



## Marginellidae of South Africa

by V.G. Millard



*Afrivoluta pringlei* (Tomlin) 1947 (actual size)

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To start with, let me emphasize that this series of articles is not the work of one person. It is a joint effort by a number of generous members and shows once again the real strength of a national Society. It is impossible to mention everybody, but I gratefully acknowledge major contributions from the following:—

1. Mr Terry Murray of Durban, whose firm D.M.S. Advertising, donated the colour plates and made the whole project possible.
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7. Annie Apple, my micro-computer, that did all the tedious sorting and rearranging of the names.
8. The Editor, without whose constant interference the article would have been finished in half the time.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

### THE OBJECT OF THE EXERCISE

This article is not intended to solve all the mysteries in the taxonomy of our Marginellidae. A number of problems remain to be sorted out. The main object was to try to collate as much as possible of the existing work, and to illustrate it with a representative selection of available specimens.

In the process it was discovered that there are some 170 names which I have reduced to what seems to me to be an acceptable 86 species.

Perhaps the main problem was that certain of our Marginella species are very much more variable than others, and a definite method of distinguishing them either has not yet been found, or has not been applied to all the varieties of all the species. We are still working on assumptions in some cases, and I cannot honestly say that I am entirely happy with some of the opinions expressed in the references we consulted.

Some of the sources (see bibliography at end of article) contradicted one another and did not give reasons for their conclusions. I have in those cases had to make a choice which I hope was the correct one.

Col. W.H. Turton is often reviled for creating a multiplicity of species from isolated variable specimens. In preparing this article, it quickly became clear that this criticism of Turton has been somewhat overstated, especially bearing in mind the bewildering variability of the Genus we are dealing with. He was a dedicated amateur conchologist who studied the molluscan population of Port Alfred over many years and received limited assistance and encouragement from the institutions to which he referred his material. If many superfluous names were created, the blame must be shared to a certain extent by Paul Bartsch of the Smithsonian Institution (1915) who described many of Turton's shells.

### THE TEXT AND PLATES

For ease of reference, the species have been listed in alphabetical order, and also numbered consecutively. The shells are arranged on the colour plates mainly according to size and shape,

so that similar species can be compared. Thirty of the very small species that could not easily be photographed have been illustrated in line drawings in Part 2 of the article, and these appear in the next issue of the Strandloper.

The text has also been split into two parts but we have retained the one series of reference numbers as we expect that the whole article will probably be used as a reference and the numbers will then be useful. This does mean that there will be gaps in the numerical sequence in Part 2.

The names and synonyms are listed in the text with the authors in date order for each species. The subgenera are given in capital letters immediately following the species/synonymy. I have not put brackets round any of the authors' names in those cases where convention demands it, as I could not guarantee the accuracy of our sources.

One or two species, especially *Marginella rosea*, have been covered in much greater detail than others. This is solely because live material was more readily available here at the Cape for study. I hope that readers elsewhere will be encouraged by this article to contribute supplementary paragraphs on the peculiarities of their own local species for publication in subsequent issues of the Strandloper.

\*\*\*\*\*

1  
*adela* Thiele 1925 (See part 2)

2  
*albanyana* Gaskoin 1853  
Species inquirenda. Mentioned by Sowerby 1897 and Turton, although not found by Turton.

3  
*alborubida* Barnard 1969  
PERSICULA  
Size: 2 x 1,3mm  
Pleats: 3 with the trace of a 4th sometimes. Smooth outer lip.  
Range: West coast of Cape Peninsula.

The syntypes of this shell are in the S.A. Museum. The shell is translucent white. The animal, tentacles and mantle edge are translucent white and the proboscis orange-red with black eyes. The mantle is white and the black viscera shows through the shell. There is a radula. It is found in rock pools, under rocks and on seaweed.

It has been suggested that this shell is conspecific with *M. pseustes*, which it resembles closely but *M. pseustes* E.A. Smith has a black animal and orange-red proboscis and the radula is known.

4.  
*alfredensis* Bartsch 1915  
GIBBERULA  
Size: 2,1 x 1,4mm  
Pleats: 8  
Range: Port Alfred to East London. Also reported from Jeffreys Bay and Algoa Bay.

Shell is elongate-ovate, bluish white and semi-translucent.

5  
*algoensis* E.A. Smith 1901. (See part 2).

6  
*almo* Bartsch 1915. (See part 2).

7  
*amphitrite* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

8  
*aphanacme* Tomlin 1918  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 2,5 x 1,5mm  
Pleats: 7  
Range: Port Alfred (Turton)  
Type locality not available. A narrow shell with a smooth labrum.

9  
*aphanospira* Tomlin 1913. (See part 2).

10  
*atractus* Tomlin 1918.  
1903 *fusiformis* Sowerby (non Hinds, - vide Barnard 1974).

1918 *atractus* Tomlin  
1925 *julia* Thiele  
1925 *meta* Thiele  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 8 x 3,8mm  
Pleats: 4  
Range: Off Cape Point to Gonubie to 230m.

Translucent white with a high spire. Dead shells normally found in shale and are quite common on beaches.

11  
*augusta* Thiele 1925 non Smith 1906.  
VOLVARINELLA  
Size: 17 x 6,5mm  
Pleats: 4 strong  
Range: Agulhas Bank.

A yellow-white shell similar to *brocktoni* which has 3 pleats.

12  
*aurora* Thiele 1925.  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 6mm  
Pleats: 4

Range: No range was found, but Thiele did most of his work from material from the Agulhas Bank.

This is possibly a synonym for *neglecta* Sowerby.

