

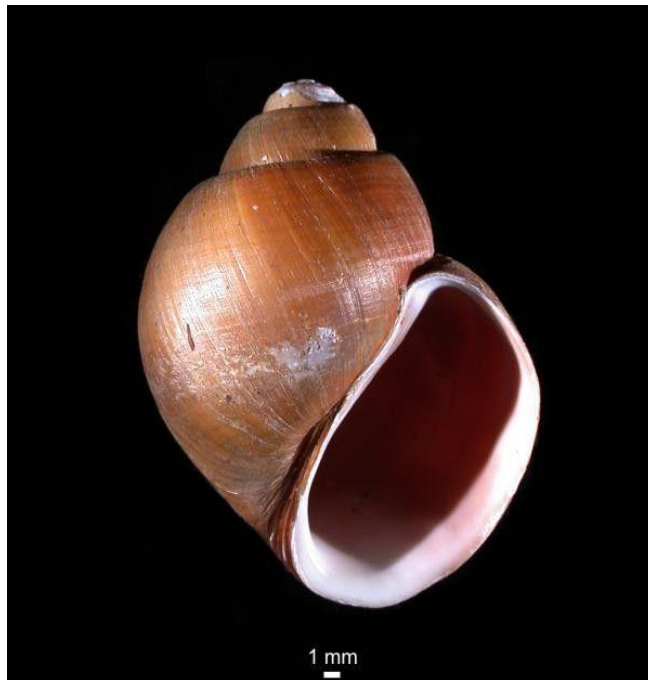
SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Amauropsis islandica

English name: Iceland moonsnail	Scientific name: <i>Amauropsis islandica</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Gastropoda Order: Hypsogastropoda Family: Naticidae	Species authority: Gmelin, 1791	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: <i>Amauropsis islandicus</i> Gmelin, 1791	Generation length: 5–6 years	
Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Fishing (bottom trawling; F02.02.01), Eutrophication (H01.05)	Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Fishing (bottom trawling; F02.02.01), Eutrophication (H01.05), Climate change (M01.01)	
IUCN Criteria: B2ab(ii,iii,iv)	HELCOM Red List Category:	NT Near Threatened
Global / European IUCN Red List Category NE / NE	Habitats Directive: –	
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/–, Estonia –/–, Finland –/–, Germany –/2 (Endangered), Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/VU		

Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

Amauropsis islandica is a marine sea snail demanding high salinities. In the HELCOM area it is rare and has been found only from the Arkona Basin to the Kattegat. Its habitats have suffered e.g. from bottom trawling.

