

TRUNCILLA TRUNCATA RAFINESQUE, 1820  
Deertoe

## SYNONYMY:

- Plagiola elegans (Lea, 1831). (Simpson, 1914:307)
- Amygdalonia truncata (Rafinesque, 1820). (Ortmann, 1919:238)
- Truncilla truncata vermiculata Rafinesque, 1820. (Frierson, 1927:89)
- Truncilla truncata lacustris Baker, 1928. (F.C. Baker, 1928:227)

## CLASSIFICATION:

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

CHARACTERISTICS: Shell small to medium size, triangular, compressed to subinflated, subsolid to solid; umbos fairly high, sculpture finely double-looped; surface of disc shallowly sulcate, posterior ridge quite sharp; periostracum rayless yellow to yellowish green or brown with many fine, green-brown, often zigzag rays, to nearly black; hinge somewhat angled, cardinal teeth triangular, vertical, lateral teeth fairly thin; nacre white, very rarely pink.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Truncilla donaciformis (Lea, 1827) elongate-elliptical, cardinal teeth lamellate.

RANGE: "Mississippi drainage generally; Michigan; Lake Michigan; southwest to Trinity River, Texas."  
(Simpson, 1914:307)

RANGE IN OHIO: This species was probably more widely distributed across the state than it is today. Sterki (1907:389) found it in "[b]oth drainages; Ohio and Little Miami Rivers; Maumee and Tiffin Rivers; Lake Erie." Sullivant (1838:9) found it in the Scioto River, while other collectors found it in Duck Creek (ca. 1830) and in the lower Muskingum River (1927, 1934). According to recent records, T. truncata still lives in the Ohio River main stem, as well as in Lake Erie and some of its tributaries (e.g., the Maumee River).

HABITAT: Ortmann (1919:240) found that:

"In Pennsylvania this species is rare, and turns up only in the Ohio below Pittsburgh. The few specimens I found there, were found in and below riffles, probably washed out of shell-banks above them."

F.C. Baker (1928:226-227) observed T. truncata

"In Wisconsin River in water 1-2 m. deep, on a sand or mud bottom; in Fox River at Omro, on a sandy mud bottom in .3-.6 m. of water, usually along shore; in Lake Butte des Morts, on a mud bottom in water 11 feet deep."

Parmalee (1967:86) also found this species in a variety of habitats:

". . . this species is rather generalized in the type of bottom environment and size of rivers it inhabits. The Deer-Toe appears to be more common in the medium-sized and large rivers, where it is usually found in current, in shallows or at depths of 6 feet or more, on a sand or mud bottom. This mussel may also become well established in lakes where there is some current or flowing water."

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Baker, Frank Collins

1928 The fresh water Mollusca of Wisconsin. Part II Pelecypoda.  
Wisc. Geol. Nat. Hist. Surv. Bull. 70:i-vi, 1-482,  
pl. 29-105, fig. 203-299.

Frierson, Lorraine S.

1927 A classified and annotated check list of North American  
Naiades.  
Baylor Univ. Press, Waco, Texas, 111 pp.

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:i-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.

Sullivant, Joseph

1838 An alphabetical catalogue of the shells, fossils, minerals,  
and zoophytes in the cabinet of Joseph Sullivant, curator  
of the Philosophical and Historical Society of Ohio.  
Columbus, Ohio, 38 pp.

VILLOSA LIENOSA (CONRAD, 1834)  
Black Creek Shell

CLASSIFICATION:

Family Unionidae (Fleming, 1828) Ortmann, 1911.  
Subfamily Lampsilinae (von Ihering, 1901) Ortmann, 1910.  
Genus Villosa Frierson, 1927.

CHARACTERISTICS: Shell small to medium size, male elliptical; female expanded and distinctly swollen postventrally, posterior extreme elevated, rounded; subinflated to inflated, subsolid to solid; umbos low, sculpture wide double loops becoming irregular and open at both ends; periostracum olive green or yellowish brown to blackish brown; cardinal teeth small, triangular, lateral teeth slightly curved; nacre commonly white, occasionally pinkish in the hinge and umbonal cavity region, rarely deep rose.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Ligumia subrostrata (Say, 1831) more elongate, pointed posteriorly, cardinal teeth lamellate.

RANGE: Simpson (1914:101) found this species to occur in the:

"Lower Mississippi River drainage north to the lower Ohio and Wabash; east to southwest Georgia."

RANGE IN OHIO: This species tends to occur in the smaller tributaries of the Ohio River system. There are recent records of its existence in: East Fork Little Miami River (1973, 1974); Little Salt Creek (1964), Pigeon Creek (1964), Buckeye Creek (1965) and Scioto Brush Creek (1966) of the Scioto River system; and Buffalo Creek (1971) of the Symmes Creek drainage system. There is also a record of a subfossil specimen taken from Whiteoak Creek (a tributary of the Ohio River) in 1977. Generally, however, this is a rare species in the state of Ohio.

HABITAT: Parmalee (1967:76) commented on the habitat of V. lienosa:

"This mussel inhabits streams and small rivers, and is usually found in shallow water on a sand/mud bottom."

SELECTED REFERENCES:

- Parmalee, Paul W.  
1967 The fresh-water mussels of Illinois.  
Ill. State. Mus. Pop. Sci. Ser. 8:8-8x, 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.