13

*bairstowi* Sowerby 1886.

PRUNUM (according to Wagner and Abbot, but the shell shape is not like other species in this subgenus.)

Size: 16 x 9,7mm

Pleats: 4

Range: False Bay to Kei Mouth.

The shell is off-white with grey brown squares sometimes forming spiral bands. There is a shallow sinus on the outer lip. It is square with a strong shoulder. Similar to *epipolia* except that the sinus is lower and smaller. Habitat to 27m on shale and sand. The Simonstown variety is larger than those from Jeffreys Bay and Gonubie. No radula. See also under *M.epipolia*.

14

*bensoni* Reeve 1856.

GRANULA

1865 *bensoni* Reeve

?1903 *ros* Von Martins non Reeve.

(See also *burnupi*).

1904 *dulcis* E.A. Smith (doubtful see separate entry)

1925 *laetitia* Thiele

Size: 3,5 x 2mm

Pleats: 6 with denticles inside the labrum.

Range: Western Cape Peninsula, False Bay to Natal down to 155m.

The synonymy as listed above is doubtful, as *bensoni* has 6 pleats, *ros* 5 pleats and *dulcis* and *laetitia* 4 pleats each. See separate entry under *dulcis*.

*Bensoni* has been taken alive but radula if any has not been described. It has been suggested that *bensoni* occurs only on the West Coast and those from other areas are probably *M. dulcis*.

The type of *M. bensoni* has been lost, but live material taken at the Cape, which otherwise fits the description of *bensoni*, had a white animal and the shells had 3 pleats.

15

*biannulata* Fabricius 1826

1826 *biannulata* Fabricius

1841 *zonata* Kiener non Swainson

1848 *bilineata* Krauss

1848 *dunckeri* Krauss

1887 *dunckeri* Paetel (note the spelling)

1932 *kraussi* Turton (a form)

HYALINA

Size: 5 to 8mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Lüderitz (S.W.A.) to Coffee Bay (Transkei) down to 90m.

The spiral banding on this small shell is variable and has given rise to the different names. We have illustrated

six variations. The spiral markings take the form of narrow brown lines or a broad brown band, or a combination of both. The body of the shell is translucent white or creamy yellow. *Marginella cleo* (q.v.) should probably also be listed as a synonym, being the plain white or yellow variety of this species but, as we have not seen a positive ruling on the matter, we have retained it as a separate species.

The following list describes the different varieties, with the sizes of our illustrated specimens. The 'T' prefixed numbers are the references in Turton. The alphabetical references are to our colour plate B.

T.302 *zonata*: several variations.

Ha/b — dark median band only  
7 x 3mm

— dark tip and base with clear median zone.

He — brown line on suture plus broad brown median zone  
6 x 2,5mm

— brown median band edged with red lines  
7 x 5mm

T.303 *dunckeri*: only one version.

Hd — one brown line on suture  
6,5 x 3mm

T.304 *kraussi*: several variations.

He — line on suture and line on base  
5 x 2mm

— broad bands on suture and base

— lines on suture, mid-whorl and base, i.e. three lines in all.

T.305 *bilineata*: the largest variety.

Hf — narrow lines at mid-whorl and base with clear median zone  
8 x 3,5mm

Specimens Ha, b, e and f are known from the Cape Peninsula and eastwards but the others are not cold water shells.

16

*bicatenata* Sowerby 1914

1914 *bicatenata* Sowerby

1916 *tomlini* Shackleford

MARGINELLA

Size: 22 x 11,1mm

Pleats: 4 strong.

Range: Mossel Bay to Natal to 230m.

The shell is white with black spots on the shoulder and the lower body whorl. The holotype is in the S.A. Museum.

17

*brocktoni* Shackleford 1914.

VOLVARINELLA

Size: 15 x 7mm (apex damaged)

Pleats: 3

Range: Off Cape Point to 318m.

The shell is creamy white. The holotype and the paratype are both

in the S.A. Museum. These are probably the only known specimens.

18

*burnupi* Sowerby 1897

1892 *epigrus* Sowerby

1897 *burnupi* Sowerby

1897 *cinerea* Sowerby non Jousseaume

?1903 *ros* Von Martins non Reeve (see also *bensoni*)

MARGINELLA

Size: 5 x 3mm

Pleats: 5

Range: Jeffreys Bay to Gonubie down to 120m also recorded from Madagascar.

This shell is very much like *shepstonensis*. It has a denticulate labrum and an indented base. See also under *bensoni*.

19

*capensis* Dunker 1846

1846 *capensis* Dunker

1848 *capensis* Krauss

1860 *puella* Gould

1865 *cantharus* Reeve

MARGINELLA

Size: 13,9 x 6,9mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Lüderitz (S.W.A.) to Jeffreys Bay and the Agulhas Bank to 470m.

Colour fawn with a paler narrow transverse band. The outer lip and the anterior columella is also pale. There is a radula. It is a carrion feeder and lives in the sand. Similar to *cyllindrica* and occurs in large colonies.

20

*clara* Thiele 1925

VOLVARINELLA

Size: 6,5mm

Pleats: 4

Range: 35° 16' S, 22° 26' E at 155m (off Mossel Bay).

Barnard states that this is "very much like *M. neglecta* or possibly a not fully mature *M. atractus*." It has a smooth lip.

21

*cleo* Bartsch 1915

MARGINELLA

Size: 6,8 x 3,5mm (type)

Pleats: 4

Range: The specimens that are shown in the colour plate are what we regard as *cleo* and were found in the Good Hope Nature Reserve at Cape Point on the West Coast. The type locality is Simon's Bay.

