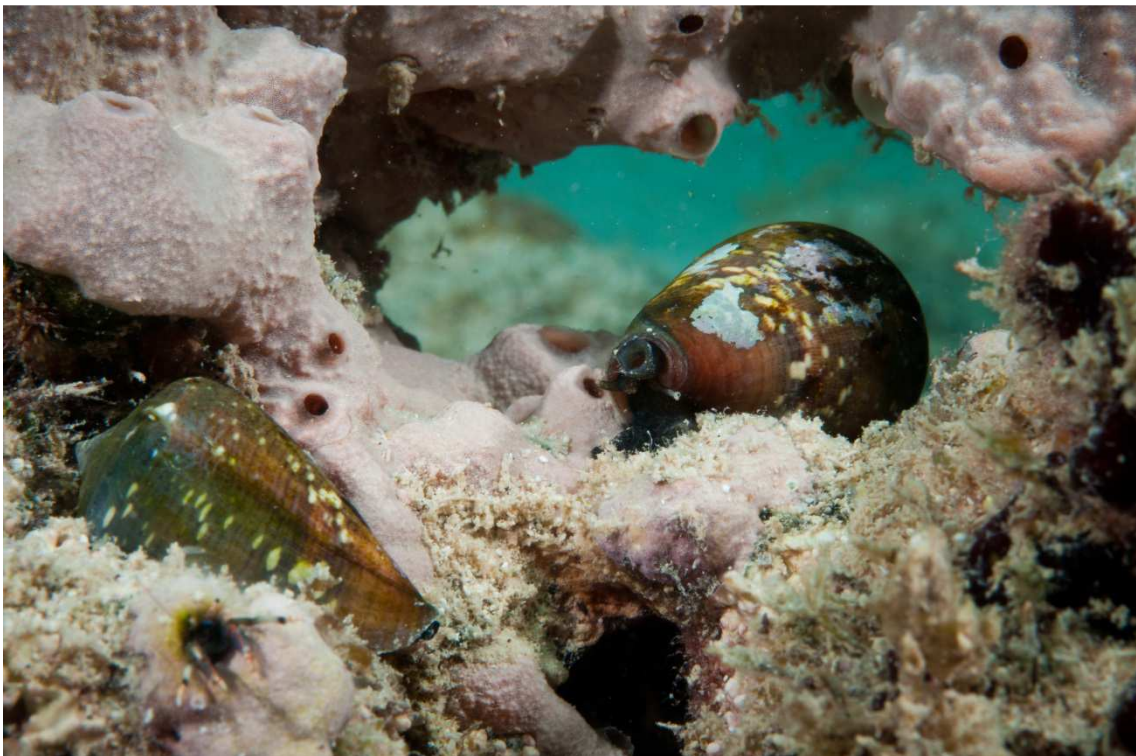


*THE
CONE
COLLECTOR*

32 May 2019



Live *Africonus irregularis* Sowerby II, 1858, in their habitat
Ponta do Sol, Boa Vista Is., Cape Verde Islands
Photo: Gonçalo Rosa

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Our project *The Cone Collector* began in 2006, as a newsletter destined to collectors and professional biologists interested in Cone shells.

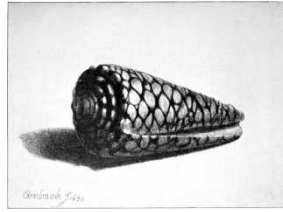
It rapidly progressed from its modest beginnings to include a website where very substantial information about Cones can be found, as well as the organization of international meetings that have achieved a great success. Our newsletter even inspired the birth of similar publications!

We can certainly do even better! Our website can be enriched with new sections, such as a repository of original descriptions of new Cone *taxa*. We just need to put our minds to it.

The current year of 2019 will witness the realization of our 5th Meeting. This time, Lisbon was the city chosen for the event. I am sure that those who decide to attend our meeting and have not visited Portugal before will have an exceptionally good time. Lisbon is an old town (after all, vestiges of Neolithic settlements have been found in its soil, the Romans conquered the ancestral city of Olisipo in the second century of our era, and in the very early 12th century, Portugal's first king D. Afonso Henriques vanquished the Moorish occupants and established Portuguese control over the whole area), where many old monuments can be found, especially from the 16th century onwards; but at the same time it is a quite fashionable modern metropolis spreading on the North bank of the mighty river Tejo.

Plenty of reasons to come visit us and take part in our Cone Meeting. It will be held during the weekend of 13-15 September, and details about venue, program, registration, etc. have been widely circulated and will be found once more below.

So, I hope that you will enjoy this new number of TCC and I certainly thank all contributors who made it possible. And I will be seeing many of you in September!



VARIABILITY OF

Darioconus episcopatus (Da Motta, 1982)

Christian Galy-Cassit

Introduction

The purpose of the present article is to bring my contribution to collectors. Certain cones, from certain regions (like Cape Verde, for instance) are swiftly placed on the market with a name and an often very sketchy description!

Certain other cones are closely associated with a specific region: Australia, South Africa, Vietnam, etc. They are easily identifiable, and quickly included in a collection. Others, like most *Darioconus* and particularly *Darioconus episcopatus* (da Motta, 1982), which has a number of synonyms (see WoRMS), exist in different seas and oceans. Nevertheless, I have noticed that *D. episcopatus* does vary from one region to the other, and this observation refers mainly to the Indian Ocean.

Generally speaking, there are few identification errors in exchange bourses and in the commerce. However, certain *D. episcopatus* are indeed different. It should be noticed that when buying or exchanging a shell, we usually do not have at our disposal more than a good look, a magnifying glass, sometimes a book. Nevertheless, before a purchase or an exchange, identification, must be performed!

Which questions do we face in such moments?

- Are the observed morphological differences normal?
- Are they the result of mutations and/or local developments provoking hybridization?
- *A contrario*, do such species live sympatrically?
- Do they have identical origins?

A reorganization of my collection, arranging the species by genus, instead of by geographic region, made me realize quite clearly their striking differences.

In all instances, this modest work is open to critic and improvement. If any of our readers find a distinct variation of *D. episcopatus*, please inform António Monteiro, who will certainly include the observation in a future number of *TCC*. This will thus be an open debate...

Through our observations, and the findings in our drawers of specimens, we can all be contributors to a list of Conidae, which however will never be exhaustive.

As shell collectors, we must rely on the more direct features of a specimen: aspect, colours, weight, origin (if at all known) and further data, often a mixture of fact and fantasy!


My scientific knowledge is limited, but I rely on my observations, my long experience as a collector of cones, logic, and the will to classify and name...

I have read much, and was inspired by the studies of José Lauer and Da Motta. I have met important divers and collectors: Guy Hoarau and Dr Maurice Jay, in La Réunion, Patrick Marti (who writes quite remarkable books) more recently; Ed Petuch has provided me with sound advice.

Several of my friends have collections to dream about. I am thinking of Éric Lecourt de Billot at Mauritius, Joël Cholet and Éric Monnier in France, Carlos Carvalho and of course António Monteiro, both in Portugal. My knowledge has grown with the passing years and I do have in my collection some interesting specimens. All my life I have tried to find species that are really different one from the other, and as a matter of fact, what sense would a collection have if everything was the same?

I shall mostly pay attention to the general shape, the morphological differences, coloration and patterns. Details will be presented under each species. Those are the first observations to be made when we buy or when we collect a specimen: the visual characteristics, as opposed to scientific measurements and analyses.

