



Afrivoluta pringlei Tomlin 1947

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NOTES ON THE FAMILY TRIPPHORIDAE

by E.H. Ralph

Triphora smithi Bartsch, 1915.

Yellowish-white, irregularly flecked with blotches and streaks of pale brown. Port Alfred. Figure 1.

Triphora elsa Bartsch, 1915.

Bluish white. Port Alfred. Figure 2.

Triphora milda Bartsch, 1915.

Light brown. Port Alfred. Figure 3.

Triphora oreada Bartsch, 1915.

Flesh-coloured. Port Alfred. Figure 4.

Triphora helena Bartsch, 1915.

Bluish-white. Port Alfred. Figure 5.

Triphora sabita Bartsch, 1915.

Light brown, excepting tips of the tubercules which are flesh-coloured. Extreme tip of shell is wax-yellow and outer lip white. From Illovo to East London. Figure 6.

Triphora atea Bartsch, 1915.

Wax-yellow. Port Alfred. Figure 7.

Triphora capensis Bartsch, 1915.

White. From Port Shepstone to Still Bay. Figure 8.

Triphora nina Bartsch, 1915.

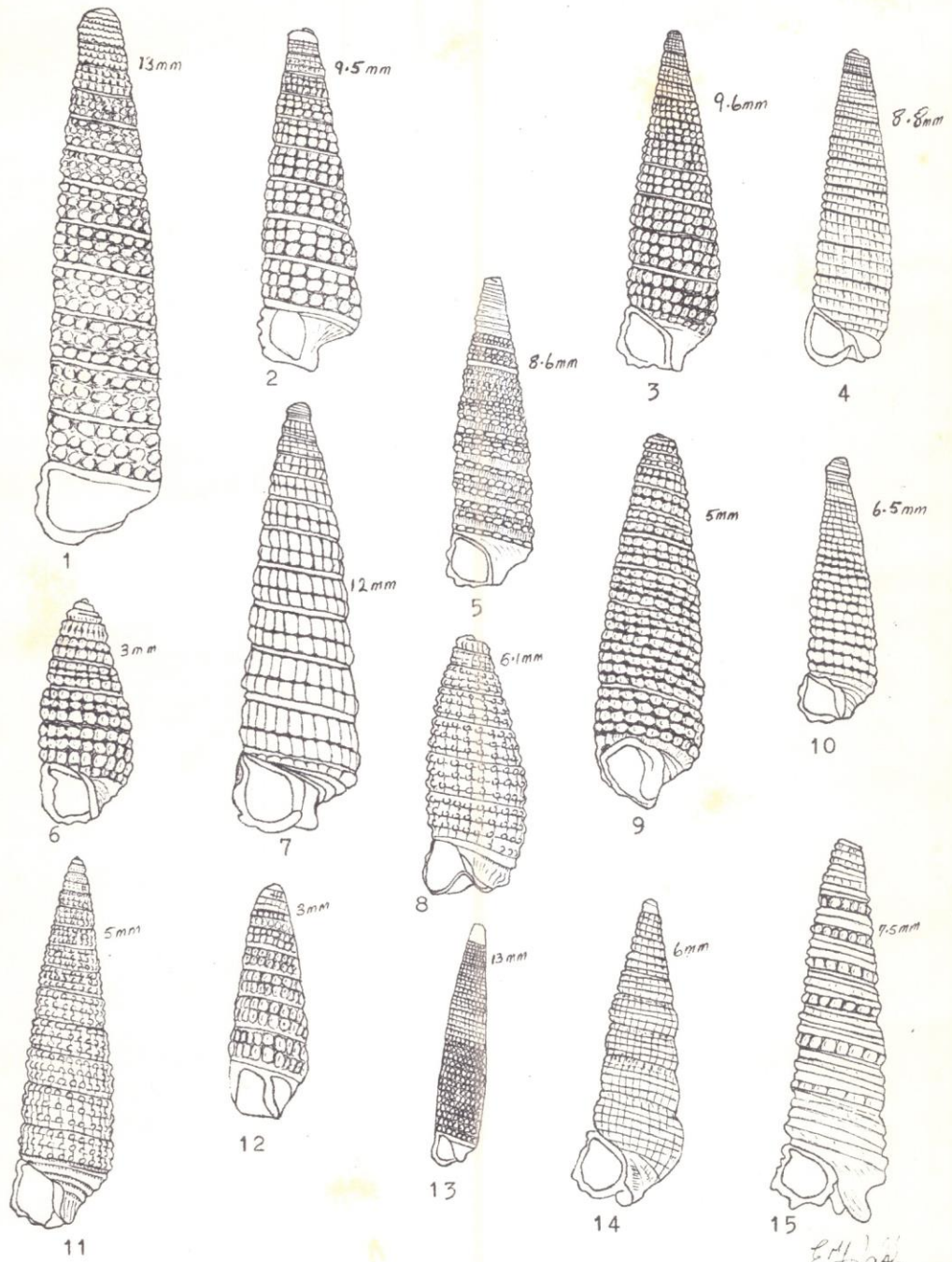
Light chestnut-brown, excepting the tubercules of the cord at the summit which have a purplish tinge. Figure 9.