This shell is like *biannulata*, but is pale yellow or white with no markings. Barnard suggested that this may be a *biannulata* variety.

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*cylindrica* Sowerby 1846.1846 *cylindrica* Sowerby1852 *multizonata* Krauss1868 *cylindracea* Pease1897 *ponsonbyi* Sowerby

MARGINELLA

Size: 8,9 x 4,1mm

Pleats: 3

Range: West Coast of Cape Peninsula to East London.

East London specimens are very cylindrical and somewhat larger than the shells from Kommetjie. The shell is creamy white, sometimes with 3 to 5 orange spiral bands. There is no radula. The animal is white and the mantle is translucent.

23

*cystiscus* Redfield 18701865 *capensis* Stimpson non Krauss1870 *cystiscus* Redfield

GIBBERULA

Size: 2mm

Pleats:

Range: False Bay.

Radula known. Note the spelling of this specific name. Species inquirenda, see Barnard 1974.

24.

*differens* E.A. Smith 1904. (See part 2).

25

*dimidiata* Thiele 1925

MARGINELLA

Size: 13 x 6,5mm

Pleats: 4

No other information. Possibly *albo-cincta*?

26

*dulcis* E.A. Smith 1904

GRANULA

Size:

Pleats: 4

Range: Jeffreys Bay to Mbotyi (Transkei).

It has been suggested that this shell is a synonym of *bensoni* (where we have listed it too) but this is disputed. Refer notes under *bensoni*.

27

*electrina* Sowerby 1892

PRUNUM

Size: 9 x 5mm (11 x 5,5mm)

Pleats: 3

Range: Table Bay to Gonubie.

The shell is pale brown and evidently not a synonym of *keenii* which has 4 pleats and a less acute spire, broader base and a darker colour and ranges from Port Alfred to Mzamba (Transkei).

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28

*epipolia* Tomlin 1921

MARGINELLA

Size: 14 x 8mm (topotype)

23,5 x 13mm (Type)

Pleats: 4 strong pleats on the columella.

Range: Type locality is Sebastian Bluff at 24 fathoms.

This name is being applied to a shell that looks very much like a small *Marginella nebulosa*. We have not seen the type material or the original description, or an illustration, but we are provisionally accepting the identification. See specimens Ba and Bc on the colour plate A.

Mr. P. Clover has suggested that it might be a dwarf form of *M. nebulosa* but the latter has no labial sinus whereas our *epipolia* does have a shallow one. We have also heard it said that Thiele's record of *epipolia* indicates that the name should be applied to a shell related to *M. musica* but we have not been able to confirm this.

Mr. R.N. Kilburn, (Natal Museum Annals 1977) refers to *epipolia* as the western form of *bairstowi*, but we have not traced any detailed explanation for that conclusion either. However, the shell shape of these two species is remarkably similar (see plate A, specimens Af and Ag and Ba, Bb and Bc).

Mr. L. Kapp reported that the animal of *epipolia* is translucent white in colour with bright white spots on the upper side of the foot. The animal of *nebulosa* is translucent white with small red dots. We have no record of the animal of *bairstowi*.

29

*fallax* E.A. Smith 19031892 *paxillus* Sowerby non Reeve1903 *fallax* E.A. Smith

CANALISPIRA

Size: 8,8 x 4mm

Pleats: 4 pleats and 1 denticle on the columella and there are denticles on the inside of the labrum.

Range: False Bay to Ramsgate (Natal) down to 60m.

This shell is white with a high spire.

30

*floccata* Sowerby 18891846 *intermedia* Sowerby1889 *floccata* Sowerby

MARGINELLA

Size: 24,4 x 13,9mm (30 x 18mm  
Jeffreys Bay)

Pleats: 4 strong

Range: Algoa Bay, Jeffreys Bay.

Beach specimens are buff with broad red brown blotches on the shoulder and on the back and on the outer lip. The colour plate shows two specimens, one of which was live taken. The shoulder always shows a tendency to be more intensely coloured than the rest of the shell, even in worn specimens. False Bay specimens have a

high spire. For note on *intermedia* see under *nebulosa*.

The name *floccata* is often wrongly applied to specimens of *M. ornata serpentina*, worn specimens of which roughly resemble *floccata*. See plate A, Bd and Di.

31

*grata* Thiele 1925

MARGINELLA

Size: 2,2mm

Pleats:

Range: Agulhas Bank.

No further information.

32

*helena* Thiele 1925

MARGINELLA

Size: 4,5mm

Pleats: 4

Range: From the South Atlantic?

Much of Thiele's work was done on material from the Agulhas Bank. This shell has no locality stated in his book but was said to be from the South Atlantic.

Possibly a synonym of *M. adela* Thiele 1925?

33

*hera* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

34

*heterozona* Jousseume 1875

VOLVARINELLA

Size: 5mm

Similar to *ingloria*. No other information.

35

*indistincta* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

36

*ingloria* E.A. Smith 1910

HYALINA

Size: 4,5 x 2mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Gonubie to Ramsgate (Natal). (Tomlin 1932 gives the type locality as Port Alfred.)

The shell is cream with 5 or 6 bands of orange-brown, the first at the suture. The lip has a strong margin with orange blotches on the inside of the posterior end of the lip. Also has an orange blotch at the base of the columella.

37

*innotabilis* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

38

*inopinatum* Barnard 1962

DILICULUM

Size: 5 x 3mm

Pleats: 3

Range: Type locality Langebaan lagoon. Lüderitz (S.W.A.) to the west coast of the Peninsula down to 160m.

