

Hawaiian Shell News

Name Changes For *Terebra funiculata* Hinds and *T. langfordi* Pilsbry — by E. ALISON KAY

The opportunity to study some of the terebrid type material in the British Museum (Natural History) in March of this year brought my attention to the fact that name changes are necessary for two rather similar terebras: *Terebra funiculata* Hinds, 1844, and *T. langfordi* Pilsbry, 1921.

Pilsbry (1921) described *T. langfordi* from shells collected in the Hawaiian Islands, distinguishing it from *T. funiculata* by its less prominent peripheral cord and fewer spiral threads. Pilsbry's (loc. cit.) description and figure, and a series of recently collected Hawaiian shells matching *T. langfordi* were compared with Hinds' types of *T. funiculata*: they are indistinguishable and *T. langfordi* must become a synonym of *T. funiculata*.

The question which is of course raised by the Hinds-Pilsbry synonymy is that of a name for the shells with two strong peripheral or sutural cords which are known throughout the Pacific as *T. funi-*

culata Hinds (Weaver, 1960; Cernohorsky and Jennings, 1966). The terebrid types in the British Museum (Natural History) again provide an answer: *T. archimedis* Deshayes, 1859.

The story seems to be this: Reeve (1860) put Deshayes' *T. archimedis* into the synonymy of Hinds' *T. funiculata* but his figure is difficult to interpret as either that of *T. funiculata* or that of *T. archimedis*. Tryon (1885) followed Reeve's synonymy but clearly figures *T. archimedis* as *T. funiculata*. Pilsbry (1921), interpreting *T. funiculata* as the more heavily and numerous corded species, described shells with the less prominent peripheral cord and finer threads as his new species, *T. langfordi*. It is perhaps noteworthy that Tomlin (1944), discussing Deshayes' terebrid types, does not comment on the fact that *T. archimedis* had been considered a synonym of *T. funiculata*, although he does mention other synonymies for various of Deshayes'

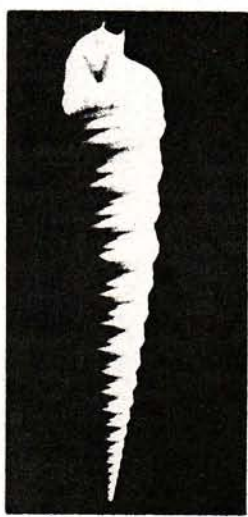
species. In summary, then, the shells which have been called *T. funiculata* should be known as *T. archimedis*, while those known as *T. langfordi* are *T. funiculata*.

References

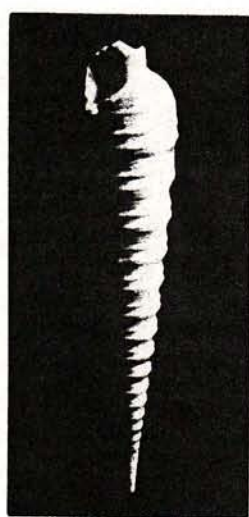
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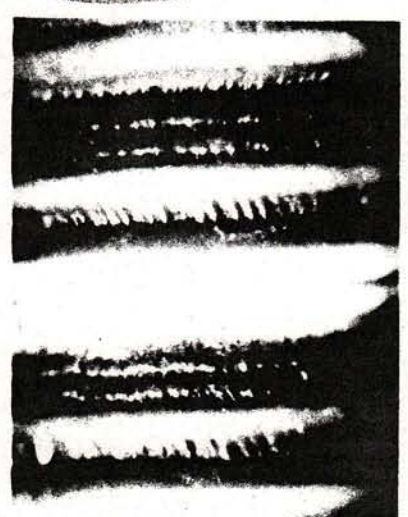
X - 20
Terebra archimedis Deshayes, 1859



X - 2



X - 2



X - 20
Terebra funiculata Hinds, 1843

Editor Note: The following is quoted from Cliff Weaver's Hawaiian Marine Mollusk description of the two *Terebras* discussed above by Dr. Kay. The *Terebra*'s names have been changed in Weaver's discussion to correspond with Dr. Kay's findings.

"Although the color and general out-

line of *T. archimedis* Deshayes, 1859, and *T. funiculata*, Hinds, 1843, are about the same, a close look at *T. funiculata* shows the following sculptural differences: Anterior to the presutural band on each whorl is a smaller chord followed by four, rarely three, unequal spirals. *T. archimedis* has only two small

chords below the presutural band."

Study the enlarged photos of the two shells. Then check your *Terebra* collection. Many collectors, including your Editor, have had these two shells lumped together. Perhaps *T. funiculata* (new name) is not as rare as once thought.