Triphora madria Bartsch, 1915.

White. Port Alfred. Figure 10.

Triphora africana Bartsch, 1915.

Dark chestnut-brown, upper series of nodules on each whorl paler than the others. From Cape Vidal to False Bay. Figure 11.



Figs 8 & 11 after Bartsch

P.H. Bartsch
3/3/75

Triphora thetis Turton, 1932.

Yellowish-brown, except nuclear whorl which is nearly white. Port Alfred. Figure 12.

Triphora whitechurchi Turton, 1932.

Dirty white. Port Alfred. Figure 13.

Triphora hemileuca Tomlin, 1931.

Protoconch and next three whorls cream-white, last six whorls brown-black. Port Shepstone. Figure 14.

Euthyme latisinuata Tomlin, 1931.

Pale whitish-brown with faint brownish spots marking the interruptions in the keels. Port Shepstone. Figure 15.

References:

- Barnard, K.H. 1963. Ann.S.A. Mus., Vol. XLVII, Pt.1., Cont. to knowledge of S.A. Marine Mollusca. Pt. III, pgs. 108-117.
- Bartsch, P. 1915. Report on the Turton collection of South African marine mollusks, with additional notes on other South African shells contained in the United States National Museum. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. 91.
- Tomlin, J.R. le B. 1931. On South African Marine Mollusca, with descriptions of new genera and species. Ann. Natal Mus. 6.
- Turton, W.H. 1932. The Marine Shells of Port Alfred, S. Africa. Oxford : Oxford University Press.

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Changes in Nomenclature

Volume 3, Number 15 of Indo-Pacific Mollusca has recently been received. This volume covers the Patellidae and it is noticed that our South African shell from the genus Cellana which was known as Cellana capensis has been relegated to subspecies and is now known as Cellana radiata subspecies capensis (Gmelin, 1791).

In describing the species Cellana radiata (Born, 1778) Powell states:

"The overall distribution of radiata is East Africa from Natal northwards to the Arabian Sea, India, Ceylon and the Asiatic mainland to Southern Australia, the Phillippines, Palau Islands, Solomons down to New Caledonia, and eastwards across the Pacific to as far as the Marquesas.

"This widely-distributed Indo-Pacific limpet is an exceedingly variable one, but nevertheless several of the more distinctive variants qualify for consideration as geographical subspecies."

Members are advised to change the name of this shell to that of Cellana radiata subspecies capensis (Gmelin, 1791).

Reference:

- Powell, A.W.B. 1973. The Patellid Limpets of the World. Indo-Pacific Mollusca, Vol.3, No.15,, Pgs. 148-150, Subgenus Cellana.

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MOVING? - DON'T DESPAIR

by Thora Whitehead

To write an article for a Shell Club Magazine is to really stick your neck out unless you have been collecting for over 50 years! There are so many very knowledgeable folk that any mistakes are

easily exposed. There is one subject, however, on which I feel quite confident to write - moving with a shell collection. In the few years that I have been collecting shells I have been unfortunate enough to have had more experience in this field than some luckier collectors gain in a lifetime. So if you are suddenly faced with this problem, don't think about shooting yourself, or selling your collection - just read on, it MAY help.

Having just recovered from the initial shock of the news that we will be moving yet again, I start with my larger specimens, such as Lambis truncata, Cassis cornuta etc. Although of sturdy appearance, I have found to my cost that these large shells are the most likely to break of any collection, especially if they are given leeway to move. I first fill the inside of the shell with paper, and then carefully wrap the whole in newspaper. The shells are then packed in cardboard cartons, with crumpled newspaper between individual shells, and all round the inside of the box. The cartons are then packed into wooden crates into which they are fitted like a sort of three dimensional jig-saw puzzle.