(Continued on page 9)

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATES

**PLATE A:** Specimens shown 4/5 life size. Actual dimensions in millimetres are given in brackets.

Figs Aa, Ab, Ac

**Marginella nebulosa** Bolten in Roeding 1978.

Aa (63x23): The large variety found East of False Bay, S.A. Museum specimen. (SAM A6382).

Ab, Ac (41x23). The slightly smaller False Bay variety, note also the different pattern.

Figs Ad, Ae

**Marginella mosaica** Sowerby 1846. Ad (32x19): From Jeffreys Bay or Gouubie. This specimen corresponds to the description of the form *langleyi*.

Ae (23x14): Locality unknown.

Figs Af, Ag (18x11):

**Marginella bajirstowi** Sowerby 1886. These are the larger variety from Simonstown (False Bay). Specimens from Jeffreys Bay and Gouubie are generally smaller. The posterior labial sinus helps to separate it from *mosaica*.

Figs Ba, Bb, Bc.

**Marginella epipolia** Tomlin 1921.

Ba, Bd (25x15): Simonstown, live taken. The posterior labial sinus and reflexed anterior siphonal notch separate it from *nebulosa* which is also bigger.

Bc: A dead specimen dredged from Simonstown.

Figs Bd, Be.

**Marginella floccata** Sowerby 1889.

Bd (26x14): Jeffreys Bay beach specimen.

Be (25x14): False Bay, live taken from 30m. Note that the top of the shoulder is more deeply pigmented, even in pale specimens, and the shoulder is more sharply keeled, than *ornata serpentina*.

Figs Bf, Bg (28x15):

**Marginella lineolata** Sowerby 1886. (SAM 1913, 1914). Taken from 94m in False Bay and off Great Fish Point.

Figs Ca to Ch and Dg to Di:

**Marginella ornata** Redfield 1870.

Ca (25.5x14). Red with two spiral bands from Haga Haga.

Cb (23x14). Plum coloured heavy shell with thick lip from Natal.

Cc, Cd (26x16). Pondoland.

Ce, Cf (29x19). Greyish yellow, from Haga Haga, a thin walled variety.

Cg (27x16): Grey variety from Transkei.

Ch (27x15): This is the variety, some would say subspecies, named *serpentina*, which is usually confused with *floccata*. Compare Di immediately below and Bd above. The pale colour on the shoulder helps to separate the two species.

Dg (30x18), Dh (29x16), Di (31x17): Three specimens of *M. ornata serpentina* from Gouubie, North of East London. Abrasion of dead shells can make identification difficult.

Fig Da (18x10):

**Marginella bicatenata** Sowerby 1914. S.A. Museum holotype (SAM A3704);

Fig Db (21x11):

**Marginella species ex pisce** off the Cape. Differs from *bicatenata* in shape of aperture and pleats, apart from pattern which could vary.

Figs Dc to Df:

**Marginella musica** Marrat 1844. These are *ex pisce* specimens from uncertain localities off the Cape. Size varies, (20x9; 17x10; 16x9). The spiral lines are not always continuous.

Figs Ea to Ei:

**Marginella rosea** Lamarck 1822.

Ea, Eb (25x15 and 30x15). Deep pink or plum coloured variety from Millers Point in False Bay, South of Simonstown.

Ec (24x13): From Partridge Point. Pink shells with a yellowish cast occur at certain localities from Simonstown to Cape Point.

Ed, Ee (24x13 and 29x14.5): White or grey with grey markings from Sea Point on the Atlantic coast just South of Table Bay. The large shell has prominent labial denticles.

Ef, Eg (21x11): The small solid ivory shells with vertical wavy lines from Olifants Bos in the Cape Point Reserve.

Eh, Ei (22x11): Honey coloured shells from Cape Hangklip.

Figs Fa to Fj:

**Marginella piperata** Hinds 1844.

Fa, Fb: These are the standard form of *piperata*.

Fc: Variety *albocincta*.

Fd: Variety *strigata*.

Fe, Ff, Fg: Variety *monozona*.

Fh, Fi, Fj: Valid subspecies *lutea* from Jeffreys Bay.

Figs Ga to Ge:

**Marginella piperata** Hinds 1844. Some small varieties. See also slightly enlarged illustrations on Plate B, opposite.

Ga: Variety *eucosmia* distinguished by four lines across the median band.

Gb, Gc: Variety *fulvocincta*.

Gd, Ge: Variety *cosmia* can be separated by the stain on the lower columella and labrum.

Gf: A small pale pink shell with deeper pink axial lines. Probably not *munda*, and not a variety of *piperata*.

Gg, Gh: Variety *minuscule*.

Gi: *Ex pisce*, Natal, probably variety *minuscule*.

Gj: Variety *fuscopicta* (SAM A30686).

Figs Gk, Gl (15x10):

**Marginella pachista** Tomlin 1913. Natal/Pondoland.

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**PLATE B:** Specimens shown 1-1/5 life size. Actual dimensions in millimetres are given in brackets.

Figs Ha to Hf:

*Marginella biannulata* Fabricius 1826.

Ha (7x3): zonata, dark median band only.

Hb (5x2): zonata, dark median band only.

Hc (6x2.5): zonata, brown line on suture plus dark median band.

Hd (6.5x3): dunkeri, brown line on suture.

He (5x2): kraussi, line on suture and base.

Hf (8x3.5): bilineata, narrow lines at mid-whorl and base, with clear median zone.

Fig Hg (7x3.5):

*Marginella cleo* Bartsch 1915.

