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A NEW *ANCILLA* FROM THE ARABIAN SEA, AND A DISCUSSION OF TWO HOMONYMS IN THE ANCILLINAE (MOLLUSCA : GASTROPODA : OLIVIDAE)

by

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SYNOPSIS

Ancilla boschi, sp.nov., from the Arabian Sea, is described. The substitute names *Amalda (Alocospira) coccinata* and *Ancillus (Tur-rancilla) akontistes* nom.nov. are provided for the junior primary homonyms *Ancilla coccinea* Hedley, 1914 (*non* Fischer von Waldheim, 1807) and *Ancillaria lanceolata* von Martens, 1901 (*non* Tate, 1889), respectively.

The following description is extracted from a monograph of *Ancilla* (family Olividae) that is nearing completion. This step is rendered necessary by the discovery that the species concerned is already in circulation among shell-collectors and dealers under its manuscript name. The opportunity is also taken to correct two junior primary homonyms in the subfamily Ancillinae.

Basic terminology follows that of Kilburn (1977). However, it should be noted that in *Ancilla* the ancillid band is covered by callus, while the fasciolar band is not divided into an anterior and a posterior region as is the case with other ancillid genera. Colour terminology follows the relatively objective ISCC-NBS system (Kelly & Judd, 1965), except in the diagnosis, where an abbreviated colour-descrip-

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tion is given in more familiar terms. Anatomical notes will be given elsewhere, together with further comparative data on shell structure.

***Ancilla boschi*, sp.nov.**

Diagnosis: Shell oblong-biconical, not shouldered, spire high, angle 49° - 73° ; breadth/length 0,42-0,49; aperture/total length 0,59-0,71; siphonal notch very shallow, columella pillar short, white and rather straight, ridges 2-3, of which outer one is partially bifid and separated by a distinct groove; ancillid band only slightly declivous; microshagreen sculpture very fine and reduced in extent. Ground colour typically light to deep brown with a narrow white band some distance below suture and another encompassing ancillid groove. Maximum length about 32 mm.

Description: Quantitative (N.33):

Breadth/length: 0,42-0,49 (M.0,45; SD.0,02).

Aperture/total length: 0,59-0,71 (M.0,64; SD.0,03).

Spire angle: 49° - 73° (M.60,6°; SD.5,6°).

Maximum dimensions: 31,9×14,4 mm.

Minimum adult dimensions: 16,6×7,4 mm.

Opercular length/aperture length: 0,29-0,37 (N.2).

Shell oblong-biconical, with an acute, elevated, orthoconic or slightly cyrtoconic spire, body whorl subcylindrical, not shouldered posteriorly; aperture with greatest width anterior to middle; base oblique, siphonal notch barely indented; spire evenly calloused, sutures not impressed, apex slightly papillate. Surface with faint growth-lines; columella pillar with very fine microshagreen sculpture between the lirae and in the bordering furrow, but with only vestiges on the fasciole, paries and labrum. Ancillid band about 0,40-0,61 width of fasciolar band at labium, only slightly declivous, ancillid groove ending in a small, blunt denticle; fasciolar band gently convex. Columella pillar only slightly oblique, less than half total length of labium, edge almost straight, shallowly notched anteriorly; sculptured by 2-3 oblique lirae, of which the outermost is separated by a distinct furrow. Paries gently convex, without a parietal ridge; parietal callus forming a feeble deposit next to point of suture of labrum; no sunken "scar" internally. Labrum rather thin, its edge only slightly incurved, in side view gently convex and almost orthocone. Teleoconch whorls about 4.

Protoconch narrowly domed, about two whorls, maximum diameter 1,5-1,75, base overlapped by callus.

Colour pale orange-yellow to moderate brown, but usually light brown, sometimes suffused posteriorly with white; marked by two narrow white lines or bands, one situated some distance below suture, the other encompassing (more or less symmetrically) the ancillid

groove; rarely a third white band may be situated level with the parietal-labral junction; apex and columella pillar white, aperture brownish pink to light brown, shading to white anteriorly.

Operculum delicate and transparent, oblong-ovate with subterminal nucleus, anterior end with a thin bordering flange, growth-lines and cross-striae present.

Distribution: Gulf of Arabia, from north-west India to the Sultanate of Oman, and probably west to the Gulf of Aden.

Habitat: Coarse sand and shingle, from low tide to about 20 metres.

Type material: Holotype N.M. H9707/T2413, 28,8×12,2 mm, Masirah Island, leg. D. Bosch, 12 May, 1975.

