

Rediscovery of *Terebra trochlea* DESHAYES

BY

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(Plate 52)

IN 1857 DESHAYES DESCRIBED A SINGULAR and beautiful species of *Terebra* (*T. trochlea*) in the *Journal de Conchyliologie*, page 89, number 24 and illustrated on plates 5 and 6. This medium large species (holotype 65 mm \times 13 mm) of a soft fawn color is decorated with flammules of creamy white. The type locality was given as Zanzibar. Two specimens of the type lot from the Cuming collection are in the type collection of the British Museum (Natural History). These I examined and photographed. Deshayes also retained a specimen or specimens of the type lot in his own collection (*École des Mines, Paris*). In 1860 REEVE published an excellent figure of this species in his *Monograph of the genus Terebra*, in the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* (species no. 54), though his description reverses the colors and lists the shell as whitish with fawn markings. In 1885 TRYON included it in the *Terebra* section of the *Manual of Conchology* (vol. 7, p. 16; pl. 12), and in 1888 PAETEL included it in the "Catalog der Conchylien Sammlung" (p. 255). He also included *T. cochlea* DESHAYES, type locality Zanzibar, which obviously was a misspelling for *T. trochlea*. For nearly a hundred years *T. trochlea* seems to have been dropped completely from molluscan literature, and since the type lot this species has not been reported from Zanzibar or any other locality.

In July 1967 Clifton S. Weaver of Hawaii sent me for examination a specimen of *Terebra* which matches the holotype of *T. trochlea*. This specimen was collected at Nukuhiva in the Marquesas by Richard Sixberry. At the convention of the American Malacological Union in 1968 at Corpus Christi, Texas, another specimen of this species was shown on a slide accompanying a paper by Dr. Harald Rehder of the United States National Museum, though at that time the *Terebra* was unidentified. This latter speci-

men (U. S. N. M. no. 679155) was collected by Richard Sixberry also at a depth of 20 feet in muddy sand at Taiohae Bay, Nukuhiva, Marquesas. The specimen is 65.3 mm \times 12.8 mm.

Though it is possible that this species occurs in the Zanzibar area, one must assume that, like many other species of *Terebra* described in early literature, the type locality is erroneous unless other specimens are reported from that area.

Description of the shell: Shell medium large; color fawn to light reddish brown with flammules of creamy white; whorls slightly convex and turreted, shouldered anterior to prominent convex subsutural band which is set off by well defined suture and broad, deeply impressed subsutural groove which is microscopically punctate in the early whorls; sculpture of early whorls of indistinct axial grooves and obsolete flat axial ribs which form small nodes at their posterior endings on both whorl and subsutural band; in later whorls axial grooves become numerous fine axial striations, but nodes continue to occur anterior to suture and subsutural groove; body whorl of medium length; aperture ovate; outer lip thin with color pattern showing through; columella white, heavy, quite straight; siphonal fasciole well defined, striate, set off by a sharp keel; anterior canal very broad, short, recurved.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to thank Dr. Harald A. Rehder of the Smithsonian Institution for the loan of the specimen of *Terebra trochlea* DESHAYES for study and photography. I also wish to thank Clifton S. Weaver for sending for my examination the specimen which brought this species to my attention.

Explanation of Plate 52

Terebra trochlea DESHAYES, 1857

Figure 1: Holotype and paratype, British Museum (Natural History); holotype on left.

Figures 2, 3, 4: Specimen no. 679155, in the United States National Museum.

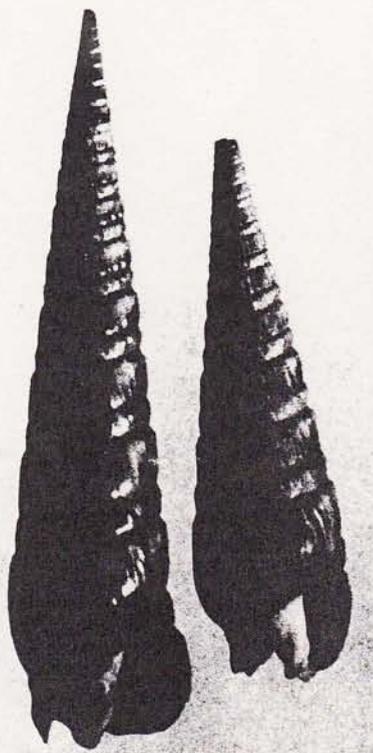


Figure 1

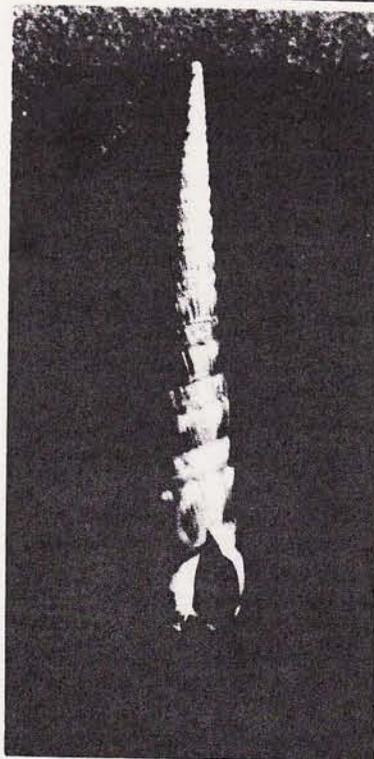


Figure 2

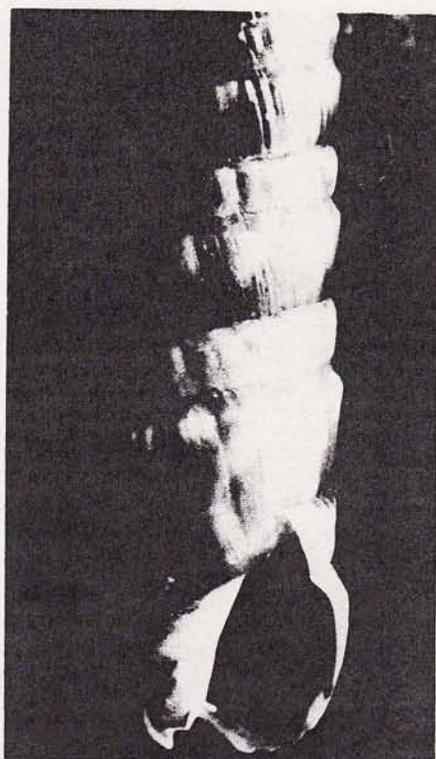


Figure 3



Figure 4

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