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A NEW FOSSIL SHELL FROM THE PALOS VERDES SAND

By GEORGE P. KANAKOFF

Early in the spring of 1946, the author, accompanied by two Museum students, David Packard and Vera von Block (now Mrs. David Packard), secured 100 pounds of Upper Pleistocene screenings from an exposure in the Wilmington area in southern California.

Among the group of *Fissurellidæ* (Key-hole Limpets) sorted from this material were two minute specimens that did not fall into any known specific group. Later excavations at the locality eventually yielded a longer series of this interesting limpet.

The author is indebted to Dr. Leo George Hertlein and to Allyn G. Smith of the California Academy of Sciences for checking a small series of this limpet against young specimens of all related forms of the Panamic fauna. The Wilmington specimens are clearly distinct from all other species compared. This species, therefore, is presented here as

Diodora constantiæ, sp. nov.

Plate 12, figures A, B, C.

Types: The holotype No. 1089 and the figured paratype No. 1094 (Plate 13, figures D, E, F.) are in the Los Angeles County Museum.

DIAGNOSIS: Shell small, depressedly-conical with laterally slightly concave slopes; base flat, ovate, slightly narrower at the anterior end; apex somewhat anteriorly situated, with orifice subovate, sloping forward at 18 degrees with the base, and characterized by a sharply hooked knob at the highest point of the posterior wall; sculpture consists of 25 major radiating ribs descending from the hooked knob, and 25 lesser alternating riblets, which vanish before reaching the apex, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ concentric thinner laminæ crossing over the ribs, giving a fine, sharp, lattice-like appearance; the margin regularly crenulated with alternating stronger and lesser notches; interior callus of the orifice ovate, and truncate and slightly excavated posteriorly; muscle scar faint.

The holotype (medium size adult) measures: length 7.832, width 5.232, and height 1.945 mm.

The figured paratype (typical young specimen) measures: length 4.722, width 2.666, and height 1.311 mm.

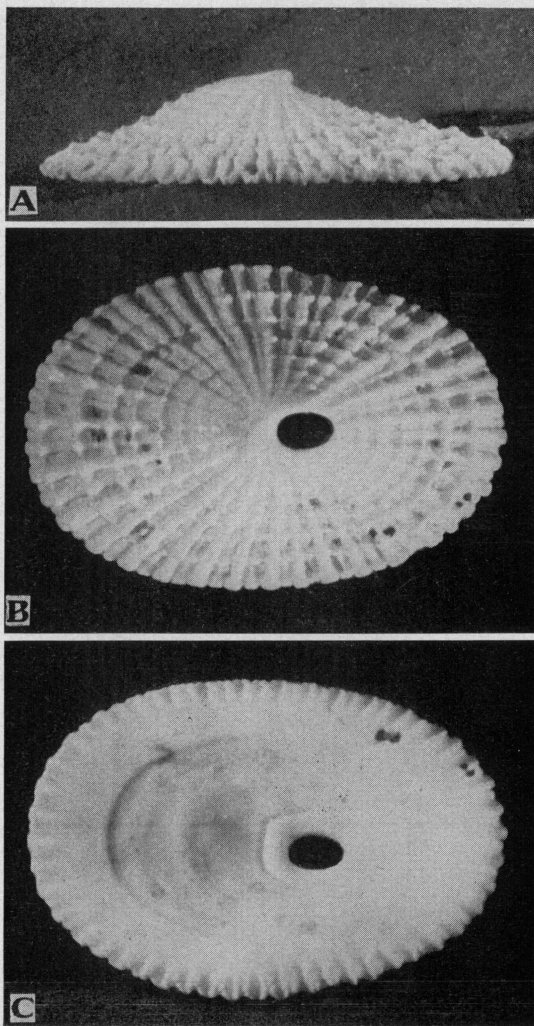


PLATE 12

Diodora constantia, holotype No. 1089.

A. Lateral view. B. Dorsal view. C. Ventral view.