Paratypes: OMAN: Masirah Island (N.M. G4507/T2414: D. Bosch; N.M. G9275/T2415: D. Bosch, 16 July, 1977, three living, nine dead; N.M. H5699/T2412: D. Bosch, 1978, four; N.M. G4508/T2411: D. Bosch, 12 May, 1975, one); off Ra's al Ayn, Gulf of Masirah (19°22'36" N., 57°53' E.), 13,5 m (B.M. (N.H.) 197864: John Murray Expedition, Stn. 53, two living, one dead); Muscat, 10 fath. (Mchr.Mus.: Townsend, one; N.M.W.: Townsend, two), and ? littoral (B.M. (N.H.) 99.12.27.88: Jayakar, one; B.M. (N.H.) 1953.3.10.148: Winckworth *i*/1933, one immature); south of Ra's al Hadd (22°13'30" N., 59°48'48" E.), 16-22 m (B.M. (N.H.) 197862-3: J. Murray Exped., Stn. 80, 3 dead, one living). PAKISTAN: Karachi (N.M.W.: Townsend, two). INDIA: Bombay (B.M. (N.H.) 197867: Townsend, one juvenile). SOUTH YEMEN: Aden (B.M. (N.H.) 1902.10.10.42: H. C. Dinshaw, one).

Also "Red Sea" (R.S.M.: Salisbury, two) and unlocalized (B.M. (N.H.) 197861: Townsend, seven juveniles).

Taxonomy: This distinctive member of the *Ancilla cinnamomea* complex is closest in characters to *Ancilla acuminata* (Sowerby, 1859) of the Gulf of Aden and southern Red Sea. *A. boschi* is more cylindrical than *acuminata*, without a trace of a shoulder; colour is darker and the posterior white band is situated well below the suture, not at it as in that species; the columella pillar in *boschi* is shorter and much straighter, with only 2-3 pleats instead of 6-9, the microshagreen sculpture is finer and less extensive and the ancillid band is much less declivous than in *acuminata*. It is likely that this is the species reported from the Qatar Peninsula by Haas (1952: 116) as *A. acuminata*.

Notes: This species is named in honour of Dr D. T. Bosch of Muscat, who first drew my attention to the species.

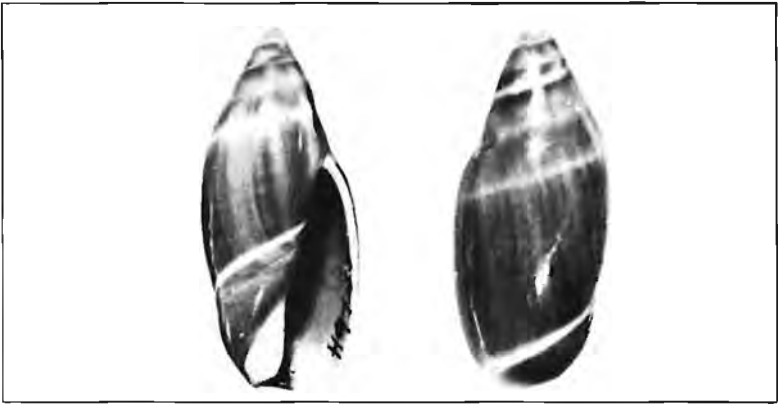


FIGURE 1

Holotype of *Ancilla boschi* sp. nov., ventral and dorsal views. 28,8×12,2 mm.

The following two junior primary homonyms require correction:

***Amalda* (*Alocospira*) *coccinata*, nom. nov., pro**

Ancilla coccinea Hedley, 1914 (non Fischer von Waldheim, 1807): 67, pl. 10, fig. 3.

Ancilla coccinea from the Great Australian Bight is a primary junior homonym of *Ancilla coccinea* Fischer von Waldheim (1807: 163), which is a junior synonym of *Ancilla cinnamomea* (Lamarck, 1801) from India.

***Ancillus* (*Turrancilla*) *akontistes*, nom. nov., pro**

Ancillaria lanceolata von Martens, 1901 (non Tate, 1889): 23.

This rare deep-water species is closely allied to the Japanese *Ancillus suavis* (Yokoyama, 1926), and to *A. glans* (E. A. Smith, 1899) from the Indian Ocean. *Ancillaria lanceolata* Tate (1889: 147, pl. 7, fig. 2) from the Tertiary of Victoria is an *Amalda*, allied to the Recent *A. hilgendorfi* (von Martens, 1897) of Japan.

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