First of all, a short reminder about the holotype of *D.episcopatus* (da Motta 1982):

<i>Darioconus episcopatus</i> (da Motta, 1982)	
	Region: Indo-Pacific
	Type: Holotype
	Type Repository: MHNG
	Catalogue Number of Type: 981.739
	Type size: 82 x 36.5 mm
	Type locality: Mahe Is., Seychelles

I shall not copy the description of each *taxon*, since the RKK manual and several magazines and reprints thereof do that quite satisfactorily.

Several episodes led to *Conus macilentus*, but I will not mention their participants. We also find some dealers in the Internet offering *Conus pupillaris*, also a name that is not valid.

My main references are WoRMS and «The Conus Biodiversity website, whose addresses will be found at the end of this article.

D. episcopatus is well defined, and I think that we may correctly state that the name *Conus macilentus* has been used for a juvenile form of this species.

Distribution: La Réunion, Mayotte, Madagascar, Mozambique, Mauritius, Malaisie, Maldives, Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Vietnam, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, and Polynesia

A broad shouldered form is found at Madagascar, Mayotte, Kenya, and Tanzania.



From left to right:
 Juvenile (*C. macilentus*), typical *D. episcopatus*, broad shouldered form (Madagascar - Mayotte)

The fact remains that *D. episcopatus* is very variable, but we can broadly separate it into three forms: the typical form, the «elongated» form and the «obese» form.



Progression from juvenile (left) to adult (right)

Note: I use the word «form» deliberately to refer to a morphological particularity, and not in its taxonomic sense!

The elongated form

This form is elongated, with a marked shoulder (compare with *D. omaria* var. *magoide* Melvill, 1900), longer than typical *D. episcopatus*, massive and heavy. The apex is straight, in view of the length, the aperture is narrow and elongated, its sides are parallel and slightly flaring towards the anterior end.



Distribution : Australia, Fiji, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Vietnam.



The obese form



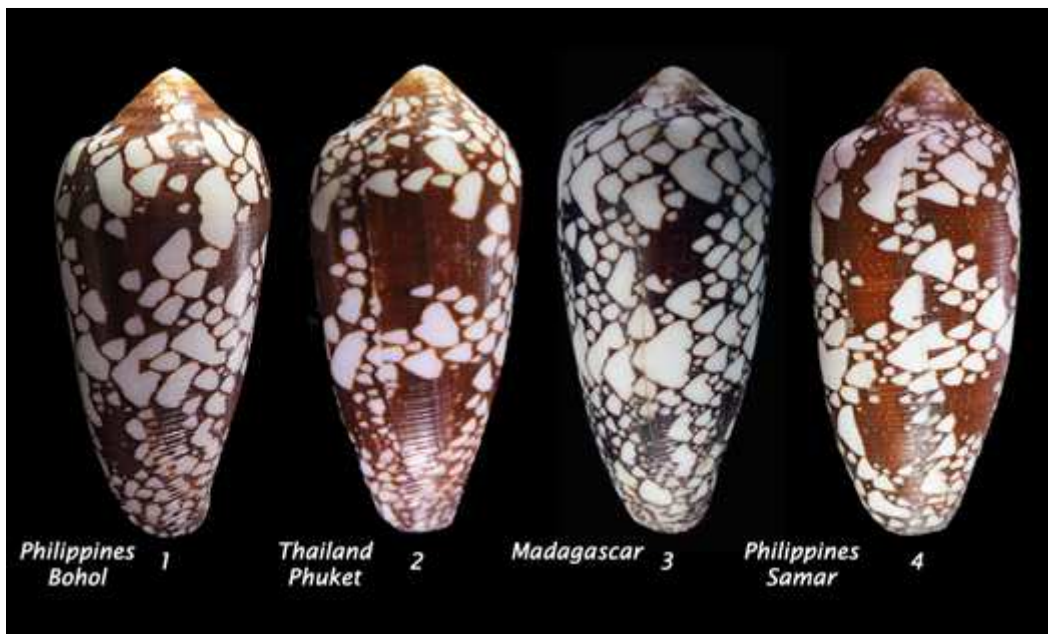
In my collection, specimens of this fat form come mainly from the Philippines, Thailand and Madagascar.

When compared to the previous one, that is stringy, the present one presents a broad last whorl and shoulder.

The white markings are concentrated in three areas, near the shoulder, at mid-body and on the anterior end.

The shoulder is well marked, the apex is straight and mamillate, the colour may vary from brown to very dark brown, almost black.

What causes these differences and these particular forms? Is there some kind of rational explanation? Could a rigorous census by region begin to provide us with an answer?



The fat form from the Indian Ocean

Are we in the presence of some kind of mutation, or are these local variations due to different nourishment, living habits, climate or any other environmental factors?

D. episcopatus (?) from La Réunion

This is a special case that is quite magnificent, and the temptation of calling it *Conus magnificus* is great. Nevertheless, in my opinion this name has been erroneously applied!

It was Guy Hoareau himself who collected this and gave it to me.

Pattern and coloration do correspond to *D. episcopatus*.

The apex is different, however, much more strongly peaked; the shoulder is marked.



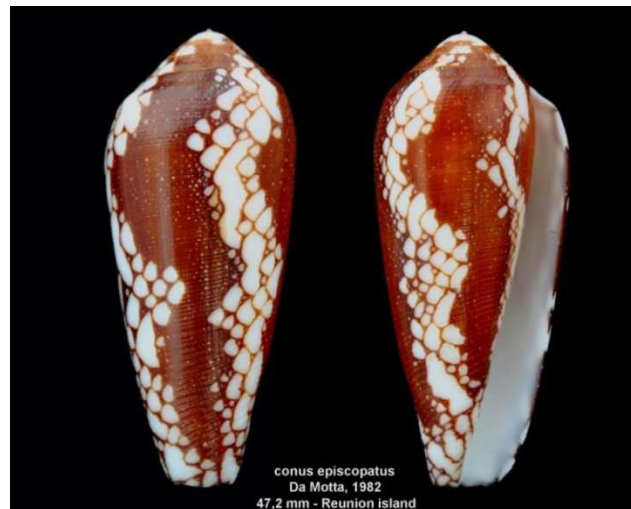
D. episcopatus from La Réunion (La Possession)

In fact, this cone is quite distinct from *D. episcopatus* and would probably deserve a description and a local denomination! The museum at La Réunion has two such specimens.



D. episcopatus from La Réunion (La Possession to St Gilles – Photos available in the Internet)

It should be noted that the typical form of *D.episcopatus* also exists at La Réunion!



The two populations exist in a common area, so are they sympatric (that is to say, do they live in the same zone without hybridizing)?

Would it be appropriate to separate them at this point in time?

The differences are noticeable and major: the overall shape, the uniform purity of colours, the lack of white dots on the colored portions of the shell, the pattern, the apex, etc.

This is a question that troubles many of us, mere collectors: how can two things living in the same habitat be so different and bear the same name?

