



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

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Commissioner

PEST: Aquatic Snails (Ex: Apple Snails, *Pomacea canaliculata*)

BASIC PROFILE: These snails feed on aquatic plants, including ornamental pond plants and rice. In nature they are found in canals, bayous and other waterways. They may threaten waterway ecosystems. Eggs are laid out of water on posts, pillars or any other vertical surface. Snails also move and spread through the pet store trade. Adults may range from ~ 25mm (1 inch) (pet store trade) to over ~ 100mm (4 inch) in nature. Some closely-related snail species are not pests but look nearly identical to pest species.

LDAF ACTIVITY: We have found these snails in the pet trade through directed inspections. We also have done limited field surveys in ponds and waterways. Pet trade sources vary based on shipment origins. Positive finds trigger state quarantine action such as stop sales and snail destruction. Waterway finds are noted/reported.

REPRESENTATIVE PEST SNAILS

Pet Trade “Apple” or “Golden” Snail
(*Pomacea canaliculata*) 1 inch size



In-Nature “Apple” Snail
(*Pomacea sp.*) 4 inch size



Eggs 1 – 2 inch