

seven, flattened-convex, four of them with rugosely cancellated sculpture; ribs 12 on the fourth whorl, 13 on the fifth, 15 on the sixth and 16 on the body whorl, crossed by overlying thinner, raised uniform spiral ridges; 4 on the fourth whorl, 6 on the fifth whorl, 5 on the sixth, and 8 on the body whorl, forming bead-like effect on the crossing, and rhomboid cavities in the interspaces; spire acuminate at 40 degrees; first three whorls bare, forming a simple, smooth nucleus; sutures deeply incised; aperture narrowly-oval, its axis at 25 degrees to the axis of the shell; inner lip thick, reflected, free, with 2 bar-like tubercles at the anterior end, and 3 round tubercles at the posterior end; outer lip thick, with 6 bar-like tubercles evenly spaced throughout its inner length; canal short, broad; siphonal notch profound. The holotype, a large adult, measures: length 9.2 mm., breadth 4.0 mm., and length of the aperture (canals included) 3.2 mm.

PARATYPES: Out of 70 plus specimens, 44 adults in a good state of preservation were selected and measured. Slight variations were noticed in the thickness of the outer and inner lips, which range from almost-smooth to strongly serrated, and the inner lip from thin and attached, to thick and detached, the denticles on it ranging from 2 to 6 in number; in all other respects exteriorly being very uniform.

Absolute means of measurements of the paratype lot are:

1. length—5.604 mm.
2. width—3.014 mm.
3. ratio length to width—1.859.

DISTRIBUTION: Known only from the type locality.

DISCUSSION

At a glance, this species resembles young specimens of *Nassarius mendicus* Gould, but differs in size, more acuminate spire, sculpture, and in the shape of the aperture, both lips being proportionately much thicker in this species.

Nassarius hildegardae is named for the noted avian paleontologist, Dr. Hildegard Howard, Chief Curator, Division of Science, Los Angeles County Museum, who has given so willingly and unstintingly of her time, knowledge, and friendship to the author, and whose help and many years of pleasant association are gratefully acknowledged.