

# INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!

## Asian Clam



GB Non-Native Species Secretariat



NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DATA CENTRE  
Documenting Ireland's Wildlife

**Invasive species alert for:** *Corbicula fluminea* (Müller, . 1774)

**Common name(s):** Asian clam, Asiatic clam, Prosperity clam

**Why the concern?** Asian clam are aggressive competitors that have significant environmental impacts on the aquatic systems they invade. Asian clam can reach high densities and outcompete native species for food and space. The Asian clam threatens salmonoid spawning grounds and the protected freshwater pearl mussel. Water based industries and drinking water facilities may be faced with higher costs due to the clogging of intake pipes.

**What does it look like?** Asian clam is an invasive bivalve species, it has a yellow-green to brown rounded triangular shell with concentric, evenly spaced ridges on the outer shell surface. They are usually less than 25 mm but can grow up to 50 to 65 mm in length. Asian clam have two lateral serrated teeth and three cardinal teeth visible inside their shell.

**Where might I see it?** Lakes and watercourses. This species lives in a range of substrates preferring sand and gravel to mud.

**For more information or to report any sightings please email**

**[coflynn@biodiversityireland.ie](mailto:coflynn@biodiversityireland.ie) or visit**

**<http://invasivespeciesireland.com>**



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