

# GOLDEN APPLE SNAIL, *POMACEA CANALICULATA* (LAMARCK): AN IMPORTANT QUARANTINE RICE PEST TO WATCH

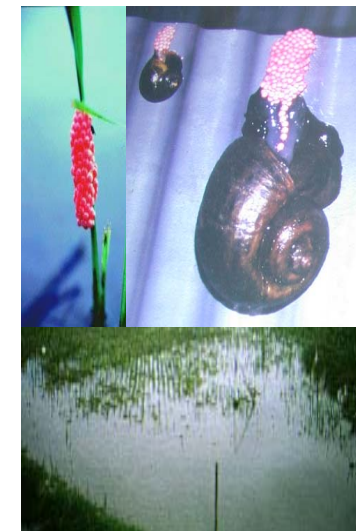
## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT GOLDEN APPLE SNAIL?

- Native of South America
- Not present in India, but must be cautious
- Introduced as protein supplement for animal and human diets, but now has no commercial value
- Currently a major pest in rice production
- Accidentally and or deliberately introduced into many Asian countries



## HOW TO KNOW IF GOLDEN APPLE SNAIL IS PRESENT?

- Egg cluster has 200-300 pinkish-red eggs, and always laid above water surface. While, native apple snails (*Pila* spp.) lays white egg clusters
- Shell is round, thin, and dark-brown to golden brown. Thin operculum (lid) compared with *Pila* spp.
- Soft body tissue are creamy white to golden brown
- Many missing rice plants in water-logged areas



## HOW CAN YOU PREVENT GOLDEN APPLE SNAIL INVASION INTO INDIA?

- Impose strict quarantine inspections in all ports of entry (sea/air/road) to India. Regular surveillance for egg clusters/young snails on fresh plant materials and water-logged areas
- Alert farmers by television, radio broadcast, and trainings

**If you come across this snail immediately contact:** Dr. B.N. Singh, Director, Central Rice Research Institute, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Cuttack, Orissa, 753 006, India. Email: [directorcrri@satyam.net.in](mailto:directorcrri@satyam.net.in)

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