

Description of a new species of *Chicoreus (Triplex)* from the Philippine Islands.

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ABSTRACT. *Chicoreus (Triplex) dodongi* n. sp. is named from Samar, in the Philippine Islands. It is compared with *C. (T.) strigatus* (Reeve, 1849), *C. (T.) akritos* Radwin & D'Attilio, 1976, and with young specimens of *C. (T.) torrefactus* (Sowerby, 1841) and *C. (T.) saulii* (Sowerby, 1834).

RESUME. *Chicoreus (Triplex) dodongi* n. sp. est décrit à partir de 7 exemplaires provenant de l'île de Samar, aux Philippines. La nouvelle espèce est comparée à *C. (T.) strigatus* (Reeve, 1849), à *C. (T.) akritos* Radwin & D'Attilio, 1976 et à de jeunes *C. (T.) torrefactus* (Sowerby, 1841) et *C. (T.) saulii* (Sowerby, 1834).

INTRODUCTION

The subgenus *Triplex* Perry, 1810 was recognized by HOUART (1992) to include 39 recent species from the Indo-West Pacific, a large number of which named after 1976.

New dredging methods, recent scientific expeditions, and a better knowledge of the habitat, have largely contributed to the discovery of these new species and of new material.

Abbreviations: MNHN: Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. NMNZ: Museum of New Zealand, Wellington. NM: Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg.

SYSTEMATICS

Genus *Chicoreus* Montfort, 1810

Subgenus *Triplex* Perry, 1810

Type species, by monotypy: *Triplex foliatus* Perry, 1810 (= *Murex palmarosae* Lamarck, 1822).

Chicoreus (Triplex) dodongi n. sp.

Figs 1-4

Material Examined. Holotype, 22.40 mm, MNHN, 1 paratype, 18.36 mm, NM L1 590/T1295, 1 paratype, 20.46 mm, NMNZ m. 269002, 4 paratypes, 26.60 mm, 23.35 mm, 20.28 mm, and 18.42 mm, coll. R. Houart.

Type Locality. Philippine Islands, Samar, 2-10 m, November 1994.

Description. Shell small for the subgenus, up to 26.60 mm in length at maturity. Spire high with 3.25 protoconch whorls, and up to 6.5 weakly spinose teleoconch whorls.

Suture weakly impressed. Protoconch small, whorls rounded, smooth, glossy; last whorl with a weak, single keel abapically; terminal varix unknown (eroded) (Fig. 4).

Axial sculpture of teleoconch whorls consisting of high, strong, rounded, varices, each with short, frondose spines, and of high, rounded ribs between each pair of varices. First whorl with 9 or 10 axial ribs; second to last whorl with 3 varices and 2 intervarical nodose ridges. Varices of last whorl with 5 short, open, frondose spines. Spiral sculpture of squamous, primary and secondary cords, and threads. First whorl with 3 primary cords; second whorl with 3 primary cords, 1 thread between each pair of cords, shoulder with 1 secondary cord; third whorl with 3 primary cords, 1 or 2 threads between cords, shoulder with 1 secondary cord and 2 threads; fourth whorl with 3 primary cords, 2 or 3 threads, shoulder with 1 secondary cord and 2 or 3 threads; fifth whorl with 3 primary cords, numerous threads between each pair of cords, shoulder with 1 or 2 secondary cords and 3 or 4 threads; last whorl with 5 primary cords, numerous threads between each pair of cords, shoulder with 1 or 2 secondary cords and numerous threads.

Aperture roundly-ovate. Columellar lip with 1 or 2 abapical knobs near edge, and 1 or 2 elongate knobs adapically, occasionally smooth. Edge adherent, weakly detached abapically. Anal notch broad, moderately deep. Outer lip

erect, crenulate, with 6 high, slightly elongate denticles within. Siphonal canal moderately short, narrow, straight, open, with 2 short, frondose spines.

Protoconch yellowish or pink. Teleoconch whorls creamy-white, light tan, yellow-tan, or light pink, with dark brown or blackish-brown spiral cords, axial knobs, and occasionally spiral threads. Varicial spines light orange or pinkish. Aperture white, occasionally with pinkish blotches on columellar lip and outer edge.

Operculum and radula unknown.

Remarks. At first sight, *Chicoreus dodongi* n. sp. seems similar to *C. strigatus* (Reeve, 1849), but it primarily differs in the different protoconchs, consisting of 3.25 whorls in *C. dodongi*, while of 2 whorls in *C. strigatus*. *C. dodongi* also has fewer intervaricial ridges, and fewer primary spiral cords than *C. strigatus*. It has 5 frondose spines on the varices of last whorl instead of 6 in *C. strigatus*. The denticles within the outer edge of the aperture are shorter, and less numerous, the anal notch is broader, and the siphonal canal is relatively shorter with fewer spines than in *C. strigatus*. *C. akritos* Radwin & D'Attilio, 1976, a form of *C. microphyllus* (Lamarck, 1822) (HOUART, 1992: 59) has a similar protoconch, but *C. dodongi* has a relatively smaller shell with fewer frondose spines than *C. akritos*, no spinelets on the varices of last whorl, fewer spines on the siphonal canal, a twice broader anal notch, and the outer apertural lip with 6 denticles instead of 10-12 lirae in *C. akritos*. Young specimens of *C. torrefactus* (Sowerby, 1841) and *C. saulii* (Sowerby, 1834) are somewhat similar, but different protoconchs, different spiral sculpture, and shorter, less numerous denticles within the outer edge of the aperture, differentiate *C. dodongi* from both species. *Chicoreus dodongi* n. sp. was collected alive, and is only known from a very limited number of specimens.