For my next stage of packing, I have found that it is very useful to be on good terms with the staff of your local grocery store. I usually ask if they will save me all their apple papers, several weeks before I start my packing. These papers are just the right size for wrapping the shells of smaller size. In my collection, these shells are kept in cabinets, in their families, and this is the way I pack them also. Before I start on a drawer, I first remove the drawer handle, wrap it, and replace it in the drawer. This avoids broken handles during removal. Having done this, each shell is then wrapped, with it's label, and replaced as nearly as possible in it's original position in the drawer. When this is completed, all are padded into position by crumpled newspaper, and the whole drawer is secured by a piece of folded newspaper strapped onto the top of it with packing tape. The drawer is then replaced in the cabinet.

My really tiny shells are kept in matchboxes and when packing, I simply pad them down with cotton wool and replace the matchbox cover. The matchbox is then replaced in it's appropriate drawer, which is secured as described above, and replaced in the cabinet.

Moves to another house in the same town are much easier, as drawers of shells can be carried in suitcases between layers of clothing and taken a few at a time in the numerous trips back and forth to the new house.

The last step in packing a shell cabinet for a long distance move, is to securely rope it up, like a giant parcel, so that no drawers can come out en route. This is a task best left, I find, to the man of the house! I like to keep my shell books out for as long as possible, but eventually these must be packed too. I usually leave myself one worldwide shell book and one Australian shell book to use over the months before I will be able to unpack again. Books are deceptive and weigh a ton en masse, so they should be packed in sturdy boxes or trunks. It is a good idea to wrap them first in plastic bags in case of water damage during the move.

One problem I always seem to be left with till the last moment, is those shells that I just haven't got around to cleaning since the last collecting trip. These can be packed in plastic bags with just enough 70% methylated spirits to preserve them, and then stored in a screw topped plastic container. I found this method quite successful during our last move - except that the drum was one of the few items that DIDN'T arrive at our new home! However, it was soon located back at the store when I described it, and its

contents, to the van men - who no doubt made a note that this lady was even more odd than they had first thought.

I will add here one surprising fact - if you pack your shells yourself, you can't insure them against breakage, though the cabinets are covered by the same insurance as your other furniture. However, I am quite prepared to take the risk, as I have lost very few shells using the method I have described. Most of my breakages come at the other end, in my haste to get the shells unpacked!

Well, here's hoping its a long, long time before I have to go through another move with my collection, and if YCU should have to, here's hoping the above information will be of some help!

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This article by Thora Whitehead, a member of the Conchological Society of Southern Africa living in Australia, was originally published in the W.A. Shell Collector, December, 1973, No. 1.

Exchanges Wanted:-

Mrs D. Smith, "Plus Ultra", P.O. Margate 4275. Would like to contact Cape Town members willing to exchange common shells for Natal littoral species.

Changes of Address:-

Mrs G. Clausen, c/o P.O. Box 229, Ceres, 6835.
Miss E. Fitchett, c/o Standard Bank of S.A. Ltd., P.O. Box 57, Cape Town, 8000.

New Members:

Mr W. Richter, 10 Lupinstrabe, 795 Biberach/Rib, West Germany.
Mr N.P. Engelbrecht, P.O. Box 253, Vereeniging 1930.
Mrs A. Symonds, Lake View Hotel, St. Lucia 3935, Zululand, Natal.
Mrs G.A. Henning, 1 Lawrence St., Florida Park, Florida, 1710.
Mr C.E. Ewels, Box 17, Gaborone, Republic of Botswana.
Miss M.L. du Preez, 1167 Wesley Rd., Queenswood, Pretoria, 0002.
Miss B.J. Nielsen, 45 Summerhill Road, Glen Iris, Victoria 3146, Australia.

Around the Groups:

Natal Midlands Group, Pietermaritzberg. At a very well attended meeting on 2nd March, Mr. Kilburn discussed all species of the genus Cerithium found in South Africa. He mentioned that a number of these used to be found in Durban Bay but unfortunately most of them were now extinct. According to an old letter a number of species in the Bay had become extinct as long ago as the last century due to the "activity of the railway line in the Bluff area". However, Cerithium schroeteri (Menke) could occasionally be found in small colonies along the coast, and Cerithium tuberculatum (Linn.) were well established at Mboteyi on the Pondoland coast. Several specimens of the shells were handed round during the discussion.

