

**SEASHELLS
FROM
CAPE VERDE
ISLANDS
(1)**

BY LUIS PISANI BURNAY
AND
ANTÓNIO ANTUNES MONTEIRO
PHOTOGRAPHS
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LISBOA 3

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*Dedicated to both our wives,
Ana and Helena. They did
not protest too much.*

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The aperture is about as long as the spire, narrow, widening towards the anterior end, smooth, shining and grayish in colour. The outer lip is simple, thick, white in colour, and straight in the posterior half. The columella has five oblique folds, decreasing in size from the posterior to the anterior end. These folds are white, the posterior end of the columella being dark brown. The siphonal canal is open; a white callus is present near the anal canal.

The periostracum is thin, adherent, and dark brown.

DIMENSIONS: M—L:31; W:13. m—L:26; W:11.

ANIMAL: The living animal was not recorded.

COLLECTING SPOTS: Island of Sal (Calhetinha Bay, Rigona Bay, Algodoeiro Beach, Almeira Beach), Island of S. Vicente (Matiota Beach), Island of Sto. Antão (Porto ovo).

HABITAT: This species is not very common in the Islands we visited, although it was collected in three different Islands, so that it is difficult to establish precise habitat conditions.

All specimens collected were under rocks, preferably large ones, often in association with *Cypraea picta*.

REMARKS: Two small details distinguish these specimens from typical *M. corniculata*: the over-all grayish colour and the fact that the posterior half of the outer lip is straight. If the identification we propose proves to be correct, and in view of the constancy of these features, we believe it to be an interesting local form.

GENUS: *Mitra*

SPECIES: ?

FIG. 48, P. 74

DESCRIPTION: Shell medium-sized, fusiform, narrow and elongate. Protoconch clearly visible, sharp and light brown in colour. The teleoconch has 5 to 6 whorls, the suture being well marked; it is dark brown all over. The whorls present several almost imperceptible transverse striae. The last whorl is crossed by several transverse growth lines.

The aperture is not as long as the spire; it is narrow, slightly widening towards the anterior end, smooth, shining and of whitish colour. The outer lip is simple and thin. The columella has 4 or 5 oblique folds, decreasing in size from the posterior to the anterior end; these folds are white, the posterior end of the columella presenting the general colour of the shell. The siphonal canal is open and near the anal canal a white callus is present.

The periostracum is thin, light coloured and adherent.

DIMENSIONS: M—L:56; W:16. m—L:38; W:12.

ANIMAL: The living animal was not recorded.

COLLECTING SPOTS: Island of Sal (Calhetinha Bay, Santa Maria Beach, near Leme Velho Point).

HABITAT: The two collecting spots were quite different from one another: the first one, near the sunken ship «Santo Antão», was about 300 meters away from the shore, at a depth of about 15 meters, the water being very clean and calm, with sand bottom, and some occasional stones; the second one, closer to the shore, was about 4 meters deep and the water was equally very clean, although the sea was

somewhat strong. Only one dead specimen was taken from the first spot; from the second one, we have collected a small number of specimens, always from under rocks, though they apparently were not attached to them.

REMARKS: Judging from the small number of specimens collected, we consider this species to be quite rare. We were unable to positively identify it. The closest known species appear to be *M. nigra* Gmelin, 1791, and *M. goreensis* Melville, 1925. It differs from this latter one by the absence of cords in the whorls, as well as by the absence of a lighter coloration near the anterior end of the shell. The main difference between the specimens collected and known specimens of *M. nigra* appear to be in the columellar teeth, since *M. nigra* always has 3 of them, while the specimens we collected present 4 or 5. It should also be noticed that the greatest dimensions recorded for *M. nigra* approach the medium value for our smaller specimens, being largely surpassed by one of the specimens collected. See (19).

FAMILY TEREBRIDAE

GENUS: *Terebra*

SPECIES: *T. corrugata* Lamarck, 1822

FIG. 49, P. 74

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES: (80), (83).

DESCRIPTION: Shell narrow, sharp, long, with many whorls. Generally yellow, with numerous dark stains in the anterior part of each whorl, close to the suture, which is clearly visible.

The whorls are very characteristically sculptured with a longitudinal cord formed by small nodules, near the suture. Below this first cord, another one appears, formed by still smaller nodules. In the best preserved specimens, one can find countless transverse striae, joining the nodules in the two cords.

The aperture is small and sinuous, with a thin lip. Interiorly it is lightly coloured, the outer colour of the shell showing through. The columella is prominent, forming a depressed callus and possessing two oblique folds. The siphonal canal is open, short and curved upwards.

DIMENSIONS: L:85; W:12.

ANIMAL: The living animal was not recorded.

COLLECTING SPOTS: Island of S. Vicente (Matiota Beach), fide Mr. Hoppe Hartmuth.

HABITAT: We have found no living specimens of this species. We were told by Mr. Hoppe Hartmuth, from Mindelo, that a specimen he possessed had been caught at the Matiota Beach, in sand bottom about 10 meters deep.

REMARKS: The illustrated specimen was collected in Angola, by Mr. Francisco N. Pacheco, during 1974.