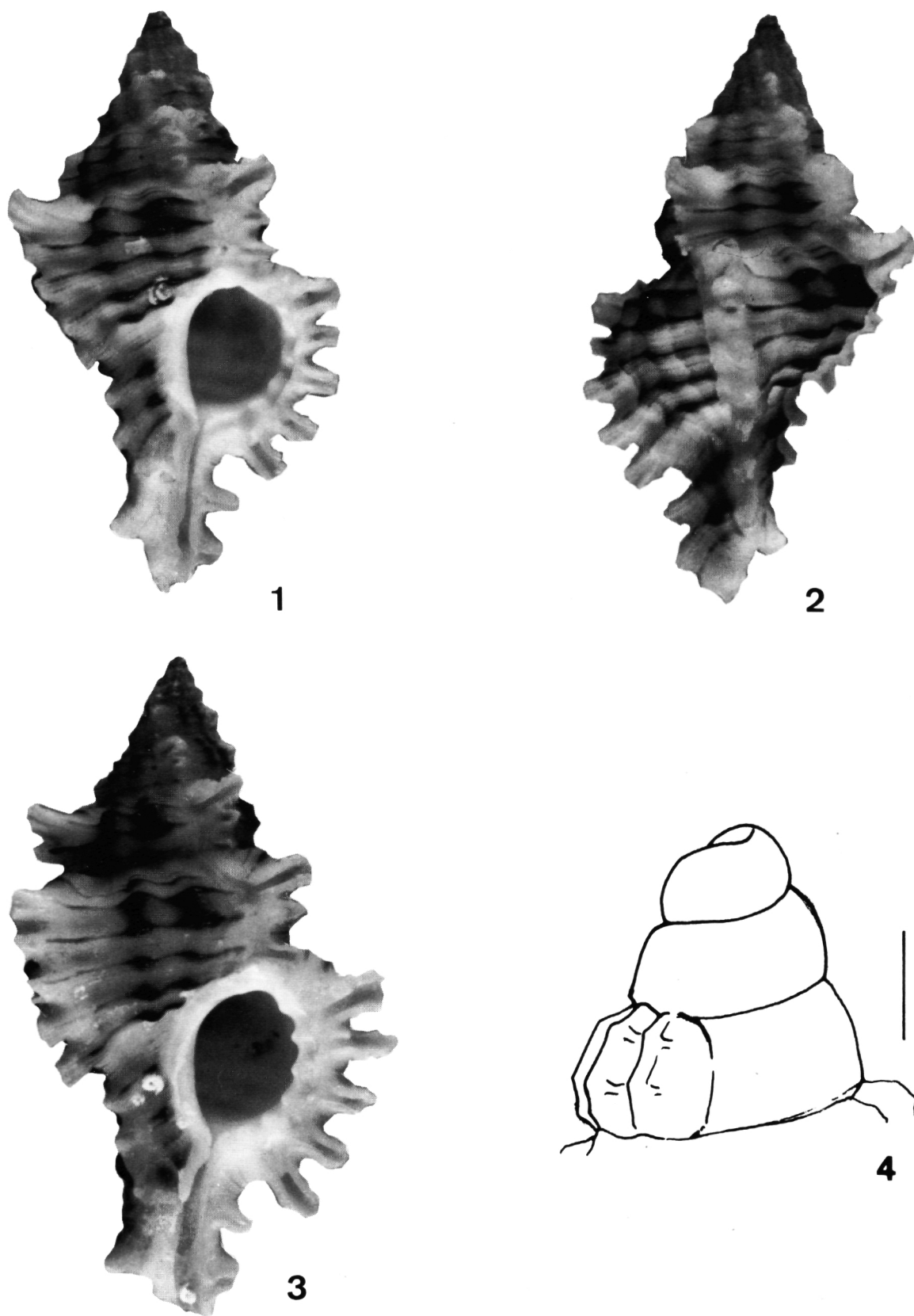
Etymology. Named for Mr. Erwin Espinosa, a.k.a. "Dodong" (Philippines) who collected the specimens.

REFERENCE

HOUART, R., 1992. The genus *Chicoreus* and related genera (Gastropoda: Muricidae) in the Indo-West Pacific. *Mém. Mus. natn. Hist. nat.*, (A), 154: 1-188.

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FIGURES

1-2. *Chicoreus dodongi* n. sp., Samar, Philippine Islands. Holotype MNHN, length: 22.40 mm.

3. *Chicoreus dodongi* n. sp. Samar, Philippine Islands. Paratype coll. Houart, length: 26.60 mm (canal slightly broken).

4. Protoconch of *Chicoreus dodongi* n. sp. (scale bar: 0.5 mm).

