

STEGERI

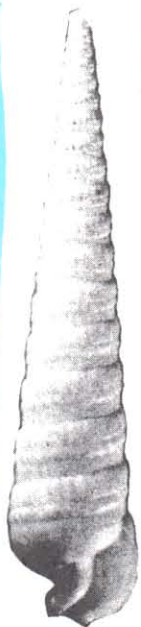
ABBOTT 1954

143

= FLORIDANA

143c, Holotype of *T.*

floridana stegeri Abbott, National Museum Natural History, Washington No. USNM-613884. BRAT-97



143c

TEREBRA (MYURELLA) FLORIDANA STEGERI n. subsp.

Pl. 2, figs. 5-6

Description.—Shell 50 to 80 mm. (2 to 3 inches) in length, moderately slender, its width being about $\frac{1}{5}$ of its length. Similar to *floridana*, but differing in being stouter, in ranging in color from bright-orange, lemon-yellow to waxy white, in having the siphonal canal considerably more twisted to the left, in having weaker and more numerous axial riblets which increase in number in later whorls, and in lacking the upper fold on the columella in nearly every specimen. Operculum like that of *floridana*.

Length	Width	No. Whorls	
68.0 mm.	13.0 mm.	23	Holotype, U.S.N.M. No. 613884
69.0 mm.	11.5 mm.	25	Paratype, U.S.N.M. No. 613885
66.0 mm.	15.0 mm.	+18	Paratype, U.S.N.M. No. 605184

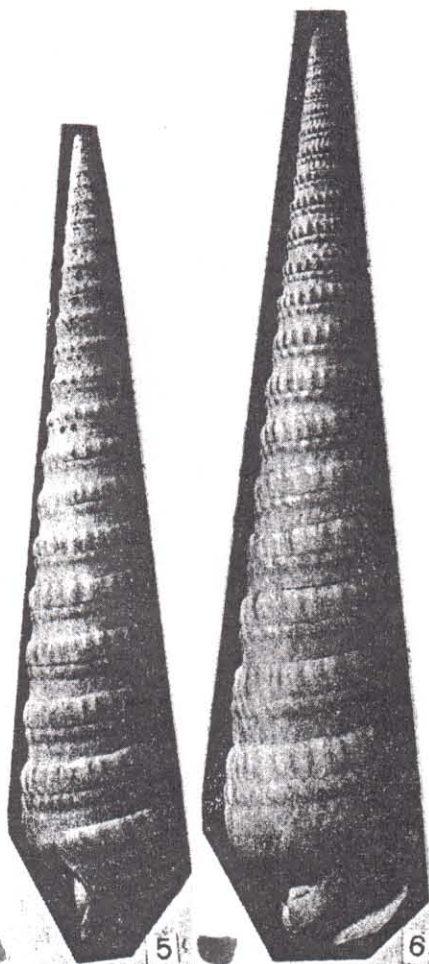
Types.—The holotype (613884) and seven paratypes (613885) are in the U.S.N.M. Two specimens from the Campeche Banks were kindly donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jack N. Sennott. Eleven paratypes were returned to Barbara and Dan Steger, after whom this subspecies is named, and one is in the Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. No. 191709.

Type locality.—50 miles west of Campeche, Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, in 12 fathoms. Collected in 1953 by the Stegers' shrimp boat, the "Sea Hag."

Remarks.—There is a superficial resemblance between *stegeri* and *T. taurina* Solander (formerly *flammea* Lamarek), particularly in the early whorls. However, the much larger *taurina* differs in having a longer and straighter siphonal canal, in being spotted with color, and in having nearly twice as many, much finer, axial riblets that extend from suture to suture. The degree of slant of the riblets is about 40° off the axis of the shell in *taurina*, and about 10° in *stegeri*.

The axial riblets are coarser, larger and fewer in number in *stegeri* than those in *floridana*. In the last whorl, *stegeri* has from 28 to 39, while the latter has from 17 to 23 (rarely up to 26). The angle of spire is more variable in *stegeri*, ranging from 14° to 10° with a mean of 13° , while in *floridana* the range is from 11° to 8° with a mean of 10° . Although these differences are mathematically small, the resulting obesity of these long shells is quite different to the eye.

We have a single specimen 55 mm. in length which has all the characters of *floridana*, except that it has numerous, brownish color flammules and weaker subsutural riblets. It was dredged in 36 fathoms by the Fish and Wildlife boat, "Pelican," 44 miles southwest of Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida (U.S. N.M. 485734). Until other specimens are collected, we refrain from naming what may be either a color form or possibly a hybrid between *floridana* and *taurina* Solander.



FIGS. 5-6, *Terebra floridana stegeri* Abbott, (fig. 5) paratype; (fig. 6), holotype.