

48. *Terebra elliscrossi* Bratcher, 1979

(Pl. 14, fig. 48a-b)

1979 *Terebra elliscrossi* Bratcher, Veliger 22(1):65, fig. 1;  
1984 Aubry, Terebridae pl. 14.

**Description:** Shell to 83 mm; color white with small round fulvous dots, usually in pairs, scattered at random; outline of whorls slightly concave; protoconch of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  conical whorls; subsutural band with double row of nodes, the posterior one being smaller, band occupying about half of whorl; sculpture cancellate with axial and spiral cords of about equal strength forming small nodes at intersections on some individuals, others with finer sculpture less likely to form nodes; cancellate sculpture less obvious on some individuals with spiral sculpture predominating; body whorl with a row of slightly enlarged nodes at periphery; aperture quadrate, columella recurved.

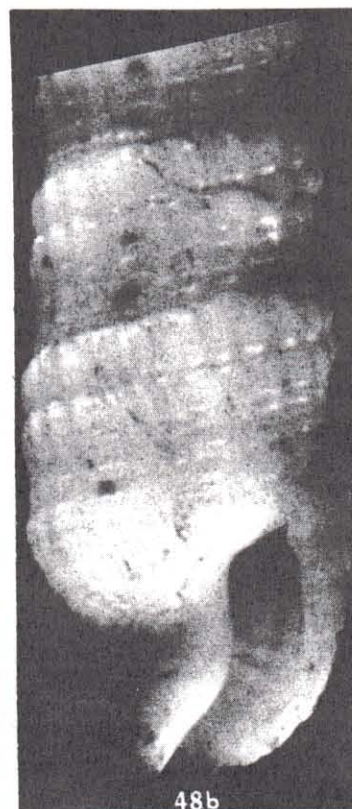
**Type locality:** "Honolulu side of Pearl Harbor entrance, Honolulu, Hawaii,  $21^{\circ}17'N$ ,  $157^{\circ}56'W$ , 300 m., sand and rubble bottom."

**Distribution:** From Madagascar to the Hawaiian Islands.

**Type:** Holotype LACM no. 1257;  $42.0 \times 7.2$  mm.

**Discussion:** Some specimens of this species have many tiny fulvous dots, usually in vertical pairs; others have a few scarcely noticeable ones. Larger specimens tend to become less coarsely sculptured on later whorls. The species was named for Ellis Cross, former editor of the Hawaiian Shell News, who dredged the holotype. For comparison refer to *T. insalli* (47).

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48a,b, *T. elliscrossi* Bratcher. 48a, Holotype Los Angeles County Museum No. 1257; 42.0 mm. 48b, Lower whorls.



IN 1969 AN UNUSUAL terebrid was dredged from 300 m in Hawaii by E. R. Cross. Though subsequent research showed it to be a new species, there was a hesitancy in describing it on the basis of a single specimen, particularly as the protoconch was missing. Since that time other specimens of the same species have been sent to me for identification from several areas of the tropical Indo-Pacific.

Because E. R. Cross was the instructor of my first course in underwater safety and is a longtime friend, because of his years as editor of the Hawaiian Shell News, and because he discovered the first specimen of this new species, I now take pleasure in naming it in his honor.

*Terebra elliscrossi* Bratcher, spec. nov.

**Diagnosis:** A medium to large sized white *Terebra* with small fulvous dots, cancellate sculpture, and a double subsutural band.

**Description of Holotype:** Shell size medium, color white with small round fulvous dots, usually in pairs, scattered at random; outline of whorls slightly concave with double convex subsutural band, anterior one being smaller; protoconch missing, but protoconch of paratype having  $3\frac{1}{2}$  slightly convex embryonic whorls; sculpture of early whorls of teleoconch consisting of narrow subsutural band with small nodes, followed by slightly curved axial ribs; spiral sculpture developing about 3<sup>rd</sup> whorl; posterior end of ribs swelling into nodes, forming second subsutural band about 5<sup>th</sup> whorl; sculpture of later whorls cancellate, with spiral and axial cords of about equal strength, forming small nodes at intersections, axial cords beginning at nodes of anterior band; double band occupying about half of whorl; cancellate sculpture continuing on body whorl to row of slightly enlarged nodes at periphery; spiral cords continuing anterior to periphery, axial sculpture becoming obsolete; aperture quadrate; columella recurved, with moderate parietal callus and scarcely visible plication; siphonal fasciole striate, with moderate keel.