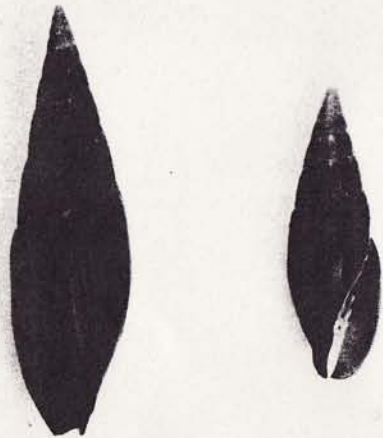


FIG. 48
Mitra sp
p. 46

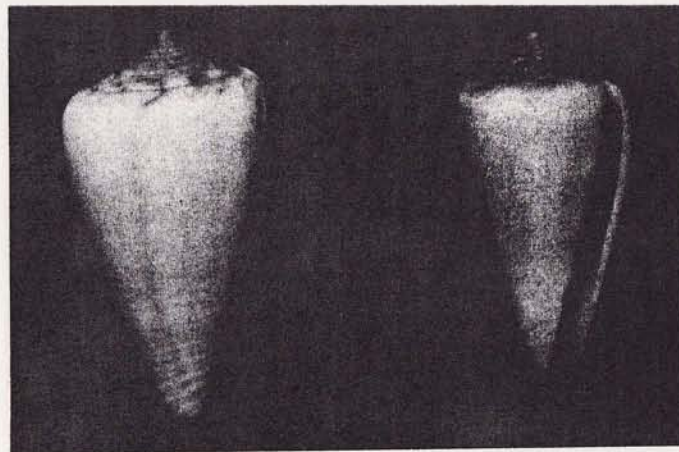


FIG. 51
? Conus ambiguus
Reeve, 1844
P. 48

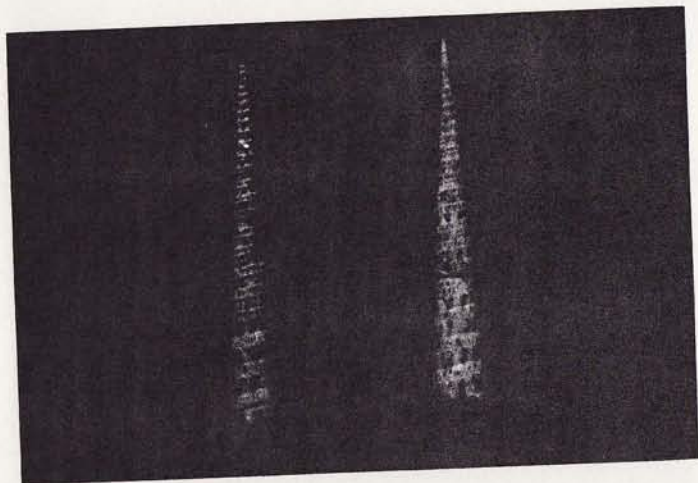


FIG. 49
Terebra corrugata
Lamarck, 1822
P. 47

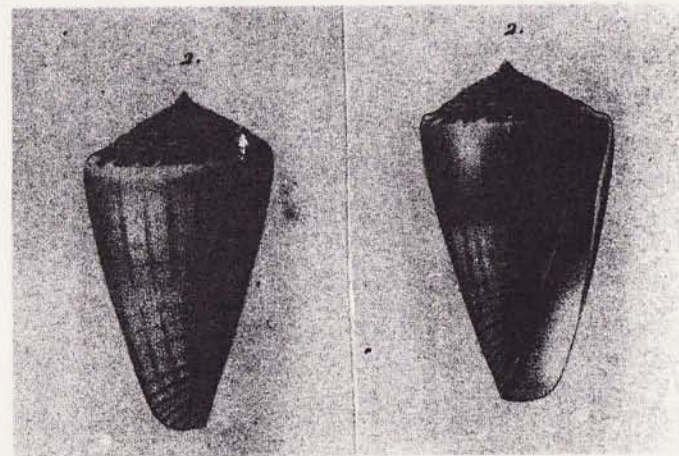


FIG. 52
Original illustration of
Conus griseus, from
Kiener's work
P. 48

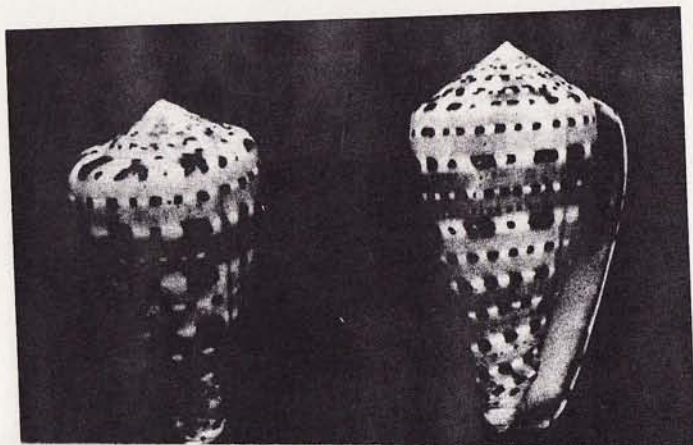


FIG. 50
Conus genuanus
Linné, 1758
P. 43



FIG. 53
Conus ermineus
Born, 1778
P. 49