

Mitochondrial phylogeography of the land snail *Cornu aspersum*: Tracing population history and the impact of human-mediated invasion in austral South America

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Aim: Study one of the most widespread biological invasions by reconstructing the molecular phylogeographic history of non-native populations of the land snail *Cornu aspersum* in austral South America. Specifically, we wished to: (1) examine the genetic diversity of native vs. non-native populations of *C. aspersum*; (2) analyse the species' history of dispersal and colonization in austral South America; (3) compare the biogeographic patterns of native and introduced populations; and (4) identify signs of population bottlenecks and/or multiple independent introductions that might explain the current genetic diversity. **Locations:** North Africa, northwest Europe, North America (California, USA), and South America (Chile). **Methods:** We obtained sequences of the mitochondrial cytochrome b (Cytb) gene from *C. aspersum* individuals collected from two localities subject to recent introductions (Californian and Chilean populations in North and South America, respectively). We compared these sequences