***D. episcopatus* in La Réunion**



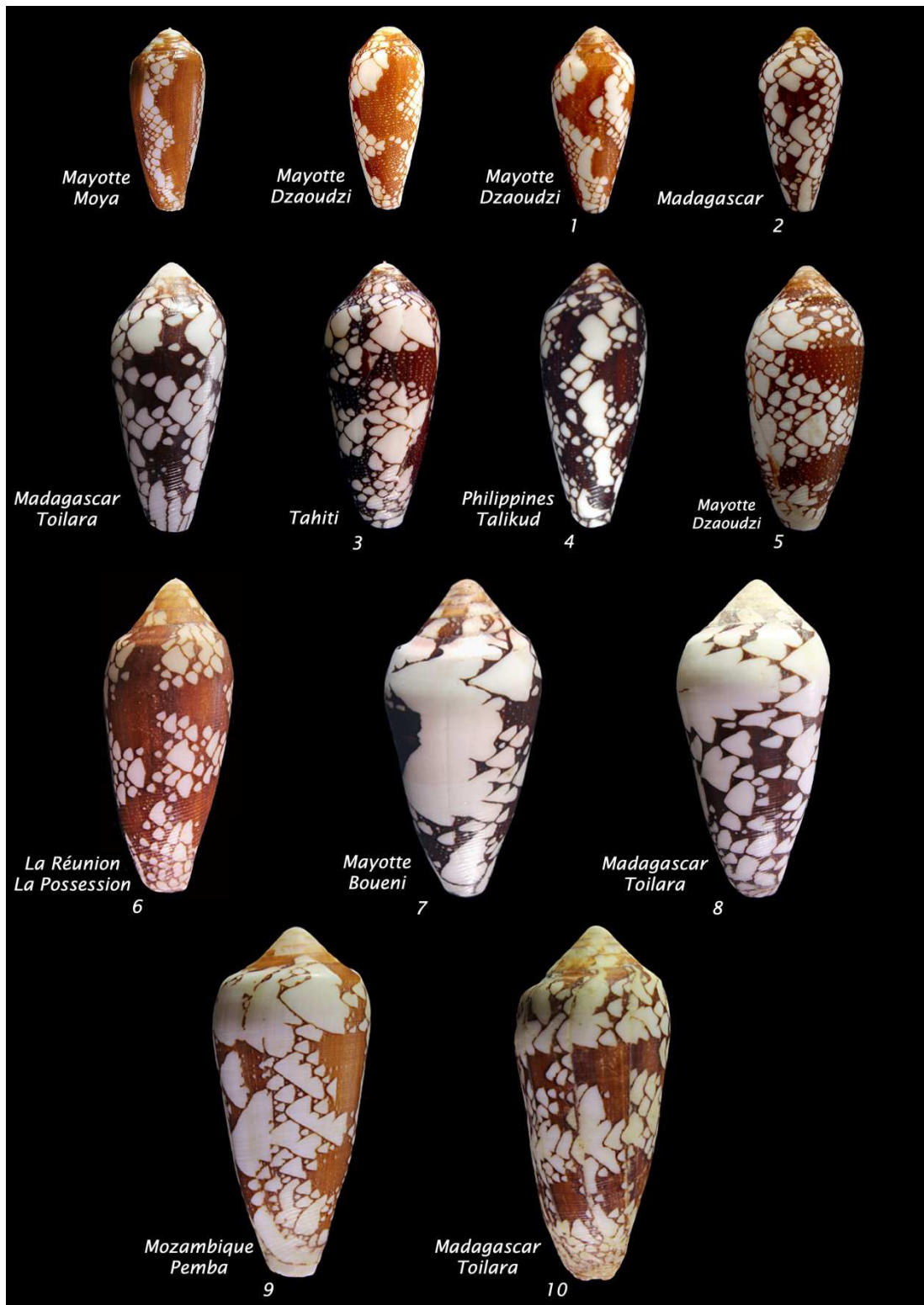


I got in touch with Mrs. Sonia Ribes-Beaudemoulin, head curator and director of the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de La Réunion, who kindly sent me the photos of these two «*C. magnificus*» collected by Guy Hoareau (thus named by him at the time). I think that these are in fact *D. episcopatus*. They come from La Souris Chaude in La Réunion and have been collected at a depth of 45 m. I do thank Mrs. Sonia Ribes very much for her kindness and help.



Comparison of the different forms found (others will no doubt exist)

It should be noticed that *D. episcopatus* is not the only variable *Darioconus* species found in the Indian Ocean, since *D. episcopus* also shows some well localized variations, that will be covered in a separate article.



Specimens of *D. episcopatus* used in the table of dimensions

Table of dimensions

Dimensions <i>C. episcopatus</i>									
	N°	Length L	Maximum Diameter MD	Height of Maximum Diameter HMD	Aperture Height AH	Relative diameter of last whorl RD=MD/AH	Position of Maximum Diameter of last whorl PMD=HMD/AH	Relative Spire Height RSH=(L-AH)/L	Remark
<i>C. episcopatus</i> (Fig 13)									
Mayotte Dzacudzi	1	39,99	17,50	27,00	33,00	0,53	0,82	0,17	Juvenile
Madagascar	2	50,44	22,54	36,00	42,00	0,54	0,86	0,17	Subadult
Tahiti	3	54,12	23,14	41,00	45,00	0,51	0,91	0,17	
Philippines Talikud	4	55,67	22,45	41,00	48,00	0,47	0,85	0,14	
Mayotte Dzacudzi	5	60,78	26,71	42,00	49,50	0,54	0,85	0,19	
La Réunion La Possession	6	63,63	26,07	41,00	53,00	0,49	0,77	0,17	Angle apex = 70°
Mayotte Bouéni	7	66,86	31,24	44,00	56,00	0,56	0,79	0,16	Angle apex = 73°
Madagascar Toilara	8	71,70	34,54	50,00	62,00	0,56	0,81	0,14	Angle apex = 90°
Mozambique Pemba	9	76,73	35,33	58,00	68,00	0,52	0,85	0,11	Angle apex = 90°
Madagascar Toilara	10	88,20	39,33	65,00	76,00	0,52	0,86	0,14	
<i>C. episcopatus</i> (long) (Fig 6)									
Philippines Sulu	1	51,04	21,59	38,00	44,00	0,49	0,86	0,14	Subadult
Philippines Samar	2	66,78	25,36	50,00	57,50	0,44	0,87	0,14	
Philippines Sulu	3	71,58	27,69	56,00	62,00	0,45	0,90	0,13	Angle apex = 87°
Madagascar Toilara	4	85,01	34,49	61,00	74,00	0,47	0,82	0,13	
<i>C. episcopatus</i> (big) (Fig 7)									
Philippines Bohol	1	69,87	32,20	50,00	61,00	0,53	0,82	0,13	Angle apex = 90°
Thaïlande Phuket	2	75,86	35,36	53,00	66,00	0,54	0,80	0,13	
Madagascar	3	79,52	36,97	56,00	70,00	0,53	0,80	0,12	
Philippines Samar	4	80,22	36,33	55,00	70,00	0,52	0,79	0,13	

This table allows us to compare the main dimensions of the different specimens mentioned.

It should be noticed that in view of its shape and the apex angle (70°), the height of the spire, and its smaller PMD (0,77), *D. episcopatus* from La Réunion stands out from the lot. Obviously, I was able to make measurements in my specimen only.



D. episcopatus variations from Madagascar
(5 different forms, 4 from Toliara alone)



D. episcopatus from the Indian Ocean

Mozambique: two very different forms between Pemba and Nacala (250 km)

Mayotte Dzaoudzi and Mayotte Bouéni (24 km)

Mauritius and La Réunion (224 km)



*Solomon
Island*

*Tahiti
Afaahiti*

*Tahiti
Pueu*

Tahiti

*Torres island
Dauan*

Nouméa

D. episcopatus from the Pacific Ocean
French Polynesia: Tahiti Pueu et Afaahiti (10km).
Very particular form from Torres Island Dauan (between New Guinea and Australia)



D. episcopatus from the Philippines
(notice the two specimens from Sulu and the two from Samar)

All comments are based on the veracity and exactness of the data supplied with the purchase.

I hope that this article will get some feedback from our scientifically minded friends. Could it also motivate any new descriptions?

