

The genus *Athoracophorus* originally contained all the New Zealand and subantarctic slugs. However, other subgenera were subsequently erected, including *Athoracophorus* s. str. These subgenera were elevated to generic status by Powell in 1937. Thus the original genus was restricted to include only one species, *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus*, together with a subspecies, *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus rufovenosus*, which has been deleted. The genus now contains three species, one of them, *A. maculosus*, being new, and another, *A. suteri*, being transferred from the genus *Vomanus* Iredale, 1915.

The genus is widespread over the North and South Islands of New Zealand.

KEY TO THE SPECIES IN THE GENUS *ATHORACOPHORUS*.

- 1 (2) 10 to 15 shallow lateral grooves on either side, colour light buff or yellow, often with brown grooves and orange mantle area. Skin minutely granulate, papillae lacking *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus* (Quoy and Gaimard), 1832.
- 2 (3) Papillae broad and low, each one surrounded by a circle of black spots. 10 shallow lateral grooves either side, each one lying in a narrow buff stripe *Athoracophorus maculosus* n. sp.
- 3 (1) Renal orifice sometimes anterior to mantle area. 12 lateral grooves on either side; papillae rare, mantle area produced posteriorly to 3/5 body length. Usually blackish, marbled with pale brown, with yellowish mantle area *Athoracophorus suteri* n. sp.

Athoracophorus bitentaculatus (Quoy and Gaimard). Pl. II, fig. 4.

1832. *Limax bitentaculatus*, Quoy and Gaimard, Voyage de l'Astrolabe, pp. 148-149, tab. 13, figs. 1-3.
 1850. *Janella bitentaculata* Gray, *Figs. Moll. Anim.* 4, p. 112.
 1852. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus* Gould, United States Exploring Expedition, Mollusca, p. 2, tab. 1, figs. 6, 6a-c.
 1853. *Janella antipodarum* Gray, p. 414.
 1854. *Janella antipodarum* Gray, p. 112.
 1859. *Limax bitentaculatus* and *Janella antipodarum* Knight, *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond.*, 22, p. 381.
 1880. *Janella bitentaculata* Hutton, Manual of the N.Z. Mollusca, p. 27.
 1881. *Janella bitentaculata* Hutton, *Trans. Proc. N.Z. Inst.*, XIV, pp. 158-161.
 1891. *Janella bitentaculata* and *Neojanella dubia* Cockerell, *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.*, p. 217.
 1892. *Janella bitentaculata* and *Neojanella dubia* Hedley, *Trans. Proc. N.Z. Inst.*, XXV, pp. 156-162.
 1893. *Janella bitentaculata* Hedley and Suter, *Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.*, Ser. II, VII (4), pp. 661-662.
 1893. *Neojanella dubia* Suter, *Trans. Proc. N.Z. Inst.*, XXVI, p. 125.
 1894. *Janella bitentaculata* and *J. maculata* Collinge, *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.*, 1894, pp. 526-530.
 1894. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus* Suter, *J. Conchyliol.*, XLI, pp. 220-293.
 1897. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus*, *A. dubius*, *A. antipodum* Suter, *Proc. malac. Soc. Lond.*, II (6), pp. 246-256.
 1898. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus*, *A. dubius*, *Janella antipodum*, Plate, *Zool. Jb.* (Anat. und Ontog.), Jena, XI, pp. 193-269, figs. 12-17.
 1909. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus*, *A. b. rufovenosus* Suter. *Proc. malac. Soc. Lond.*, VIII (5), pp. 322-328.
 1913. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus*, *A. b. rufovenosus* Suter, *Man. N.Z. Moll.*, pp. 792-794, Pl. 31, figs. 3, 4, 4a, 4b.
 1937. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus* and *A. b. rufovenosus*, Powell, *Shell. N.Z.*, p. 123.
 1956. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus* Dell, *Trans. Roy. Soc. N.Z.*, 82.
 1961. *Athoracophorus bitentaculatus* Burton, *Tuatara* IX (3).

This is an attractive species, light buff or yellow excepting the off-white sole and orange mantle area flanked by two parallel black stripes, sometimes with reddish-brown lateral grooves, and with a minutely granulate skin texture and a complete lack of papillae. The elongated body tapers to a pointed tail, is rounded dorsally when crawling, flattened and