



## Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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### Giant African snail (050)



Photo 1. Giant African snail, *Lissachatina fulica*, in this case the shell is brown with light brown stripes.



Photo 2. Giant African snail, *Lissachatina fulica*, sheltering under a rock by day to prevent dehydration.



Photo 3. Giant African snails, *Lissachatina fulica*, on banana.



Photo 4. Eggs of the giant African snail, *Lissachatina fulica*.



Photo 5. Excreta of the giant African snail, *Lissachatina fulica*.

### Summary

- Worldwide distribution. GAS eats many vegetables, ornamentals and tree crops. An important pest.
- Feeds at night; by day, under stones, logs, and leaves.
- Eggs laid in batches (200-300) under soil and on logs.
- Spreads on slime from “foot”; long-distance spread by humans: eggs in pot plants, sawdust, vehicles, shipping containers, moved as pets. Carries the rat lung worm.
- Natural enemies: avoid predatory snails, flatworms, (a threat to local fauna); use Indian runner ducks.

- Cultural control: bare earth or sand, 1.5 m wide around plots; collect, boil 1h, feed to pigs; ducks; awareness programs.
- Chemical control: metaldehyde and methiocarb not recommended due to human and environmental concern

## Common Name

Giant African snail

## Scientific Name

*Lissachatina fulica*, previously known as *Achatina fulica*

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