Eastern Cape Group, Port Elizabeth. With apologies from three, there were eight members at our March meeting. It was reported that entry forms had been received from the stall-letting committee of the 1974 Hobbies Fair. Juniors will not have their own stall but their stand will form part of that of the Group. Fiona Maule and a friend agreed to run the Junior stand. Mr. McLachlan agreed to provide a slide show during the Fair.

It was decided that, in view of the pending absence of Mr. Greave, the Annual General Meeting will be held in May. Mesdames Farrell and Watters and Mr. Greave indicated that they were willing to stand for a further term of office. Mrs Watters and Mrs Farrell had attended the first annual meeting of the Co-ordinating Council for Nature Conservation in the Eastern Cape. Since most study groups of this Council are concerned with the protection of Marine Life at various localities in the Eastern Cape the meeting decided that the Group become a member of the Council.

Tea and biscuits were enjoyed, the family Olividae was discussed and the reference collection brought up to date.

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Society held on 26th March, 1974.

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Freeman, Mrs Giles took the Chair. In opening the meeting she welcomed visitors and members who had come to the meeting. Apologies were received from one member.

The minutes of the previous meeting, as published in The Strandloper No. 160, were taken as read and adopted. There were no matters arising.

The Secretary announced that name tags were available to all members and it was hoped that these would be of assistance to visitors and new members.

Members were asked to bear in mind that nominations for Council would soon be called for, all nominations to be in before 27th June. Please ensure that those nominated agree in writing to such nomination.

The shells on display - Strombidae - were then discussed, there being some very good displays on the table.

The films "Some of our Coastal Birds", "The Earth - It's Coast Lines", and "The Earth - Its Oceans" were then screened. Our thanks to Mr Hart for obtaining the films and to Mr le Maitre for operating the projector.

It was announced that at the April meeting Mr Verhoef will show film on Ceylon and the Maldiv Islands. The shells for display and discussion will be the family Tonnidae as pictured in Kensleys book on pages 118-119.

It was also announced that Miss Imrie of the University had agreed to address the May meeting. Her subject would be the Nudibranchs.

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Notes from the Secretary's correspondence file.

Following on a report of the finding of a live Cypraea lamarckii Gray at Gonubie (see The Strandloper No. 155 pages 5 and 7) Mr. Greave of Port Elizabeth has sent in the following information from his observations over the past few years.

"With reference to the report of the finding of the live specimen of C.lamarckii at Gonubie this species also occurs in Algoa Bay. In that part of the Bay where the island of St Croix is closest to the mainland, where the beach can be reached through a farm called Hougham Park, this shell is found on the beach. Every year several specimens are collected. Although they are quite fresh, the shells lack the lustre of the Natal shells and are quite often in an advanced juvenile state. Obviously this spot is one of its southernmost localities where conditions are harsh for this species."

"At the same spot very fresh C.capensis Gray and C.edentula Gray are plentiful while the in-between form C.amphitales Melvill is not at all uncommon. Also C.helvola Linn. (very fresh) and occasionally C.citrina Gray are being found here."

"On the other side of the Bay, at Summerstrand, C.vitellus Linn. and C.caputserpentis Linn. have been found alive. For some years C.carneola Linn. and poorly developed C.annulus washed up here."

"At Kini Bay large numbers of Conus mozambicus lautus Reeve are found. Most of these are very small, much smaller than those found at Jeffreys Bay, which may be an indication that conditions for this species are less favourable at Kini Bay."

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Mr Dyer of Hermanus writes that he has been exchanging for some time with an American collector. The other day he received a letter and press cutting from this collector informing him that she had won first prize for her display "South African Patellidae" at the St. Petersburg Shell Club. The judges at the show were Dr. Moore of the University of Miami and president-elect of the American Malacological Union, and shell collector Rev. Wilkins. The display "South African Patellidae" was made up entirely of shells exchanged by Mr. Dyer.

Congratulations to Mr. Dyer on the good material sent away in his exchange parcels.

The next meeting of the SOCIETY will be held in the Lecture Hall of the South African Museum, Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town on Tuesday, 30th April, 1974, at 8.15 p.m. The shells for display and discussion will be the family Tonnidae as illustrated in Kensleys book "Sea Shells of Southern Africa" page 119. Mr. Verhoef will give a talk and show a film on Ceylon and the Maldive Islands.
