

Systematic Study of Japanese Epitoniidae II (Mollusca)

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In this second report, are described the strange wentletrap, *Kurodacirsa lotus* gen. et sp. nov., and two new small amaeid species, *Amaea ogaitoi* and *Amaea setonaikaisensis*. The first report was published in the Japanese Journal of Malacology (Venus) (31, pp. 135–136, 1973), in which a new genus *Nipponoscala* was established.

We express our sincere thanks to the gentlemen who collected these new species.

Kurodacirsa gen. nov.

Type-species: *Kurodacirsa lotus* gen. et sp. nov.

Shell thin, fragile, ovate in shape. Surface with weak spiral threads all over and slender axial riblets, but without any varix. Whorls rather convex and sutures slightly constricted. Body whorl large, more than half the shell height. Aperture simple. Outer margin gently curved and columellar margin rather straight.

Operculum thin, light yellow and paucispiral.

Remarks. *Acirsa* MÖRCH, 1857, somewhat resembles this new genus, but has the chalky white and rather solid turreted shell with axial ribs and incised spiral lines. They are vanishing in some specimens.

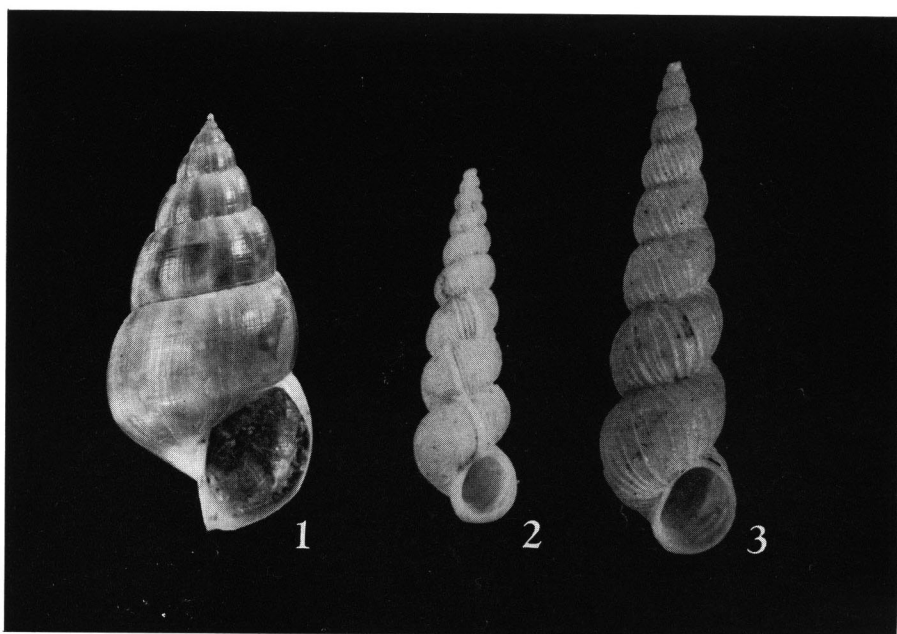
Kurodacirsa lotus sp. nov.

(Fig. 1)

Shell thin and fragile, ovate, resembling the seed of lotus in shape. Protoconch of two whorls, small, smooth and polished, brown in color. Teleoconch of six whorls slightly convex, dark brown, paler to the aperture. Surface minutely and densely striated all over. These spiral threads interrupted by inconspicuous white axial riblets of about 18–20 on each whorl, vanishing to the body whorl. Body whorl large, about three-fifths the shell height, rather convex and obtusely angular at the periphery.

Aperture thin, ovate in shape. Outer margin roundly arcuate, thin and sharp at its edge. Columellar margin rather straight, thickened and reflexed over the closed umbilicus. Umbilical area usually white.

Operculum ovate, thin, translucent, light yellow and paucispiral.



