

LAMPASILIS ABRUPTA (SAY, 1831)
Ohio Mucket

SYNONYMY:

Lampsilis orbiculata (Hildreth, 1828). (Simpson, 1914:76)

CLASSIFICATION:

Family Unionidae (Fleming, 1828) Ortmann, 1911.
Subfamily Lampsilinae (von Ihering, 1901) Ortmann, 1910.
Genus Lampsilis Rafinesque, 1820.

CHARACTERISTICS: Shell medium to large, male high elliptical, female quadrate, inflated to quite swollen, very solid; umbos low to moderately high, sculpture finely double-looped; surface of disc without sculpture, periostracum brownish yellow to reddish brown, rayless or with faint, narrow greenish brown rays; cardinal teeth heavy, lateral teeth thick; nacre white or light orange to pinkish orange.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Actinonaias ligamentina (Lamarck, 1819) nacre white; subspecies A. l. carinata (Barnes, 1823) elongate elliptical; usually distinctly rayed; often not separable from male Lampsilis abrupta on shell characters alone.

RANGE: Simpson (1914:77) found this species to occur only in the "Ohio and Cumberland Rivers; west to the Mississippi River."

RANGE IN OHIO: L. abrupta was reported by Sterki (1907:389) to occur in the "Ohio River and probably some of its tributaries." And it did occur in at least the lower Muskingum and Scioto Rivers. However, only subfossil material was collected in the Scioto River in the 1960's and no fresh specimens have been taken from the Muskingum River in the last 15+ years. The range of this species apparently has been confined to some parts of the Ohio River main stem and its more southern tributaries, not within the state of Ohio.

HABITAT: Ortmann (1919:323-324) found this species to be:

". . . a shell of strong currents in large rivers. I found all my specimens on riffles; but farther down in the Ohio it is present upon the shell-banks, among other bed-forming species."

In addition, Parmalee (1967:67) noted:

"This mussel is limited in its habitat to large rivers, . . . Apparently little is known concerning typical depths and bottom types in which this species occurs except that it is taken by mussel fishermen usually in deep water."

SELECTED REFERENCES:

- Ortmann, Arnold E.
1919 A monograph of the Najades of Pennsylvania. Part III.
Systematic account of the genera and species.
Carnegie Mus. Mem., 8(1):1-384, 21 pl., 34 fig.
- Parmalee, Paul W.
1967 The fresh-water mussels of Illinois.
Ill. State Mus. Pop. Sci. Ser. 8:4-IX, 1-108, 35 pl.,
4 fig., frontispiece of 11 col. fig.
- Simpson, Charles Torrey
1914 A descriptive catalogue of the naiades, or pearly fresh-
water mussels.
Bryant Walker, Detroit, Michigan, 3 volumes, 1540 pp.
- Sterki, Victor
1907 A preliminary catalogue of the land and fresh-water Mollusca
of Ohio.
Ohio State Acad. Sci. Spec. Pap. No. 12:365-402.