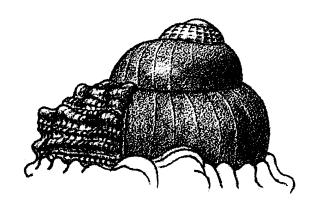
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A monograph of the New Caledonian fauna and revisions of related taxa



258 p. 70 figs

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Indo-West Pacific Ranellidae, Bursidae and Personidae (Mollusca: Gastropoda)

A monograph of the New Caledonian fauna and revisions of related taxa

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DIMENSIONS. — Kusui, Nada-cho, NZGS WM15544: H 35.0, D 16.4. - Off Tanabe, NZGS WM13843: H 38.9, D 18.0. - Off Cape Ashizuri, Shikoku, NSMT 48848: H 64.4, D 27.8. - Bohol Straits, NZGS WM15037: H 62.8, D 25.4. - Punta Engaño, Cebu, NZGS WM13184: H 55.9, D 20.0. - New Caledonia, SMIB 4: sta. DW53: H 49.7 (incomplete), D 22.0. - SMIB 8: sta. DW154: H 61.4, D 25.4.

REMARKS. — Specimens here included in *Cymatium tenuiliratum* are quite variable in a number of characters. Most specimens I have seen from Japan are distinctive in having all primary spiral cords deeply subdivided into two closely spaced cords by a deep median groove, but one specimen (NZGS WM15544) has only the uppermost, peripheral cord subdivided, and the rest single. Japanese specimens are also distinctive in their generally darker, warm pale red-brown coloration than Philippines shells (most of which are cream to pale fawn), and their slightly lower spires, less compressed nodules, and thicker varices than specimens from outside Japan. A specimen in the Whitehead Colln from 50-60 m, Tokyo Bay, is particularly robust and heavily nodulous, with an unusually short spire and unusually prominent spiral cords, so that it strongly resembles in almost all characters the Italian Pliocene *C. distortum* (Brocchi, 1814). *C. distortum* has the bifid cords, elongate shape and flat-faced, thin varices of *C. tenuiliratum*, but differs in having the two uppermost spiral cords much more closely spaced than the others, whereas they are all equally spaced in *C. tenuiliratum*; this has the effect of forming a raised peripheral zone bearing four closely spaced, narrow cords in some specimens of *C. distortum*. It appears feasible that *C. distortum* was the immediate ancestor of *C. tenuiliratum*.

Whereas most Philippines specimens assigned to Cymatium tenuiliratum differ from Japanese ones in their undivided or, at most, very faintly grooved spiral cords, as well as their paler coloration, more elongate shape, narrower nodules, and thinner, more expanded varices, all seven specimens in the present collections from New Caledonia have all primary and spiral cords on the last whorl and on the siphonal canal finely subdivided by a very narrow, shallow median groove. The single Indian Ocean specimen seen (NZGS WM13152) is a small shell (H 21.4, including an unusually large, tall protoconch) which also has all primary cords weakly subdivided by a shallow median groove. At first it appeared likely that Japanese, Philippines and New Caledonian shells represent three distinct species, but this range of variation is difficult to interpret until more material is available from a wider area and the variation of Japanese shells is better known, and at present it seems best to treat all these specimens as falling into the single species C. tenuiliratum. It is possible that the apparent differences result largely from Japanese specimens having been collected in shallower water than most others.

KURODA et al. (1971: 127) and OYAMA (1973: 36) referred this species to Reticutriton, where it had also been mentioned by HABE & KOSUGE (1966b: 315, Japanese text only). Cymatium (Reticutriton) is regarded here as a useful subgenus for a few species with unusually numerous spiral cords - the type species, C. pfeifferianum, has 10-11 prominent, narrow cords on the terminal varix and, correspondingly, 11-12 high, narrow ridges inside the outer lip. The only other included species are C. lineatum (Broderip, 1833), Galapagos Islands, and its close relative, the Californian Pliocene "Gyrineum" elsmerense English (1914: 215). The C. tenuiliratum group has the characters of tall species of C. (Monoplex) and in my opinion its resemblance to C. pfeifferianum is superficial.

Cymatium (Monoplex) pharcidum (Dall, 1889)

Lampusia? pharcida Dall, 1889: 227, pl. 36, fig. 2.

Cymatium pharcidum - Garcia-Talavera, 1983: 115, pl. 4, fig. 4. — Finlay & Vink, 1982: 133. — Garcia-Talavera, 1987: 251, pl. 2, fig. 2. Cymatium (Septa) krebsii - Clench & Turner, 1957: 220, pl. 124, fig. 3 (in part; not Triton krebsii Mörch, 1877). Cymatium (Cabestana) tenuiliratum - Nordsieck & Garcia-Talarera, 1979: 120, pl. 25, fig. 14. Cymatium (Turritriton) tenuiliratum - Beu, 1985: 60. — Henning & Hemmen, 1993: 104 (in part).

TYPE DATA. — Holotype USNM 94887, from "Blake" sta. 293, 150 m, off Barbados, Caribbean.

OTHER MATERIAL EXAMINED. — **Bermuda.** 2.5 miles off the southern shore of Bermuda, 220 m, coll. A. Guest & J.R.H. Lightbourn (1 DMNH 96981; 5 DMNH). — Same data, pres. R. Jensen (1 NZGS WM12447).

DISTRIBUTION. — Western Atlantic, seen only from Barbados and Bermuda, but probably sparsely distributed through the western Caribbean; eastern Atlantic: La Palma, Canary Islands (NORDSIECK & GARCIA-TALAVERA, 1979: 120; GARCIA-TALAVERA, 1983: 115, pl. 4, fig. 4; 1987: 251).