**Dimensions:** Holotype  $42.0 \times 7.2$  mm. Paratypes from  $21.4 \times 5.4$  mm to  $82.9 \times 13.1$  mm

**Type Locality:** Honolulu side of Pearl Harbor entrance, Honolulu, Hawaii,  $21^{\circ} 17' N$ ;  $157^{\circ} 56' W$  at 300 m, sand and coral rubble bottom; leg. E. R. Cross, 10 May 1960

**Type Material:** Holotype Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History no. 1257. Paratypes: Australian Museum no. C111658 (1); British Museum (Natural History) (1); Bratcher collection (2); E. R. Cross collection (1); Western Australian Museum (1); R. Schoening collection (1) [all above paratypes from 21 to 37.5 m, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands.] B. Parkinson collection (1), New Guinea; R. Schelling collection (1), Okinawa at 45 m; U. S. National Museum no. 71899 (1), 104 km SW of Cap St. André, Madagascar, 150 - 300 m.

**Discussion:** Some individuals of this species have finer sculpture, and the intersections of axial and spiral sculpture may be less likely to form nodes at the intersections. The larger specimens tend to become less coarsely sculptured in later whorls. Some specimens have many tiny fulvous dots; others have few, scarcely noticeable ones.

*Terebra elliscrossi* should be compared with several other Indo-Pacific species. *Terebra waikikiensis* Pilsbry, 1920, an endemic Hawaiian species, is also shiny white with pairs of small fulvous dots, but it has a turreted outline and is smaller, to 35 mm. The dots, always in pairs, are placed at regular intervals. *Terebra elliscrossi* has a concave outline with convex subsutural band, is larger, to 82.9 mm, and the dots, paired or individual, are scattered at random. *Terebra insalli* Bratcher & Burch, 1967, bears some resemblance to *T. elliscrossi* but has a smaller, more slender beige shell without the fulvous dots. *Terebra triseriata* Gray, 1834, has a much more slender shell, and that of *T. cumingii* Deshayes, 1834, has more numerous and shorter whorls, neither showing fulvous dots. *Terebra amanda*, also without dots, is longer whorled and has a wider apical angle.

*Terebra floridana* Dall, 1889, a western Atlantic species, has a shell remarkably similar to that of *T. elliscrossi*, except that it has more numerous and shorter whorls with no dots, and is beige instead of white.

BRATCER 1979 VOLUME 22 (1) : 65-66

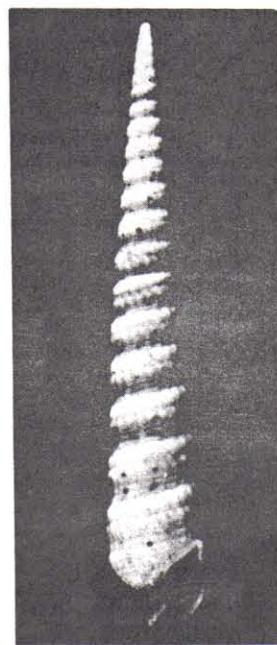


Figure 1

Holotype of *Terebra elliscrossi* Bratcher, spec. nov.



(3)  
 ELLISCROSSI  
 BRATCHER 1979  
 (48) (✓)

By TWILA BRATCHER

While dredging at the Honolulu side of Pearl Harbor Entrance in 1969, E. R. Cross brought up an unusual *Terebra* from about 300 meters.

After thoroughly researching it, I concluded it to be a new species. It was so extremely different from any previously described that I decided to publish it. I submitted a manuscript then reconsidered and withdrew it for two reasons: it was a unique specimen, and it had no protoconch.

For quite a few years it rested with some other unidentified *Terebra*, the only one of its kind as far as I knew. Then, within a short period, I received others of the same species from several sources and from different areas. One was from New Guinea, two were from Guadalcanal, in the Solomons, and one was from Okinawa.

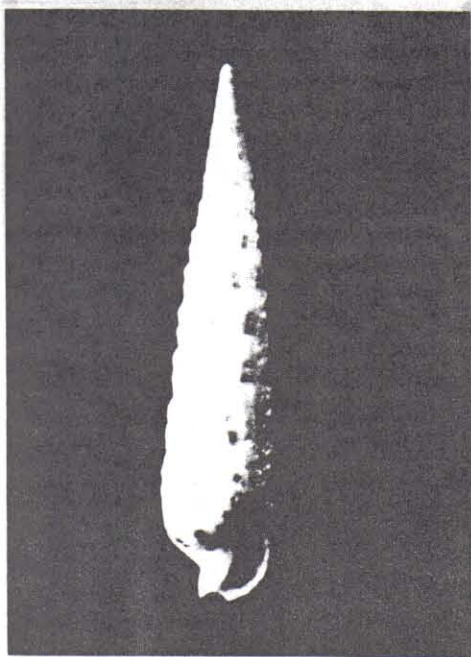
When I visited the Solomons, Brian Bailey kindly let me have several to donate to museums as paratypes. While I was rewriting the manuscript to include the additional specimens and localities, I discovered another among the terebrids sent me by the Smithsonian Institution for identification. This one was from Madagascar.

