

Description of a new species of the genus *Terebra*
from the Philippines (Gastropoda)
(Plate 1)

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I received some years ago a beautiful *Terebra* from an Australian friend and tried to find some other specimens for a number of years. I have compared it with several species which resemble the present species and found that there is always some important detail which is present or lacking.

I named the new species in honour of Dr. Luigi Raybaudi Massilia. Who with youthful enthusiasm, his research in the field all over the world, his love for conchology and his Latin impetuosity in the most heated discussions, always supporting his theories with rigorous scientific data, "shells in the hand", makes it possible for conchology to avoid becoming an obscure science reserved for only a few insiders, at times pedantic and unprepared, who believe themselves to be the sole keepers of this branch of natural sciences.

Genus *Terebra* Bruguière, 1789

Type species: *Buccinum subulatum* Linnaeus, 1767

Terebra raybaudii n. sp.

(Plate 1, figs. 4-5)

Shell solid to the touch, extremely fragile to sight. Ivory white in colour. Whorls decorated with a row of small reddish spots which, as they draw nearer to embryonal whorls, become fewer and fewer until disappearing altogether towards protoconch (lost). Teleoconch consists of 31 whorls. sutural band raised like cording and no sculpture worth mentioning, with a few longitudinal striae. Whorls furrowed by three dotted spiral lines. No axial sculpture perceived. Columella straight with several fascioles which are quite evident under microscope. Aperture square in shape.

Measurement:

	Shell height (mm)	Shell breadth (mm)
Holotype	87	10.0

Type depository:

Holotype preserved in the author's collection, to be donated to The Institute of Malacology of Tokyo.

Type locality:

Belicasag, Bohol Islands, Philippines.

Remarks:

The present new species differs from the following allied species:

Terebra eximia Deshayes, 1859. (Plate 1, fig. 6)

This is a robust species which may reach about 90 mm in length. White in colour. It has a sutural band spotted with reddish dots. These are also present on the periphery of the body whorl. A groove divides this band from another smaller one which blends in with the underlying whorl. The whorls are furrowed by three deep dotted grooves which have two spiral ribs. The dark protoconch has 1.5 whorls. The square aperture is relatively small. The short, recurved columella has a few obsolete fascioles.

The species is distributed throughout the Indian Ocean.

Terebra consobrina Deshayes, 1857. (Plate 1, fig. 7)

It may exceed 115 mm in length. The colour is white and the whorls are spotted with two rows of dots of a reddish-brown colour. The upper one seems to outline the sutural band which is barely visible. The body whorl has three rows of coloured dots, two of which are on the spire and one on the periphery. There is no axial ribbing and only a very punctiform spiral sculpturing is barely evident, more so on the early whorls. The aperture is square and the short columella is recurved.

I find it is difficult to distinguish from *T. subulata*. Some authors state that *T. subulata* is not to be found in the Red Sea; I am becoming more and more convinced that *T. consobrina* is nothing more than a geographical variation of *T. subulata*.

Typical locality of this species is the Red Sea, where it can be found in sand at the depths of 4-5 m amid coral reefs. Several authors give Madagascar as a place of finding and, with great approximation, the Indian Ocean also.

Terebra waikikiensis Pilsbry, 1921. (Plate 1, fig. 8)

This is a white *Terebra* characterized by a double row of reddish dots which decorate the whorls in a regular pattern. The sutural band is well defined above by an evident suprasutural groove and has a cancellate axial sculpturing. The whorls have three to four punctiform spires. The protoconch consists of two whorls, and the teleoconch has 21 - 28 whorls in my specimens. The columella is curved, and the aperture square. A superficial observation may give the impression that the shell from Hawaii and the Philippines are two different species, but a closer comparison shows them to be identical in every detail. What could be most deceptive is the greater length and solidity of the specimens from the Philippines.

I know of findings only in Hawaii and more rarely in the Philippines.

Terebra vicdani Kosuge, 1981. (Plate 1, fig. 9)

The examples are respectively 60 and 63 mm in length. The background colour is white. The spires are spotted with red - brown dots. These are arranged in two rows, plus a peripheral one on the body whorl. As they draw near the body whorl they tend to disappear completely. The sutural band is marked and has small vertical streaks. The whorls have five spires intersected by faint axial ribs. The spires and ribs form a microscopic square lattice sculpturing which is visible under the microscope even at low magnification. The aperture is square and the columella curved.

The typical place of finding is Bohol Island, Philippines. I know of no findings from other localities.

Terebra tessellata Gray, 1834. (Plate 1, fig. 10)

Solid but extremely elegant, its ornamentation consists of square, distinctly separate spots arranged in a double row on the whorls. The body whorl has three rows, one of each is on the periphery. The sutural band is marked and resembles a white cording curled arounds it. Here on the early whorls, there are small nodules which tend to disappear almost completely on the body whorl. In the specimens I have studied, a true axial and spiral sculpture is absent. Only a few striae can be seen under the microscope. The curved columella has several fascioles. The aperture is squarish. The shell may reach 70 mm in length.

The specimens come from Somalia and Gibuti, where they were caught in fishing nets at a depth of about 10 m. I have no certain news of findings in other localities, especially from Indonesia.

Terebra elliscrossi Bratcher, 1979. (Plate 1, fig. 11)

White in colour, with reddish dotting distributed at random on the whorls and subsutural band. The length ranges from 30 to 80 mm, with an average width of about 10 mm. The subsutural band is divided into two parts by a marked groove. The upper part is a little wider and both have three to four spires which are visible to the naked eye on the larger specimens. These spires are crossed longitudinally by irregularly arranged grooves. The columella is curved and the aperture is square. The protoconch has 3.5 whorls.

Specimens come from Hawaii and the Philippines. A specimen collected in Tosa Bay, Japan is white without any spots whatsoever. All were found in deep water.

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