

Left-coiling snail needed as mate for rare and unnamed snail

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Credit: University of Nottingham

A rare left-coiling snail is on the lookout for love after being discovered

by a snail-searching academic in Nottingham.

Professor Angus Davison, from the School of Life Sciences, is eager to find the newly discovered snail a mate after seeing success with a previous left-coiling rare snail called "Jeremy."

Prof. Davison is also asking the public to find a name for the snail, for which the public can submit suggestions [here](#).

His previous campaign in 2016, helped find Jeremy, another rare left-coiling snail, a mate. As well as a mirror-imaged shell, Jeremy had [genitals](#) on the opposite side making it very difficult for the snail to mate with normal [snails](#).

Jeremy eventually managed to find a mate, and deliver right-coiling offspring, before dying in 2017.

The offspring from Jeremy were used to show that the rare left-spiraling shell of some garden snails is sometimes a [development accident](#), rather than an inherited condition. [His previous work on snails](#) had given [insight](#) into understanding how the left and right side of the body is established in other animals, including humans.

Now, Prof. Davison is on the search for another rare left-coiling snail after stumbling across one near his home, the night before he was set to leave the country to search for them.

The new snail, which is currently without a name, is a grove snail or *Cepaea nemoralis*, a very attractive, colorful and common snail in the UK.

The snail is a young adult so may live for several years.

Prof. Davison said, "In 28 years of working on snails, I have never found a left-coiling snail in the UK, so it was amazing to final find one near my home. Now, we are once again seeking the help of the public to find a mate, but this time to also find a name."

To name the snail go to tinyurl.com/snaillove or nottingham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/namethesnail .

Provided by University of Nottingham

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