Possibly a plain white variety of biannulata. These specimens from the West coast of the Cape Peninsula.

Figs Ja, Jb:

*Marginella lucida* Marrat 1877.

Ja (9x3.5): Specimens from East London with orange-brown line on body whorl.

Jb (9x4): Plain white shells (SAM A30633).

Fig Jc (8.5x4):

*Marginella cylindrica* Sowerby 1848. Transparent amber or white, usually with fine spiral lines. The amber variety is ponsonyi, and the white, multizonata.

Fig Jd (6x3.5):

*Marginella shepstonensis* E.A. Smith 1906.

This specimen from Pondoland.

Fig Je (6x3):

*Marginella neglecta* Sowerby 1846. Three specimens from Kommetjie of the small variety.

Fig Jf (5x2.5):

*Marginella ingloria* E.A. Smith 1910.

Two specimens, one of which is banded with brown.

Figs Ka, Kb:

*Marginella perla* Marrat 1876.

Ka (10x5): Dredged from False Bay.

Kb (10x5): (SAM A30647). These four shells, reputed to be perla, do not show the retention of the previous lip varices which is said to be a diagnostic feature.

Fig Kc (9x4):

*Marginella fallax* E.A. Smith 1903. From Jeffreys Bay.

Fig Kd (17.5x7):

*Marginella augusta* Thiele 1925. (SAM A1975). Found well South of Mossel Bay at 500m.

Fig Ke (16x7):

*Marginella brocktoni* Shackelford 1914.

(SAM A1956). Type specimen found off Cape Point at 332m. depth.

Fig La (14x7):

*Marginella kerochuta* Shackelford 1914.

(SAM A1954). Syntypes. Found off Cape Point at 286m. depth.

Fig Lb (11x7):

*Marginella* species from deep water off Cape Point. Possibly closer to zeyheri than to kerochuta. See text.

Fig Lc (5x3):

*Marginella zeyheri* Krauss 1852. From Gonubie.

Fig Ld (5x3):

*Marginella burnupi* Sowerby 1897. From Gonubie.

Fig Le (4x3):

*Marginella algoensis* E.A. Smith 1901.

From Haga Haga.

Fig Lf (4x3):

*Marginella bensoni* Reeve 1865. From Gonubie.

Fig Ma (16.5x8):

*Marginella walvisiana* Tomlin 1920. Co-types (SAM A30666). Refer text.

Figs Mb, Mc:

*Marginella capensis* Dunker 1846.

Mb (15x7.5): Large variety from Langebaan lagoon.

Mc (11x6): Small variety from Cape Hangklip and False Bay.

Fig Md (14x7):

*Marginella keenii* Marrat 1871.

Gonubie and Haga Haga. Compare with electrina which has a narrower aperture and constricted anterior end.

Fig Me (11x6):

*Marginella electrina* Sowerby 1892. Gonubie. See previous species.

Fig Na (11.2x6.5):

*Marginella stuarti* Kilburn 1977.

A new species from South West Africa/Namibia.

Fig Gx (6.5x4):

*Marginella nunda* E.A. Smith 1904.

This is the variety known as unifasciata. From Jeffreys Bay.

Fig Gf from Plate A is shown alongside for comparison.

The other specimens shown in the last two rows of Plate B are repeated in larger scale from Plate A. The smaller specimens from Plate B are also shown in line drawings in Plates C and D in Part 2 of this article in the following issue of the Strandloper. SAM reference numbers are the South African Museum catalogue numbers of specimens lent to us to illustrate this article.

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(Continued from page 4)

The shell is creamy white and has a smooth outer lip. The radula is known and the holotype and the paratype are in the S.A. Museum. Dr Barnard said that it had three pleats (5 x 3mm) the shells from Langebaan at U.C.T. have 4 pleats and the lip has fine denticles on the inner edge. Compare with *bensoni*.

39

*io* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

40

*ithychila* Tomlin 1918.

MARGINELLA

Size: 2.5 x 1.3mm

Pleats: 6

Range: Port Alfred.

There are denticles on the inside of the labrum. Slightly turreted spire, aperture wider at the base.

41

*jucunda* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

42

*keenii* Marrat 1871

1871 *keenii* Marrat

1897 *keenei* Weinkauff

1925 *agulhasensis* Thiele

HYALINA

Size: 13 x 7mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Port Alfred to Mzamba, live at Gonubie.

Shells are common. Immaculate brown, radula unknown. Barnard (1959) mentioned that the 3 specimens identified by Tomlin and Shackelford as *keenii* were the same as *agulhasensis* Thiele. However *agulhasensis* is a narrow shell with 3 pleats whereas *keenii* is broader and has 4 pleats. The localities are also different.

43

*kerochuta* Shackelford 1914

1903 *zeyheri* Von Martins non Krauss

1914 *kerochuta* Shackelford

MARGINELLA

Size: 13 x 7mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Off Cape Point to Agulhas Bank.

Holotype in the S.A. Museum. It closely resembles *zeyheri* Krauss but it is larger and from deeper water. It has denticles on the labrum. *Kerochuta* has a high spire and is opaque white whereas *zeyheri* is translucent white.

44

*lara* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

45

*lepta* Bartsch 1915. (See part 2).

46

*lineolata* Sowerby 1886

MARGINELLA

Size: 29 x 16mm

Pleats: 4 strong.

Range: Jeffreys Bay to Bulugha Mouth (Transkei), Agulhas Bank down to 90m.

White-grey-yellowish with fine dark zig-zag lines and indistinct darker krey blotches. The lip is white. Radula if any, unknown.