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http://vieoceane.free.fr/mollusques/intro_frame.htm

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<http://www.marinespecies.org/aphia.php?p=taxdetails&id=215455>

MNHN RUN Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de La Réunion

<http://www.cg974.fr/culture/index.php/Muséum/présentation-muséum/museum-dhistoire-naturelle.html>

The Conus Biodiversity website

<http://biology.burke.washington.edu/conus/index.php>

Conus episcopatus - Filmer

<http://www.theconecollector.com/lib/docs/filmer/E.pdf>

Collection G. Richard

http://amis-museum.seclan.fr/g_ashow.php?id=286

Inventaire National du patrimoine naturel (INPN)

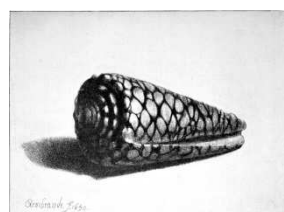
https://inpn.mnhn.fr/espece/cd_nom/526810/tab/taxo



Christian Galy-Cassit

A passionate collector for 43 years, like many of us I search, I read, I frequent the bourses and exhibitions, I buy books and reprints, and of course I use the indispensable tool of the current age, the Internet.

Since the beginning, in 1975 in Djibouti, I have pointed my collection towards Conidae, starting with a *C. locumtenens* (it was love at first sight...).



VARIABILITY OF

Darioconus episcopus (Hwass, 1792)

Christian Galy-Cassit

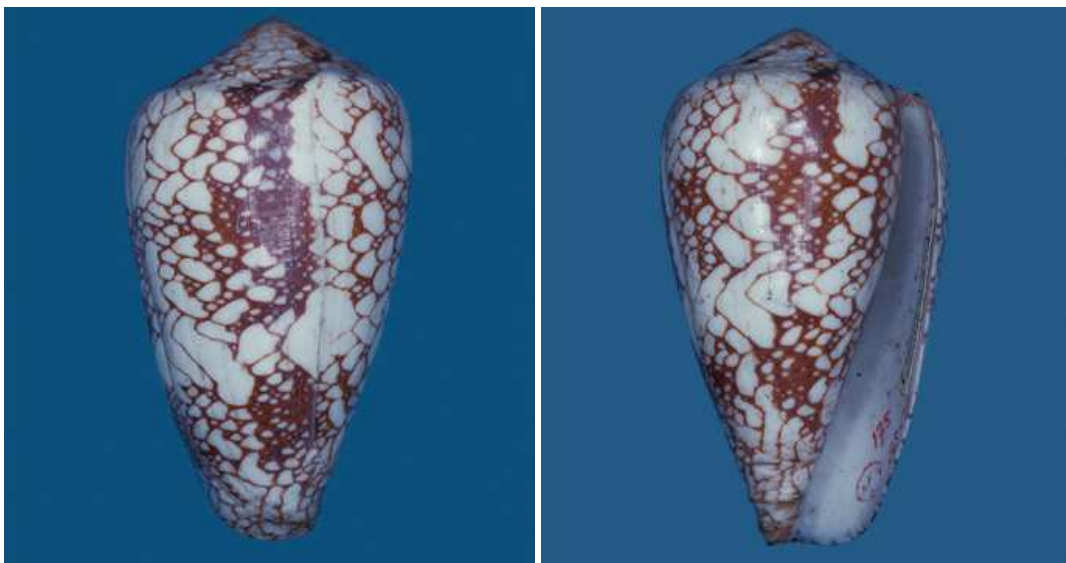
Introduction

In my previous article, we looked at the variations of *Darioconus episcopatus* (da Motta 1982). In a lesser but equally interesting scale, let us now examine some local variations of *D. episcopus* (Hwass 1792).

I must heartily thank Eric Lecourt de Billot, whom I had introduced in the *Who's Who* section of a previous number of *TCC* (*TCC* #31), and whose collection is as beautiful as it is rich, which enabled me to write the current article.

In his collection I found variations of *D. episcopus*, coming not only from Mauritius, but also from St Brandon.

***D. episcopus* (Hwass 1792)**

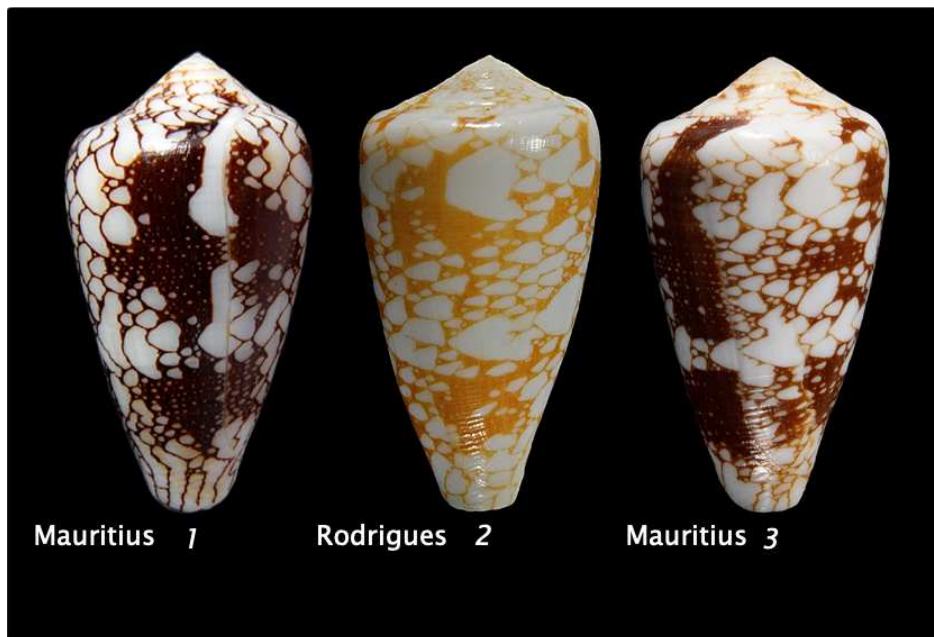


D. episcopus – Lectotype (Kohn) in MHNG

Region: Indo-Pacific
Valid: No
Synonym of: <i>pennaceus</i> Born, 1778
Type Designation: Kohn, 1968
Type: Lectotype
Type Repository: MHNG
Catalogue Number of Type: 1106/70
Type Size: 58 x 33 mm
Locality Designation: Coomans, Moolenbeek & Wils, 1986
Type Locality: Mauritius



Profiles of *D. episcopus* (on the far left, the typical profile)



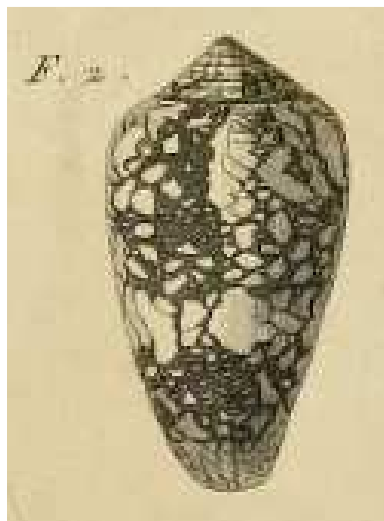
Typical *D. episcopus*



D. episcopus (?) from Mauritius Le Morne collected by Eric Lecourt de Billot

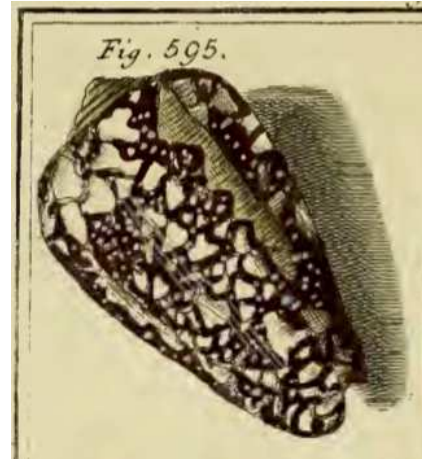
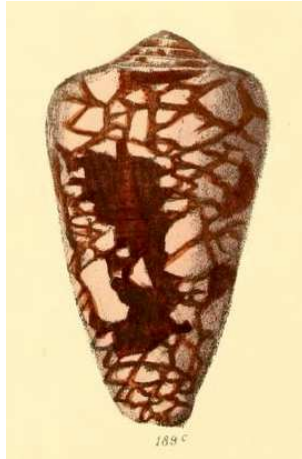
Hwass had already noticed the two variations of *C. episcopus* (A and B, page 748) - Published in Enc. Méth. 1: p. 748, no. 142, (1798, Tab. Enc. pl. 345, fig. 2):

Conus episcopus. Ann. ibid. n^o. 175.
 [b] *Var. maculis albis minutis, absque fasciis.*
 Seba, Mus. 3. t. 43. f. 6.
 Encyclop. pl. 345. f. 6.
 [c] *Var. alba, maculis fuscis latis ornata, basi valdè su*
 Chemn. Conch. 10. t. 143. f. 1328.



