

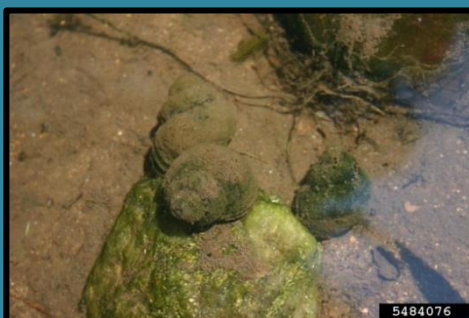
*Bellamyia chinensis* (*Cipangopaludina chinensis*)

## Chinese Mystery Snail

*Bellamyia japonica* (*Cipangopaludina japonica*)

## Japanese Mystery Snail

Viviparidae, the river snail family



### Diagnostic Characteristics

- Freshwater snail that can reach 2¾ inches in length
- Globose shell with 6-7 whorls (Chinese) and 7-8 whorls (Japanese)
- Juveniles are light in color
- Adults are olive-green, greenish-brown, reddish-brown, or brown
- Inner shell color is white to pale blue
- Hard flap that covers shell opening

### Background

- Native to Russia, China, Japan and Korea; introduced to U.S. through aquarium release
- May compete with native snail populations and alter ecosystem processes; increases nitrogen levels
- Shells may clog water intake pipes and inhibit flow
- Filter and detritivore feeders (eat debris found on the bottom of waterways)

Photo Credit:

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