47

*lineatolabrum* Gaskoin 1840

MARGINELLA

Size:

Pleats: 4

Range: Nqabara to Mbotyi (Transkei).

See illustration Gb/c. In Barnard (1974) it was said that this was a synonym for *piperata* but Kilburn suggests that this is a separate species.

48

*lucida* Marrat 1877

1877 *lucida* Marrat

1879 *pellicula* Weinkauff

1915 *turtoni* Bartsch

HYALINA

Size: 8.6 x 4mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Algoa Bay to the Umtata Mouth (Transkei).

Found alive at East London and the radula is known. Large body whorl covers the spire. It is translucent creamy yellow with orange band at mid whorl. The egg cases of this shell have been found.

49

*mosaica* Sowerby 1846

1846 *mosaica* Sowerby

1892 *langleyi* Sowerby

MARGINELLA

Size: 29.8 x 19.5mm

Pleats: 4 strong.

Range: Jeffreys Bay to Mbotyi (Transkei) down to 95m.

Creamy white with dark grey-brown spots all over, with a thick lip. It is similar to *bairstowi*, but with a strong sinus. *Langleyi* has vertical zig-zag streaks. (See Ad on plate A).

50

*munda* E.A. Smith 1094. (See part 2).

51

*musica* Hinds 1844

1844 *musica* Hinds

1848 *diadochus* Adams and Reeve

1976 *tyermani* Marrat

1877 *diodochus* Marrat

1880 *diadocus* Weinkauff

MARGINELLA

Size: 25 x 12.5mm

Pleats: 4 strong

Range: Lüderitz to Agulhas Bank to 420m.

Creamy white to greyish with varying number of fine brown-black

spiral lines. Animal examined and no radula. *Diadochus* may be different from *musica*.

52

*nebulosa* Bolten in Röding 1798

1781 *pyrum* Gronovius (non binomial)

1787 *pallida* Meuschen (non binomial)

1798 *nebulosa* Bolten in Röding

1807 *flammea* Link

1822 *nubeculata* Lamarek non Guerin-Menville

1840 *nubicola* Swainson

1846 *intermedia* Sowerby

1846 *nebecula* Sowerby

MARGINELLA

Size: 44 x 24mm

Pleats: 4 strong.

Range: False Bay to Bulugha Mouth (Transkei). One specimen found at Xora (Transkei). Found down to a depth of 75m.

Cream yellow with grey mottlings and streaks. Outer edge of the lip is white.

Found live in False Bay. The animal is white with small red dots. Radula not seen. See also under *epipolia*. Turton synonymises *intermedia* with *nebulosa* (a bleached form of *pyrum*) but it has also been suggested that *intermedia* is a synonym of *floccata*. However Wagner and Abbot list *intermedia* as a synonym of *ornata*. See the illustrations Bd and Di.

53

*neglecta* Sowerby 1846

1846 *neglecta* Sowerby

1852 *reevei* Krauss

1853 *rufula* Gaskoin

1875 *ignota* Jousseaume

VOLVARINELLA

Size: 5.1 x 2.3mm (10mm Japan).

Range: West Cape Peninsula to Gonubie and in Japan.

It has a high spire and is translucent cream buff with orange flames on the lip and has no radula. East London specimens are larger (7 x 3mm). Albino and banded shells have been found on the West Coast of the Cape Peninsula.

54

*neptuni* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

55

*nereria* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

56

*nevillana* Kilburn 1977. (See part 2).

57

*newcombi* Reeve 1864

MARGINELLA

Size: 20mm

Mentioned by Van Nostrand as being from either South Africa or West Africa. This is possibly *petitii* Duval 1841 from Mauritania West Africa.

58

*nigrocrocea* Barnard 1969

## PERSICULA

Size: 3 x 2mm

Pleats: 4 the upper 2 pleats being barely visible.

Range: False Bay.

The animal and the mantle edge are orange, mantle is orange and the eyes are red. There is a radula, the habitat is under rocks if there are sponges and coral-like growths. Refer also *aphanospira*.

59

*olivaeformis* Kiener 18341834 *olivaeformis* Kiener1851 *laeta* Jousseaume1851 *olivaeformis* Petit1875 *hindsiana* Petit1920 *walvisiana* Tomlin (the southern form)

## PRUNUM

Size: 16.5 x 8mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Walvis Bay to Senegal.

*Marginella olivaeformis* is listed here only because *M. walvisiana* is regarded by some authorities (Wagner & Abbott 1977) as a synonym, i.e. the "southern form". However, I am retaining *M. walvisiana* as a valid species. See No. 83 below.

60

*ornata* Redfield 18701865 *vittata* Reeve non Hutton1870 *ornata* Redfield1875 *serpentina* Jousseaume1875 *herminea* Jousseaume.

## MARGINELLA

Size: 25mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Jeffreys Bay to Natal.

The Natal form is smaller and heavier with a much thicker lip. *Serpentina* is from north of East London and has often been confused with *floccata*. Compare illustration Di and Bd. The red variety of *ornata* occurs throughout the range. The grey form occurs throughout the range too but is far less common.

61

*pachista* Tomlin 1913

## MARGINELLA

Size: 16 x 9.6mm

Pleats: 4 strong.

Range: Natal South Coast to Mzamba (Transkei).

Greyish pink, lip pale with dark pink streaks on the back of a heavy margin. This description was taken from worn specimens in the East London museum.

62

*paula* Thiele 1925

## GLABELLA

Size: 4mm

Pleats:

Range: Agulhas Bank.

No other information.