C. episcopus in
 Hwass's plate 345

In his 1843 *Conchologia Iconica*, Reeve shows the large white and brown areas on the shells.

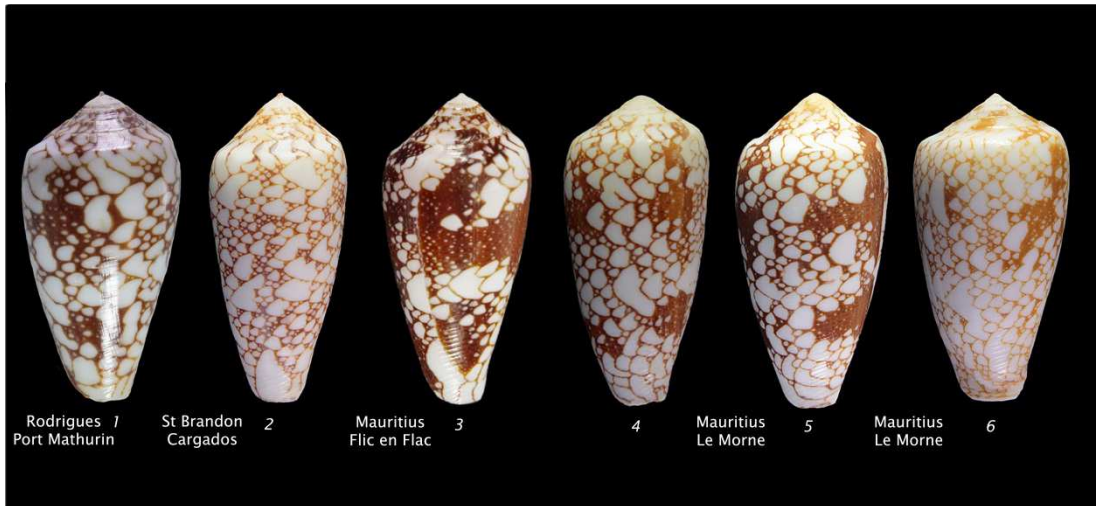


In 1880, Kiener also shows two varieties, one very pointed, with a heavy pattern, the other representing the typical form.

It should be noticed that two other varieties have later become *Darioonus episcopatus* (da Motta 1982).



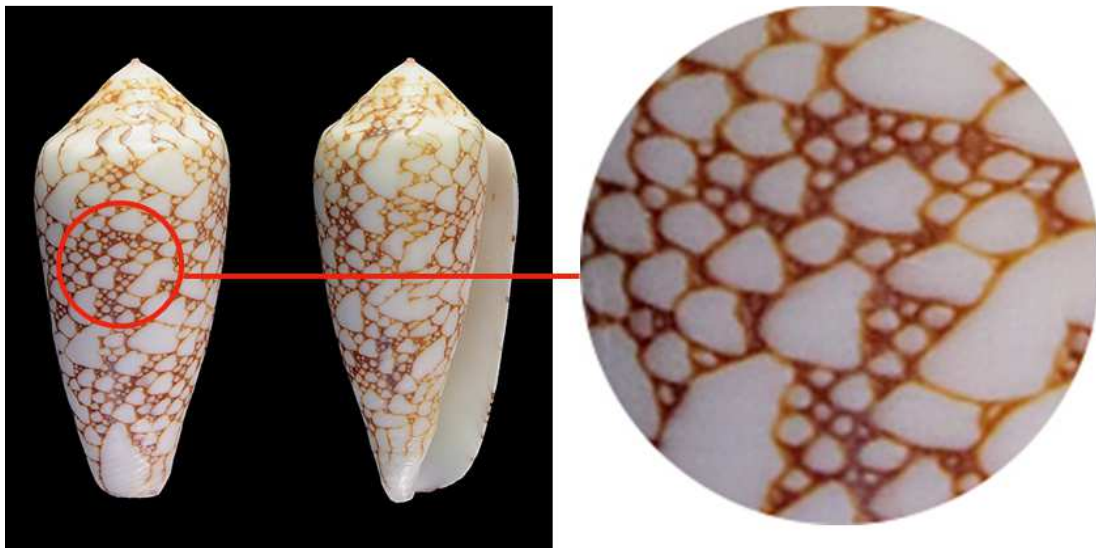
D. episcopus, Kiener's pointed variety



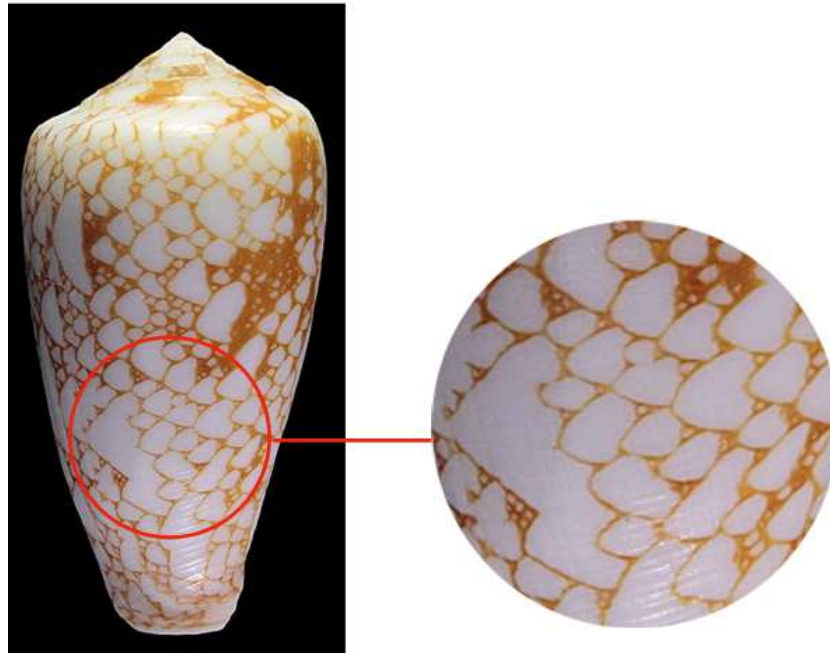
Variations of *D. episcopus*:

- 1 – *D. episcopus* classic juvenile
- 2 – *D. episcopus* (?) from St Brandon (certainly worth describing)
- 3 - *D. episcopus* (?)
- 4, 5 and 6 – Notice the ovoid, more slender profile, and the more pronounced apex

We can see quite clearly that *D. episcopus* (?) from St Brandon and from Morne in Mauritius differ from the classic model (form B of Hwass). Features such as the overall shape, the denser pattern, the less broad shoulder than *D. episcopus*, as well as the apex, are distinct.



