

'False Cerith'



Fastigiella carinata?

HMS members Joseph V. Lleida and his wife, Millie, found the two shells figured here while working in shallow water at New Providence Island, Bahamas. The shells are 1½ inches long, and both were crabbed.

"I have been told that this is a rare shell, but no one here (in Nassau) has been able to give me a name — except 'False Cerith'," Lleida wrote.

From the photo, the shells appear to be *Fastigiella carinata* Reeve, 1848, the Carinate false cerith. Abbott's *American Seashells* lists the range as Bahamas and northern Cuba. It adds that the shell is found in shallow water, and is rare.

S.L.

***Terebra succinea* Hinds In North Queensland**

by IAN LOCH

SYDNEY — *Terebra succinea* Hinds, 1844 — Olive Schoenberg's "shell with a curse" (HSN Apr. 1978) — is probably more common than the apparent rarity of specimens indicates. The unusual habitat it occupies in North Queensland is not normally searched for terebrids. I collected several specimens alive with scuba in 10 to 20 metres of water, in pockets of rubble and sand on the slopes of coral bommies, not in the finer sand around the bommies where other *terebra* live. The coarse nature of the substrate is reflected in the condition of the shells, the spire being frequently eroded.

Because of the protected nature of this habitat, *Terebra succinea* is not amenable to dredging in the hard coral. Even dead specimens fall to the scree areas around the bases of bommies, which are difficult to dredge. Although the rubble and sand around the base appears similar to that in the pockets on the sides, I never found live specimens there, in spite of this zone's being frequently worked for other molluscs.

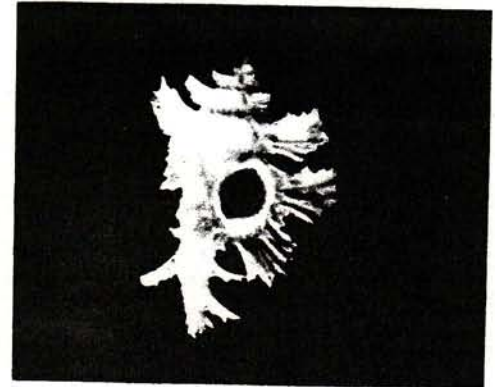
The radula of *Terebra succinea* was recently illustrated in a paper by Patricia Mills (Veliger, Vol. 19 No. 3 pgs. 259-265).

Remarks on Some *Conus* Species Mentioned Here Recently

by W. O. CERNOHORSKY

The lectotype of *Conus siamensis* Hwass in Bruguière, 1792, which I personally examined in the Geneva Natural History Museum in 1968, is a large (102.5mm in length, to be exact) broad-shouldered individual of *C. pulcher* Lightfoot, 1786. There is no doubt in my mind that *C. siamensis* as defined by its lectotype as illustrated by Kohn (1968, *Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond.* vol. 47, pl. 8, fig. 106) is a synonym of *C. pulcher* Lightfoot, and not a rediscovered, valid geographical subspecies (see HSN June 1978).

Furthermore, *Conus biliosus* (Roeding) and *C. imperator* Woolacott, are distinct species. My view that they are sympatric in Indonesia has been based on our record of both species from Nias Island, N.W. Sumatra, (not very far from Ceylon



Murex orchidfloris

Photo: Crandall

HMS member Phil Crandall recently acquired a beautiful specimen of the extremely rare *Murex (Pterynotus) orchidfloris* Shikama, 1973, a close relative of *M. loebbecki* Kobelt, 1879. The shell has a length of approximately 40mm, is pinkish white, and in gem condition.

Crandall got the specimen while on a visit to Taiwan. The dealer was unable to identify the shell and, as is often the case with purchases in Taiwan, had no collection data.

E.G.L.

where the species is commonly found).

John Tucker (HSN July 1978) denied the existence of *C. imperator* on the Indian Ocean side of Indonesia, although the species was recorded from there many years ago. Schepman (1913, *Siboga-Exped.*, vol. 491, p. 380) recorded *C. imperator* under the name "*C. roseus* Lamarck" from the east coast of Roti Island and the south coast of Java, Amboina and Borneo. Dautzenberg (1937, *Mem. Mus. Roy. d'Hist. Nat. Belg.*) (who also lists the species as "*C. roseus* Lamarck" and illustrates it on plate 3, figs. 3, 4, leaving no doubt that his species was *C. imperator*) reports it from Amboina, Borneo, Java, Obi and Sumatra, the latter clearly in Indian Ocean waters of Indonesia.

Schepman's collection is still maintained in Amsterdam and Dautzenberg's in Brussels.

We know very little about the real distribution of some species unless we take the time to examine all collections of the world's major museums. Even then, the discovery of an "endemic" Japanese species such as *Neocancilla takiisaoi* in Pitcairn Island and New Caledonia will always be somewhat of a surprise.



PLANNING TO MOVE?

Advise the Society as early as possible, to reduce postage costs and avoid delay in delivery of *Hawaiian Shell News*.



RICHARD M. KURZ, INC.

1575 NO. 118 ST. • WAUWATOSA, WIS. 53226 U.S.A.

DEALER IN FINE & RARE SPECIMEN SHELLS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY
SHELLS BOUGHT, SOLD & TRADED

Write for Free Price Lists

House of Quality and Service

Largest Mail Order Shell Dealer in the U.S.A.