



## Chinese pond mussel

(*Sinanodonta woodiana*)

**Freshwater mussel, originated in South-East Asia. Introduced in Europe via Romania in the 1960s, in the form of glochidia (larval stage) in imported fish.**

### Description

- Bulging shell, 15 to 30 cm long, thick and solid, highly convex lower edge
- Variable colour, clearly marked ridges
- Inner face covered with pink nacre
- Characteristic 5 to 8 ridges (thick, raised lines) near the summit (hinge) of the shell, clearly defined and distant from each other

### Ecology and reproduction

- The mussels develop on beds with a fine grain size (mud, sand, gravel) in lentic waters
- The primary food source is phytoplankton
- They are highly tolerant of pollution and can live in both warm and cold waters
- Reproduction takes place in the summer and several emissions of larva are possible
- The larva, called glochidia, have a hook that attaches to the gills of fish (encystment). This technique enables their dissemination
- The glochidia do not target a specific host, though frequent hosts are grass carp, black carp, bighead carp, silver carp and topmouth gudgeon

### Documentation

- Adam B. 2010. L'Anodonte chinoise *Sinanodonta woodiana* (Lea, 1834) (*Mollusca*, *Bivalvia*, *Unionidae*) : une espèce introduite qui colonise le bassin Rhône-Méditerranée. MalaCo 6 : 278-287.
- Bastin K., Mandorlo G. et Charles L. 2014. Découverte de l'Anodonte chinoise *Sinanodonta woodiana* (Lea, 1834) (*Mollusca*, *Bivalvia*, *Unionidae*) dans la Sèvre Nantaise (Poitou-Charentes, France). MalaCo 10 : 2-4.
- GT IBMA. 2016. *Sinanodonta woodiana*. Base d'information sur les invasions biologiques en milieux aquatiques. Groupe de travail national Invasions biologiques en milieux aquatiques. UICN France et Agence française pour la biodiversité.
- Lamand F. (Coord.). 2015. Espèces exotiques envahissantes des milieux aquatiques et associés en France métropolitaine : recueil de fiches d'identification. Onema, Délégation Nord-Est. 173 pp.

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#### Classification

Order	<i>Unionida</i>
Family	<i>Unionidae</i>
Genus	<i>Sinanodonta</i>
Species	<i>Sinanodonta woodiana</i> (Lea, 1834)