63

*perla* Marrat 18761852 *biplicata* Krauss non Risso1876 *perla* Marrat1877 *perta* Paetel1886 *chrysea* Watson1932 *innocens* Turton

## MARGINELLA

Size: 11 x 5mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Table Bay to Port Alfred.

Translucent creamy colour. Retention of previous lip varices on the outer surface is a diagnostic feature, although these do not appear on the specimens we had. See plate B, Ka and Kb.

64

*perminima* Sowerby 1894. (See part 2).

65

*piperata* Hinds 18441844 *piperata* Hinds1844 *nuberculata* Guerin-Menville non Lamarck1846 *piperita* Sowerby1846 *albocincta* Sowerby (vide Wagner and Abbot)1884 *albocincta* Sowerby (vide Turton)1889 *lineata* Sowerby1889 *strigata* Sowerby1889 *lutea* Sowerby (form)1899 *punctilineata* E.A. Smith1915 *cosmia* Bartsch1932 *ancilloides* Turton1932 *fulvocincta* Turton1932 *fuscopicta* Turton1932 *monozona* Turton1932 *eucosmia* Turton1932 *minuscula* Turton (variety)1932 *scitula* Turton (variety)1932 *roseolineata* Turton1932 *rubrocincta* Turton1932 *thetis* Turton1932 *helena* Turton non Thiele1933 *becki* Turton

## MARGINELLA

Size: Very variable. Refer colour plate.

Pleats: 4

Range: Jeffreys Bay to Zululand.

Found live in East London area. (13 x 8mm, 11 x 6mm, 34 x 18.5mm, 21 x 11mm).

*Punctilineata* E.A. Smith (= *cosmia* Bartsch 1915 vide Wagner and Abbot) has been suggested to be *piperata*, but when seen in quantity the *cosmia* can always be distinguished from the rest by the blotch on the lower columella and the horizontal stripes on the lip. *Piperata* has also been found live at Gonubie (July 1965). 5 specimens were taken and are now in the S.A. Museum, 2 were large specimens of the normal *piperata* with no sinus and the other 3 were smaller versions of the same form of *piperata*.

*Piperata* from Macassar Beach (dredged False Bay), found 6 dead shells but the pattern of the shells was like that of *piperata* with no

sinus. These were dredged from 25m about 1km offshore. These shells are now in the Natal Museum. The name *cosmoi* which may be seen on many *Marginella* labels in South African collections is *cosmia*.

66

*pringlei* Tomlin 1947

## AFRIVOLUTA

Size: 130 x 50mm

Pleats: 4 strong

Range: Trawled off Port Elizabeth to East London, Agulhas Bank.

This is the largest of the *Marginellidae* and was first thought to be a *Volute*. The size varies, with specimens from the western end of the range tending to be larger than those from the eastern end. In addition the smaller shells often have a blistered surface and are darker brown.

Large quantities of shells are being sold under the name of *A. pringlei* and *A. taiwanensis* in Australia, Mauritius and elsewhere. They are said to originate in Taiwanese waters, being supplied by Taiwanese trawlers. They could be the same species but are more purple in colour.

67

*procrita* Kilburn 1977. (See part 2).

68

*pseustes* E.A. Smith 1905. (See part 2).

69

*pyrrha* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

70

*quantilla* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

71

*rietensis* Turton 1932 (See part 2).

72

*rosea* Lamarck 1822

## MARGINELLA

Size: 28 x 16mm

Pleats: 4 strong pleats.

Range: Paternoster to Cape Hangklip. Reported by Nicklés from Senegal, West Africa.

This is an inter-tidal species extending down to 22 metres, known to us within a range of 130 miles at most, from the northern end of Table Bay to Cape Hangklip. Adult specimens range in length from (approx) 18mm to 30mm with most specimens being about 23mm in length.

Specimens along the strip of coastline from Simon's Bay to Cape Point, where the intertidal water is at its warmest, are virtually all a deep pink colour with an irregular feathery checkered pattern and sometimes with vertical broken grey lines as well. Where the water is colder, the pink coloration occurs to a very much reduced degree in isolated specimens,

with most shells there being grey or white or ivory, with grey or black markings. The irregular checkered pattern is common to all areas, with other variations also occurring. The cold water shells show the biggest variation in size and pattern, but some of the variations are so characteristic of their localities that it is possible to identify the particular place of origin of certain specimens.

At Cape Hangklip, at the eastern end of False Bay, it is noticeable that many specimens are honey coloured and the checkered pattern is blurred and consists of closely packed fine speckles, like *Marginella piperata*. See specimens Eh and Ei on Plate A.

Blunt denticles or nodules are sometimes found on the inner edge of the labrum. The reason for this is not known.

Shells with a checkered pattern usually have the outer edge of the labrum spotted but, where the pattern consists of wavy vertical lines, the labrum is unspotted. (Plate A: Ed and Eg).

The theory that water temperature has something to do with these variations is strengthened by the fact that an upwelling of cold water comes close inshore at Cape Hangklip and could account for the absence of pink shells there.

The animals of all these varieties of *Marginella rosea* are virtually identical, i.e. translucent white body with a faint sprinkling of gold speckles on the side of the foot and a fringe of deep pink spots or rings on the trailing edge of the foot. There are similar pink spots on the edge of the transparent mantle. The pink spots are generally surrounded by an opaque white ring. While at rest, the mantle is often extended over the shell, changing its appearance dramatically.

73  
*rufanensis* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

74  
*savignyi* Issel 1869  
? *CLOSLA*  
Size: 4mm  
Range: Suez and Port Alfred.