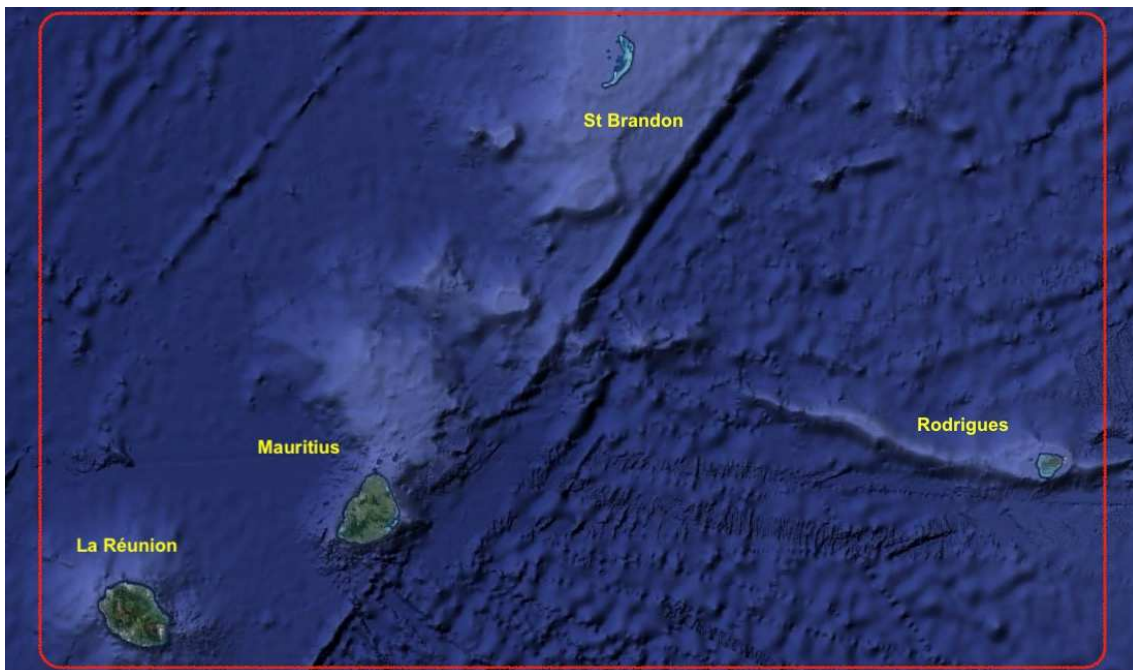
Détail de *D. episcopus* (?) from St Brandon



Détail de *D. episcopus* from Mauritius Le Morne

Distances between islands:

La Réunion - Mauritius: 226 km ; Mauritius - Rodrigues: 613 km ; Mauritius - St Brandon: 465 km



Map from Google Earth showing La Réunion, Mauritius, Rodrigues and the St Brandon Cargados archipelago (I must underline that I do not have specimens from Agaléga (the Agaléga archipelago is part of Mauritius))

D. episcopus from La Réunion (M. Jay).

Dr. Maurice Jay, who lived at La Réunion for many years années, made a point of having in his wonderful collections only specimens collected at La Réunion.



Table of dimensions for *D. episcopus*

Dimensions C. episcopus

	N°	Length L	Maximum Diameter MD	Height of Maximum Diameter HMD	Aperture Height AH	Relative diameter of last whorl RD=MD/AH	Position of Maximum Diameter of last whorl PMD=HMD/AH	Relative Spire Height RSH=(L-AH)/L	Remark
C. episcopus (Fig 3)									
Rodrigues	1	44,54	23,54	33,50	39,00	0,60	0,86	0,12	
Mauritius	2	42,49	22,35	32,00	40,00	0,56	0,80	0,06	
Rodrigues	3	49,38	26,37	39,50	44,00	0,60	0,90	0,11	
C. episcopus MRS (Fig 6)									
Mauritius Flic en Flac	1	31,58	15,76	24,00	28,00	0,56	0,86	0,11	Juvenile
St Brandon	2	39,17	17,47	30,00	34,00	0,51	0,88	0,13	Subadult
Rodrigues Port Mathurin	3	42,00	19,80	31,00	37,00	0,54	0,84	0,12	
Mauritius le Morne	4	50,13	26,00	40,00	43,00	0,60	0,93	0,14	
Mauritius le Morne	5	51,59	24,11	40,00	47,00	0,51	0,85	0,09	
Mauritius le Morne	6	52,22	25,26	39,00	46,00	0,55	0,85	0,12	

This table compares the dimensions of the different specimens mentioned in the present article. Their numbers correspond to the above numbered figures.

MRS = Mauritius, Rodrigues, St Brandon

This zone of the Indian Ocean is very interesting indeed. In an almost triangular area whose side measures about 500 km, we find variations of *D. episcopus* that undoubtedly deserve a more detailed study.

It should be noticed that in WoRMS, the name *Conus episcopatus* is labelled as «unaccepted», being synonymized with *C. pennaceus*. I will not doubt this conclusion, but the name *D. episcopus* will certainly be used for a long time yet, as «*C. episcopus* Hwass in Bruguière, 1792» in bourses and collections! It would be nice that our scientist friends in WoRMS, could explain their decision to us in simple terms!

I warmly thank Éric Lecourt de Billot for sharing with me his enthusiasm and his knowledge.

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http://vimeocean.free.fr/mollusques/intro_frame.htm

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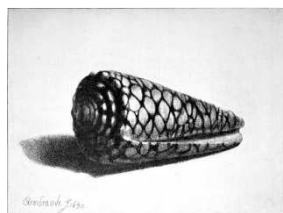
<http://www.marinespecies.org/aphia.php?p=taxdetails&id=215494>

The Conus Biodiversity website

<http://biology.burke.washington.edu/conus/index.php>

Conus episcopus - Filmer

<http://www.theconecollector.com/lib/docs/filmer/E.pdf>





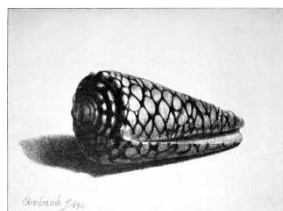
André G. J. Delsaerdt (†)
1945-2019

I believe that most, if not all, of our readers will have learnt of the recent demise of our friend André Delsaerdt, well-known Belgian shell collector.

A past president of the Flemish club Koninklijke Belgische Vereniging voor conchyliologie, he is remembered well by the important role he had in the local and international shell collecting world, for several decades.

André was a speaker in the 4th International Cone Meeting (Brussels, 2016), in which he presented a communication titled “Conidae from the Solomon Islands”. Late in his life he was active in the Solomons, assisting the local populations in several ways and thoroughly studying the local malacological fauna, with a particular interest in land snails, about which he published several important volumes.

His departure means a great loss for Malacology in general and for our own Cone community in particular.



An interesting and beautiful website

The name of the French collector Michel Jolivet is well-known among those who have an interest in Cone shells. Michel is a regular presence at the annual Bourse in Paris, and participated in our 2nd International cone Meeting, in La Rochelle (2012).

For over twenty years, he collected Indo-Pacific Cones, but some ten years ago he made an interesting decision: he sold almost his entire collection and decided to concentrate on only four species (for which I shall use the classic genus *Conus* (s.l.)): *Conus generalis*, *C. magus*, *C. striatus* and *C. thalassiarachus*.

