

Cryptomphalus aspersa
(*Cornu aspersum*)

Brown Garden Snail

Helicidae, the typical snail family



Diagnostic Characteristics

- Large land snail with a globular shaped shell; can take a conical shape (rare to see)
- Shell is coarse with fine wrinkles (growth ridges) and glossy
- Pale line along back from head to the shell
- Some shells display a median white spiral line
- Head and foot are 2-4 inches in length

Background

- Native to areas of Europe and Africa; introduced through food and hobbyist trades
- Considered a plant pest; inhabits a wide range of crop and ornamental plants
- Causes serious damage to vineyards
- Can consume dead animal tissue and paper products
- Remains active when temperatures are between 40°F and 80°F; will burrow into the soil during cold temperatures

Photo Credit:

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