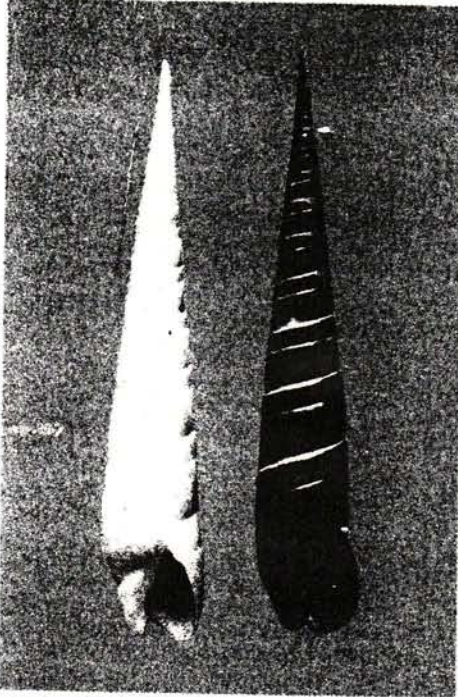


Usual & Unusual



Terebra dimidiata

Photo: Schoenberg

Not only does New Caledonia have melanistic cones and cowries. It also has a *Terebra dimidiata* Linne so dark it exhibits none of the characteristic red markings at all. Instead, it is very dark brown overall (right in photo).

The shell on the left is a typical *T. dimidiata* from Fiji, with red markings on a white base. (Some authors describe the species as having white markings on red.) In any case, the shell is quite common in shallow water throughout the mid- and west Pacific.

Terebra, like many other shells, sometimes are stained by their environment. Such stains can be removed by a soaking in bleach. My *T. dimidiata* from New Caledonia, however, is not merely stained. The dark color is permanent and part of the shell.

According to Wagner & Abbott's *Standard Catalog of Shells* 3rd edition, the largest *T. dimidiata* on record measures 16.4cm. My dark beauty is 11.75cm.

Olive Schoenberg

Society's Annual Christmas Party Set for Dec. 7

Hawaiian Malacological Society members will hold their annual banquet-get-together on Wednesday evening, 7 December, at the Honolulu Elks Club in Waikiki.

All members and guests are welcome. This includes visitors from the other islands, the Mainland, and overseas.

Outgoing president Mike Owens heads the Banquet Committee.

No-host cocktails will be served beginning at 6 p.m. Dinner is to be served at 7 o'clock.

Menu details and price will be announced later. Ample parking is available.

PERSONAL ADS

A superb cowrie collection for sale. Also for sale or exchange: gem & fine specimens of *C. achatidea* & other species. For details write: J. H. G. Brown, 91 Upper Road, Greenishland (Carrickfergus), Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland.

I want to purchase or exchange worldwide species of cephalaspid gastropods ("bubble shells" — *Bulla*, *Acteon*, etc.). Very interested in small species, especially *Acteocina*. Paula M. Mikkelsen, Harbor Branch Foundation, R. R. 1, Box 196, Fort Pierce, FL 33450, USA.

FOR SALE — A fine collection of *Conus* and others of excellent quality including *Voluta*, *Pecten*, *Lima* and *Cypraea*. Write for free list. M. R. Cefola, 1491 Greendale Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15239.

For Sale, limited number of excellent *Spondylus linguafelis* (syn: *gloriosus*), \$200 and up. Mike Severns, P.O. Box 627, Kihei, HI 96753.

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HAWAIIAN RARITIES



Photo: Chapman

Some time ago I purchased an entire lot of shells that had been collected by a trawler skipper in Hawaiian waters. It was a mixed bag; some were, but others were very interesting.

Among the latter was the white beauty figure above. Despite sporadic efforts at identification, only recently was reliably informed of its name *Carinaria cristata* Linne, a planktonic gastropod also known as the "glassy nautilus."

The shell measures 34mm. I have no data on the animal itself which, I understand, is much larger than its shell. In life, the shell serves as a cover to a dorsal "fin," but is extremely fragile. Honolulu architect Don Chapman, who took the photo above commented that it looked like an outstanding piece of modern sculpture.

The cone-shaped shell is pure white with horizontal lines and a pearlized interior. It was collected in trawl net from 150 fathoms in Alenuihaha Channel between Maui and Molokai Islands in the Hawaii Chain. Long-time HMS member and veteran scientist teacher Dottie Wendt told me that apparently related species (or perhaps the same) occasionally recovered in midwater plankton tows around Hawaii, but that this is the largest specimen she has seen.

In any event, it is one of our rarest molluscs.

Elmer G. Leehm



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Our policy: "If it resides in Australian Territory and has a shell, we will stock it if we can obtain it." We wish to establish expertise in nomenclature of Australian Mollusca and welcome enquiries from those involved in research, particularly in the more poorly documented families.



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