The reason for this choice obviously had to do with the great variability that can be found in the specimens of any of these four species. The Jolivet collection was thus based on aesthetic criteria, leaving behind the many taxonomic problems that surround so many other species. At the same time, a more or less definite limit for the number of specimens of each species was established: *magus* would be restricted to no more than 200 specimens, whereas each of the other three should not go beyond 100 specimens.

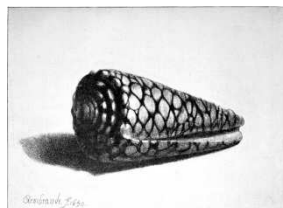
This of course makes a total of approximately 500 specimens, which are wonderfully presented in the bilingual website “500 Conidae” where the Michel Jolivet collection can be admired.

The address is <http://seashells-conidae-jolivet.com/> and the site is well worth a visit!

It has been conceived to please both the specialists and the general public, with its unique and impressive array of copyright-free photos and dioramas.

It is a pleasure to bring this work (a true labour of love) to the attention of the Cone collectors’ community.

Enjoy your visit!



INTERESTING CONES

I always greatly enjoy showing special Cone specimens from our readers' collections.

So today I will share with everybody a photo sent by our good friend Jan Kåre Nymoen:



Eugeniconus bitleri da Motta, 1984

Philippines, Celebes Sea (ex Carlos Leobrera collection)

(32.1 mm)

As is well known, the relationship between *E. bitleri* (listed as a full species by Monnier *et al*) and other species of *Eugeniconus* (namely *E. cordigera*) still needs clarification.

E. bitleri was described by A. J. da Motta in the Italian magazine *La Conchiglia* 16 (178-179), p. 24, figs 1a & 1b. The holotype is deposited in the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Genève, Switzerland, and the type locality is Baliungan Island, Tawi Tawi Group, Celebes Sea, Philippines.

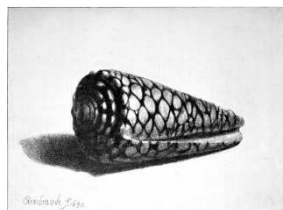
Also our good friend Dale Bittner sent along some very interesting images of a *Gradiconus burryae* Clench, 1942:



As can be seen from the photos, this is a live taken specimen, the coloration of the living animal being quite distinctive.

It was collected off the ocean side of Key West, Florida, U.S.A., and measures 36.56 x 16.75 mm.

Sometimes listed as a subspecies of *G. anabathrum* Crosse, 1865, *G. burryae* is considered as a full species by Monnier *et al.*

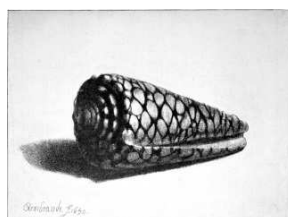


ADDENDUM TO TCC # 31

Our previous number included the article “*Genuanoconus genuanus* (Linnaeus, 1758) – a species very variable in pattern and profile”, by our good friend Marco Bettocchi. This article was profusely illustrated, but by mistake the names of the authors and copyright owners of the photos were not included.

Here they are now, with our apologies (all other photos are by M. Bettocchi):

Photo number	Origin and copyright	Photo number	Origin and copyright
1	F. Deniz	76	S. Gori
2	F. Deniz	77	S. Gori
3	F. Deniz	78	S. Gori
4	T. Perez	79	S. Gori
5	P. Egerton	80	S. Gori
18	C. Galy-Cassit	81	S. Gori
19	C. Galy-Cassit	82	C. Afonso
20	C. Galy-Cassit	83	C. Afonso
21	B. Hammond	84	G. Poppe
26	C. Roux	85	G. Poppe
31	Guido Poppe	86	G. Poppe
32	Guido Poppe	87	G. Bini
33	Guido Poppe	93	C. Afonso
36	C. Afonso	94	C. Afonso
37	C. Afonso	95	C. Galy-Cassit
38	C. Afonso	96	C. Galy-Cassit
39	C. Afonso	97	C. Galy-Cassit
41	C. Galli	99	P. Ryall
42	S. Gori	100	S. Gori
53	C. Roux	101	S. Gori
54	C. Afonso	102	S. Gori
55	G. Poppe	103	S. Gori
56	G. Poppe	104	S. Gori
57	B. Hammond	105	S. Gori
66	I. Holden	106	S. Gori
68bis	P. Ryall	107	L. Ambar
70	S. Gori	108	C. Afonso
71	S. Gori	109	C. Afonso
72	S. Gori	110	G. Malcolm
74	S. Gori	111	Museum Leiden

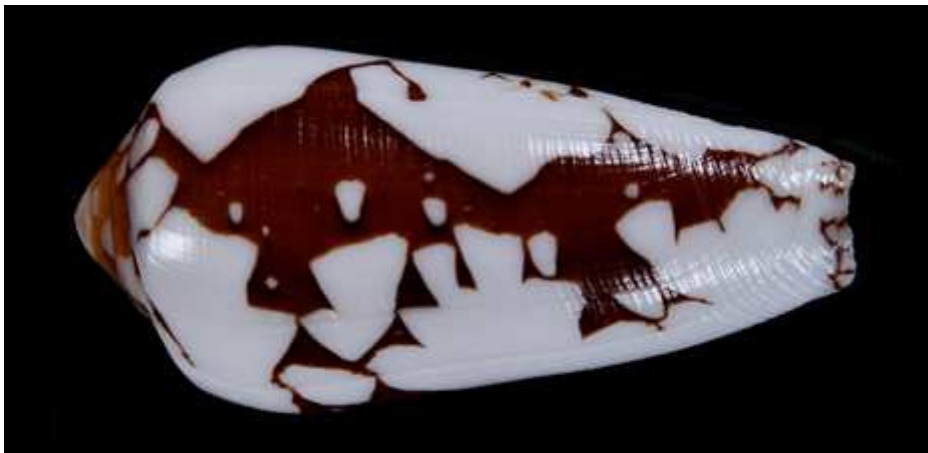


THE GREAT PRETENDERS

Cone shells often have elaborate patterns and it is occasionally easy to see the most extraordinary shapes hidden in those patterns, much like one sees all sorts of things in ink blotches, as in the well-known Rorschach Test (named after the Swiss psychiatrist and psychoanalyst Hermann Rorschach (1884-1922)), used by psychologists to try to gather information on a person's personality and emotional functioning (or even to detect any non apparent thought disorders).

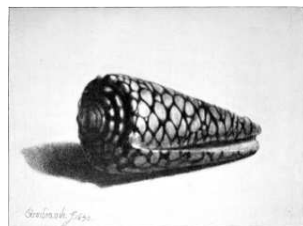
I remember years ago in a Shell Show in Edinburgh, Scotland, a display of cone specimens presented by our good friend Brian Hammond, in each specimen of which could be seen a letter of the alphabet, from A to Z!

Our good friend Rémy Devorsine suggested that showing such curiously patterned specimens could constitute a regular feature in our numbers, and volunteered to start the series with this image:



On the dorsal surface of the shell of this beautiful *Darioconus episcopatus* (da Motta, 1982), no great effort of imagination is needed to see the shape of a Weedy Sea Dragon (*Phyllopteryx taeniolatus* (Lacepède, 1804)), a relatively well-known marine fish related to the very common seahorses. They hide among kelp, with the aid of their leaf-like appendages and camouflaging coloration, and inhabit the shores of South Australia and Tasmania.

So, I urge you to check your drawers and send along photos of interestingly patterned specimens in your collection, that we can include in this section.



*5th INTERNATIONAL CONE MEETING
LISBON (13-15 SEPTEMBER, 2019)*



5th International Cone Meeting
13-15 September



Universidade Lusíada de
Lisboa
[Sponsor]

Endorsed by:



As has been widely publicized, the 5th International Cone Meeting will be held this year in Lisbon, Portugal, from the 13th to the 15th September. The location chosen for the event is Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa, Rua da Junqueira 188-198. This is a relatively young private university, with very fine facilities for conferences and similar events.