Figs. 1-3. 1. *Kurodacirsa lotus* gen. et sp. nov. (holotype specimen), $\times 2.8$. — 2. *Amaea ogaitoi* sp. nov. (holotype specimen), $\times 4.8$. — 3. *Amaea setonaikaiensis* sp. nov. (holotype specimen), $\times 3.7$.

Height 18.9 mm and breadth 10.0 mm (figured holotype specimen preserved in the National Science Museum, NSMT-Mo 49718).

Height 18.8 mm and breadth 8.8 mm (paratype specimen preserved in the National Science Museum, NSMT-Mo 49721).

Height 18.9 mm and breadth 9.1 mm (paratype specimen preserved in the National Science Museum, NSMT-Mo 49722).

Type-locality. Enshu-nada, off Aichi Pref., Honshu, at about 50 m deep (collected by Mr. Shoichiro HAYASHI).

Distribution. Besides the type-locality, off Hayama, Kanagawa Pref., Honshu (collected by Mr. Tetsuo SHIMAZU) and off Nada, Wakayama Pref., Honshu (collected by Mr. Shin'ichiro OKAMURA).

Remarks. This new species differs from *Acirsa costulata* (MIGHELS et ADAMS, 1842) from the North Pacific and North Atlantic in having the thin ovate shell, which is shorter and more convex than in the latter. It has the dark brown surface minutely striated by the spiral threads which are interrupted by white weak axial riblets.

The genus *Kurodacirsa* is proposed for this interesting species on the memory of the 88th birthday of Dr. Tokubei KURODA, the pioneer in the Japanese malacology.

Amaea H. et A. ADAMS, 1853*Amaea ogaitoi* sp. nov.

(Fig. 2)

Shell small, thin, pure white, turreted with highly elevated spire of about 12 whorls. Protoconch of two and half whorls smooth and snowy white. Teleoconch whorls 9 in number, inflated and separated by well constricted sutures. Surface with very weak, densely set spiral and growth lines forming minute reticulation and irregularly placed strong varices. Body whorl rather small but well rounded, lacking the basal disc.

Aperture rounded and margined with the thick callous lip. Umbilicus closed.

Height 10.0 mm and breadth 2.8 mm (figured holotype specimen preserved in the National Science Museum, NSMT-Mo 49719).

Height 8.9 mm and breadth 2.5 mm (paratype specimen preserved in the National Science Museum, NSMT-Mo 49723).

Type-locality. At the muddy bottom of 6–7 m deep, 600–800 m off Ushijima near Sakaide City, Shikoku (collected by Mr. Hiroshi OGAITO).

Remarks. This new species is related to *Amaea thielei* DE BOURY, 1913, in general features, but has extremely small and slender shell attaining only 10 mm in height. Therefore, this is the smallest species in this genus.

Amaea setonaikaiensis sp. nov.

(Fig. 3)

Shell small, thin, fragile, translucently white, turreted. Spire consists of 10–11 whorls. Protoconch of two whorls smooth and snowy white. Teleoconch whorls well convex and with many axial costae of 20–25 on each whorl of various sizes and densely set weak spiral threads between each two costae. Suture deeply constricted. Body whorl rather high and two-fifths the shell height, moderately rounded at the base.

Aperture roundly ovate, continuous by the parietal callus. Outer margin thick, roundly curved and columellar margin oblique, dilated over the umbilical area.

Height 17.5 mm and breadth 5.0 mm (figured holotype specimen preserved in the National Science Museum, NSMT-Mo 49717).

Height 15.2 mm and breadth 4.2 mm (paratype specimen preserved in the National Science Museum, NSMT-Mo 49720).

Type-locality. Seijima off Sakaide City, Shikoku (collected by Mr. Shigefumi YANO).

Remarks. This new species resembles the preceding in shape, but has the shell larger and thinner than in the latter. Surface sculpture bears many axial costae but no distinct varices distinguishing it from the other known small species of this genus.

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