A full ten years after Cross' discovery in July 1969, the species was finally published in *The Veliger* 22 (1):65. The following is from the original manuscript:

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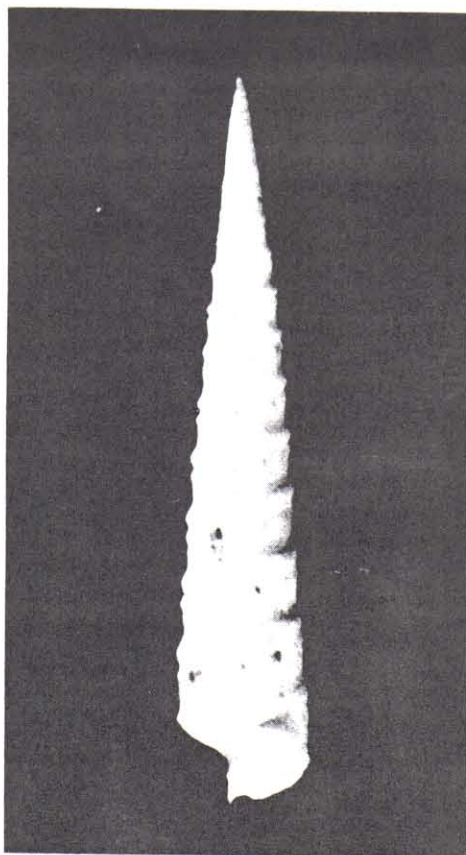
*Terebra elliscrossi* Bratcher, 1979

**DIAGNOSIS:** A medium to large sized white *Terebra* with small fulvous dots, cancellate



*T. waikikiensis*

H.S.N. OCT 79



*T. elliscrossi*

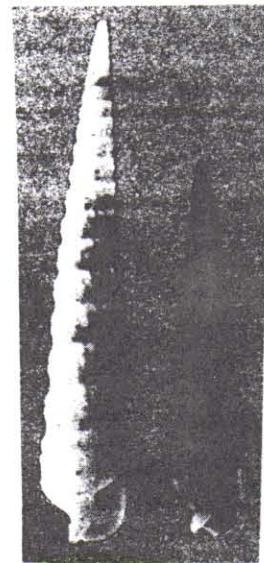
Photo: Bratcher

sculpture, and a double subsutural band.  
**DESCRIPTION OF HOLOTYPE:** Shell size medium, color white with small round fulvous dots, usually in pairs, scattered at random; outline of whorls slightly concave with double convex subsutural band, anterior one being smaller; protoconch missing, but protoconch of paratype having 3½ slightly convex embryonic whorls; sculpture of early whorls of teleoconch consisting of narrow subsutural band with small nodes, followed by slightly curved axial ribs; spiral sculpture developing about 3rd whorl; posterior end of ribs swelling into nodes, forming second subsutural band about 5th whorl; sculpture of later whorls cancellate, with spiral and axial cords of about equal strength, forming small nodes at intersections, axial cords beginning at nodes of anterior band; double band occupying about half of whorl; cancellate sculpture continuing on body whorl to row of slightly enlarged nodes at periphery; spiral cords continuing anterior to periphery, axial sculpture becoming obsolete; aperture quadrate, columella recurved, with moderate parietal callus and scarcely visible plication, siphonal fasciole striate, with moderate keel.

**DIMENSIONS:** Holotype 42.0 x 7.2mm. Paratypes from 21.4 x 5.4mm to 82.9 x 13.1mm.

**DISCUSSION:** Some individuals of this species have finer sculpture, and the intersections of axial and spiral sculpture may be less likely to form nodes at the intersections. The larger specimens tend to become less coarsely sculptured in later whorls. Some specimens have many tiny fulvous dots; others have few, scarcely noticeable ones.

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By RICH SALISBURY

Several new species of *Terebra* have been described recently. Two of these are found around the Hawaiian Islands. HSN Aug. 1978 listed approximately 50 *Terebra* species. *Hawaiian Marine Shells* by Dr. Alison Kay lists 43. Both sources will be used as references for this update.

*Terebra elliscrossi* Bratcher, 1979 (Fig. 1) is figured here with *Terebra waikikiensis* Pilsbry, 1921 (small shell). The specimen of *elliscrossi* was dredged in 200 fathoms, while the smaller species is typically found at 50 fathoms. Both species can be found in deep water off the island of Oahu (Honolulu).

HSN Jan 83



T. ELLISCROSSI  
 (Bratcher, 1979) 55  
 mm. - Hawaii, Indo  
 Paesic - (Philippine)  
 Aqua profunda \*\*\*

AUG 14 1983