Described from the Suez Canal, but Sowerby reported it from South Africa. Turton found something similar at Port Alfred. It is similar to *alfredensis*. See notes under *algoensis*.

75  
*seminula* Gould 1860  
*MARGINELLA*  
Size:  
Pleats:  
Range: False Bay.

Listed by Turton as occurring in the Cape. Probably a species of *inquirenda*.

76  
*shepstonensis* E.A. Smith 1906. (See part 2).

77  
*sowerbyi* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

78  
*spryi* Clover 1973  
*PRUΣUM*

Size: 9.9 x 5.9mm  
Pleats: 4 pleats, denticles on the inner edge of the labrum throughout its length.

Range: South of Porto Amelia (Mozambique) and East Africa.

It has been taken live but the animal is unknown.

It is white or light orange with the spire low and consisting of four and a half whorls. The lip is thickened and white. Note the correct spelling of the specific name, not 'sryri'. This was previously thought to be *margarita* Kiener 1834.

79  
*stuarti* Kilburn 1977  
*MARGINELLA*  
Size: 12.8 x 7.4mm  
Pleats: 4 and labrum denticulate.  
Range: Walvis Bay and Swakopmund (S.W.A.).

Illustrated in the colour plate. Apex orange, dark grey pattern, mantle and foot blotched grey. Found in fairly shallow water under rocks. There is no radula. Types in the Natal Museum.

80  
*teres* Turton 1932  
*tenuis* Turton 1933  
*teres* Turton  
*MARGINELLA*  
Size: 3.2 x 1.7mm  
Pleats: 3  
Range: Port Alfred (type locality).

This shell was named from a single specimen and the earlier name *tenuis* was preoccupied hence the change.

81  
*thalia* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

82  
*vitrea* Hinds 1844  
*GLABELLA*  
Size: 6mm  
Pleats:  
Range:

Species inquirenda. From South Africa, according to Wagner and Abbott (1977).

83  
*walvisiana* Tomlin 1920  
? *PRUNUM*  
Size: 16 x 8mm  
Pleats: 4  
Range: South West Africa to Langebaan Lagoon.

*Walvisiana* is often confused with *capensis* Krauss 1848. *Walvisiana* is inflated and has a thicker lip. *Capensis*

is more cylindrical. *Walvisiana* is regarded as a southern form of *olivaeformis* (Wagner and Abbott).

See illustration Ma and Mb. See also under *olivaeformis*.

84  
*whitechurchi* Turton 1932. (See part 2).

85  
*youngi* Kilburn 1977. (See part 2).

86  
*zeyheri* Krauss 1852  
*zeyheri* Krauss 1852  
*metcalfei* Sowerby non Angas. 1904  
*pura* E.A. Smith 1925  
*aurelia* Thiele 1932  
*kowiensis* Turton (variety).

*MARGINELLA*  
Size: 6.5 x 3.25mm (7.5 x 4.5mm).  
Pleats: 4  
Range: Off Saldanha Bay to Natal to 155m.

Shell is creamy white and has a strong shoulder and a high spire. There is a radula (Barnard 615) examined from the Cape dredged specimen. Quite common on beaches. Refer also *kerochuta*.

See Lc on Plate B. The large specimens Lb were live taken in False Bay and will probably have to be given a new name.

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- Mr Davorin Kis 41000 Zagreb; ul.M. Pijade 9/111; Yugoslavia; is a ceramist living in Zagreb, with a bungalow on the Adriatic Sea, where he does his collecting. He has sent a list of exchanges, mostly live taken, and would like South African shells. He is an experienced collector.
- Mr Tristan Tirol; Vereinstr 18; 6000 Frankfurt/Main; Germany; is a beginner who would like to add South African shells to his collection.
- Miss Elaine Phillips; 5931 17th Avenue; St Petersburg; Florida 33710; U.S.A. is a cone specialist and offers Florida shells.
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## ROUND THE GROUPS

**DURBAN:** The Natal Branch has acquired the smartest letterheads of any of our groups, with a splendid reproduction of their local emblem, *Pleurotomaria africana*. A successful field outing at Rocky Bay in February produced a number of specimens that have been listed, for the members, a project that might well be copied by other groups.

Maureen Quickelberge was scheduled to speak at the March meeting on cleaning shells and planning a collection. A number of new members have joined since the Exotica exhibition.

**PORT ELIZABETH:** Interesting finds during the Christmas holidays were reported from Port Alfred, being *Argonauta nodosa* and *Reclusia jehenni*.

Wayne Clausen is on a trek on foot along the entire South Africa coastline. Presumably shell collecting will present some logistic problems along the way.

The group has studied the families Naticidae and Olividae.

**PORT SHEPSTONE:** The group's library and reference collection of shells are being developed and extended. Several shell families have been discussed at meetings and informative talks were given on the life and habits of Cowries, and on marine aquaria. A problem affecting all conchologists was raised, viz the difficulty of access to the Annals of the Natal Museum and specifically to the parts dealing with mollusca, as these are apparently not available separately. In practice this simply means that the main object of the Museum's activities, adding to the sum of human knowledge, is effectively being kept away from most of the people who are paying for it.

**CAPE TOWN:** At the March meeting, members were treated to an excellently clear, concise and reasonable exposition of the motivation behind the proclamation of marine reserves, by Mr de Villiers of the Division of Sea Fisheries.

A regrettable tendency is developing in Cape Town for members not to bring shells for display at meetings. This is especially disappointing for beginners who expect to see a selection of shells, but they should also bring their own shells along as all contributions add to the knowledge of the group as a whole.

\*\*\*\*\*

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