular opening. The tentacles are triangular.

(Up to 45mm tall)



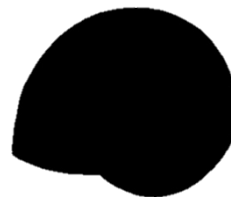
Great Ram's-Horn

Planorbarius corneus

This charismatic Ram's-horn snail is found in many garden ponds, crawling on surfaces and vegetation.

The shell is a flattened wheel shape. The soft body is either reddish or a dark grey colour, and the tentacles are long, thin and tubular.

(30mm wide)



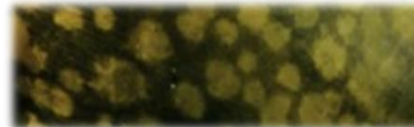
Common Bladder Snail

Physa fontinalis

This native species wiggles its bubble-like shell as it crawls.

The top of the shell is flattened and the opening is on the left-hand side. A blotchy pattern on the body shows through the transparent shell.

(9mm tall)



Acute Bladder Snail

Physella acuta

This species was accidentally introduced from North America, and has spread to many places including garden ponds.

This snail resembles the Common Bladder Snail, but has a more pointed shell and less blotchy body.

(10mm tall)