Lisbon is nowadays a very popular touristic destination, and an active modern metropolis, bursting with activity all year long (many international meetings, conferences, etc. take place in Lisbon on a regular basis). There is much to see in the way of ancient monuments and museums, plus the spectacular sightseeing in the city itself and towards the mighty river Tagus. The Universidade Lusíada is located in the western part of the city, near the area of Belém, one of the most sought by visitors in view of the many local monuments, including the Jerónimos Monastery, the Belém Tower, the Coaches Museum, etc.



Façade of the Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa, Rua da Junqueira



Garden, Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa



Library, Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa



One of the auditoriums, Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa

The Organizing Committee (Manuel Jimenez Tenorio, Bill Fenzan, George & Lucy Muehleisen and António Monteiro) is doing everything possible to make your stay a pleasant and fruitful as possible.

As explained before, our initial idea of putting all or at least most participants together in a large hotel has failed, because seven months before the date of our meeting the chosen hotel was already fully booked. This only comes to show how busy and in demand Lisbon currently is!

Fortunately, there is no lack of accommodation (in the form of variously priced hotels and private apartments to rent) and, following previous suggestions, several participants have already reserved rooms, either in the vicinity of the Universidade Lusíada, or even close to the city centre.

In the meantime, the following program has been confirmed. Obviously, last minute adjustments may prove needed and we will advertise them as appropriate.

Program

Friday, September 13th

- 15:00 A welcome packet will be provided to attendees with program, abstracts, directory of attendees, information about Lisbon, name tag. The Cafeteria will be open for snacks and discussion/get together.
- 18:00 Welcome by Representative of the Hosting Institution, the Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa. Reception (with aperitif) at the University, kindly offered by our host.

Saturday, September 14th

The registration desk will be open from 9:00 h.

- **Morning session.**

Chairpersons: Manuel J. Tenorio & António Monteiro

9:30 Opening of the Meeting by António Monteiro (Chairman of the organizing committee).

- Opening Remarks by the President of the Instituto Português de Malagología (IPM), Dr. Joaquim Reis.

10:15 Introduction of the Guest of Honour: Éric Monnier.

Plenary Lecture by Dr. Eric Monnier (CNAM, Paris, France): "*Stories about a passionate Cone-lover, and the outcome of it*".

11:00 Coffee break

Chairperson: Lucy Muehleisen

11:30 Session Lecture by Margarida Farrajota (President of CPAS, Lisbon, Portugal): "*The Portuguese Scuba-Diving Center (CPAS) and its Cone holdings*".

12:00 Session Lecture by Andreia Salvador (Senior Curator of Marine Gastropods and Historical Mollusca Collections, Natural History Museum, London, UK): "*The Cone collection at the Natural History Museum, London*"

12:30 Session Lecture by Gavin Malcolm (Cone collector, UK): "*Angolan Cones... 2 or 32 species?*".

13:00 Lunch (details and suggestions will be available in due course)

14:15 Group photograph (exact location to be announced)

• **Afternoon session.**

Chairperson: Lucy Muehleisen

14:30 Session Lecture by Prof. Richard Lewis (Institute for Biomolecular Science, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia): "*Understanding cone snails down-under*".

15:00 Session Lecture by Dr. Sophie Bary (Muséum Nationale d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France): "*Contribution of the non-academic community to taxonomy: Case of study of an "unusual" citizen science*".

15.30 Session Lecture by André Poremski (Change Theory, Washington DC, USA): "*Fieldguide: A New Community for Cone Collectors*".

16:00 Coffee break

16:30 Workshop by Bill Fenzan (cone collector, Norfolk, Virginia, USA): "*Plan the sale or donation of a Cone Collection (even if you want to keep it forever!)*".

17.30 Official closing remarks by António Monteiro.

17.40 Mini-bourse [Note: we do expect that the Mini-bourse will be open also during coffee breaks]

20:00 Official dinner at the restaurant "Caravela d'Ouro" (to be paid separately by participants – see registration form).

Sunday, September 15th

9:00 – 14:00 Excursion to Sintra, visiting the Quinta da Regaleira.

This excursion is optional [Note: A small fee of €25.00 will have to be paid by those interested in taking part in this excursion. It includes coach transportation and admission]

All those interested in taking part in our meeting must register and pay the appropriate fees. For that purpose we currently have a registration form that participants are required to fill. A speedy reply is most appreciated, since we need to have exact information to work out the fine details of the organization.

Here is the link for the registration form:

<https://forms.gle/QmD3DKwkjAgtbFdx7>

and please make sure that you enter all the information solicited therein.

You will know that there are a number of options for you, as besides participating in the meeting itself, you are invited to join the official dinner, to take place on Saturday the 14th September (and if you accept our invitation, please let us know if you will be alone or with someone else), and also a sightseeing visit to Quinta da Regaleira, Sintra, near Lisbon (again in that case let us know if someone will accompany you). Just to give you a hint of what to expect, let me show you a photo of Regaleira:

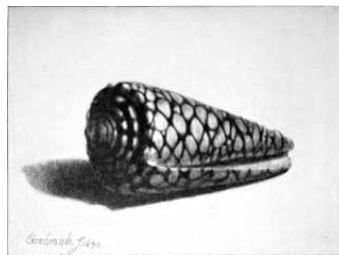


The original owner of this estate was actually a shell collector, by the name of António Augusto de Carvalho Monteiro (1848-1920) – no family links to me, despite the similarity of the name...

The official dinner on Saturday, on the other hand, will take place at the Restaurant Caravela d'Ouro (Praça 25 de Abril de 1974, in Algés). It is a place that I know very well and we are assured of high quality and service.



Further information (namely about public transportation in Lisbon, and instructions about the best ways of reaching the location of our meeting from the airport, etc.) will be sent along as usual. Let me just finish by saying how happy I will be to welcome everybody to Lisbon. If you have not been here before, you will certainly find that there is much to see and enjoy.



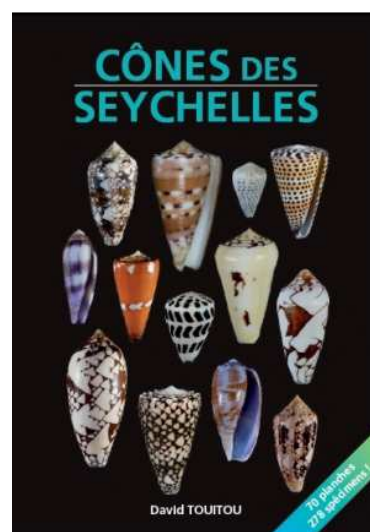
NEW BOOK

Cônes des Seychelles

David Touitou.

2019. 173 pages, 278 specimens illustrated.

English version also available



It is a great pleasure to review this book by my good friend David Touitou, a very experienced collector and diver, and a frequent visitor to several areas of the Indian Ocean, namely of the Seychelles archipelago.

This work is the result of an extensive work of sampling, identification and bibliographic research, undertaken by the author along several years. The book has been published in two different editions, a French one and an English one (*Cone Shells of the Seychelles*).

It is a complete guide to all the Cone species living in the region under study, over 70 different species in all. For this reason, it is obviously of great interest to all Cone collectors, particularly to those who have access to specimens from that particular part of the world.

The book is extremely well illustrated, with not only colour photos of several specimens of each species, in order to show intraspecific variability, but also a significant number of photos of living animals in their natural habitats. In view of its quality and interest, I do recommend it.