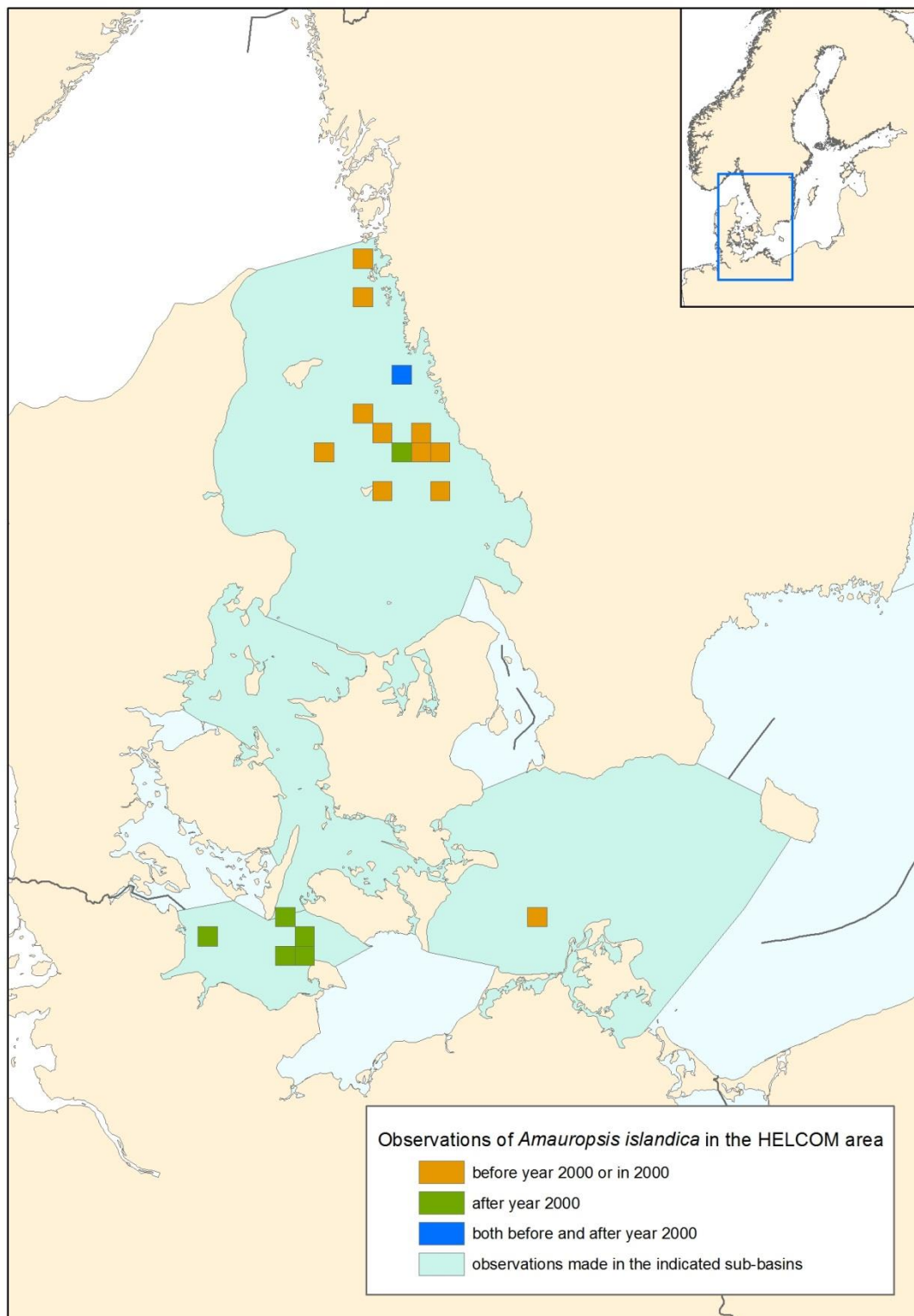


Amauropsis islandica. Photo by Maria Wlodarska-Kowalczyk
<http://www.iopan.gda.pl/~maria/wwwmollusca/index.html>

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*Amauropsis islandica***Distribution map**

The georeferenced records of species compiled from the species database of the Swedish Species Information Centre (Artportalen), Danish national database for marine data (MADS), and the database of the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research (IOW).



SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Amauropsis islandica

Habitat and ecology

A. islandica is a circumarctic marine sea snail that can be found on gravel or mixed sediments down to 20–30 m depth in the westernmost HELCOM area. It is a predator that feeds on planktonic and minute detrital food items through either suspension or deposit feeding and it plays a key role in the benthic community. It has a maximum size of 25 to 35 mm. The species does not have a pelagic stage for dispersal but it lays eggs directly on the bottom.

Within the HELCOM area, the habitat preferences of the species are known only in Germany, where the species has been found from locations where there are well developed *Laminaria* and *Delesseria* meadows.

Description of major threats

At least in Germany the species appears to prefer habitats where there are well developed *Laminaria* and *Delesseria* meadows. Such habitats are rare and very sensitive to physical damage such as bottom trawling. In addition to disturbance on the actual place of occurrences, bottom trawling also causes turbidity and sedimentation on larger areas. Eutrophication is another important pressure.

Assessment justification

The species is primarily marine and is restricted to the western part of the HELCOM area. Its ability to disperse and recolonize is considered limited as it has no pelagic stage for dispersal (lays eggs on the bottom). *A. islandica* is a long-living (5–6 years) gastropod species. Calculating the area of occupancy (AOO) on the basis of reported occurrences gives only 132 km². The overall AOO is not known but it is assumed to be less than 4000 km². Number of extant locations is estimated to 11–19. The geographic distribution of the species is regarded restricted, and the quantity and quality of habitats is likely to be continuingly declining due to direct and indirect effects of bottom trawling and eutrophication. The species meets the criteria B2ab(ii,iii,iv) under the category NT (Near Threatened).

Recommendations for actions to conserve the species

The pressure caused by bottom trawling to the habitats of the species should be decreased.

Common names

Denmark: højspiret boresnegl, Estonia: –, Finland: –, Germany: Isländische Bohrschnecke, Latvia: –, Lithuania: –, Poland: –, Russia: –, Sweden: –

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

*Amauropsis islandica***References**

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