

INVASIVE APPLE SNAIL LIFECYCLE

(*Pomacea canaliculata*)

7-14 DAYS

Eggs hatch
(number of days is determined by the temperature)

Eggs are laid just above the water line on plants or structures like rocks, logs or walls.

Eggs are small (**2-3 mm**), round and bright pink-reddish in colour.

A female snail lays around **500 eggs** at a time, mostly during the night.

The snails are dull brown to greenish-brown or dark chestnut, sometimes with dark brown spiral bands. The shells are smooth.

Snails live around 1-2 years in tropical climates. Due to the warm temperatures the snails do not hibernate, and reproduce throughout their lifetime.

Invasive Apple Snails make rasp-like cuts on their host plants and damage is rapid.

Rice and Taro crops are most vulnerable when they are young.

The eggs become paler in colour the closer they are to hatching

Newly hatched snails are tiny, with shells of approximately **2 mm** in diameter

The snails grow rapidly and drop from where the eggs were laid, into the water below and feed on algae and organic detritus

The snails spend most of their time in the water making them hard to detect.

The eggs are more visible.

45-60 DAYS

later, when the snails are around **2.5 cm** in diameter, they are fully grown adults and able to reproduce.

15-25 DAYS

after hatching Hatchlings develop into juveniles. When its shell reaches about 1.5 cm the young snails begin to feed on young rice seedlings and other aquatic plants

