

Terebra (*Strioterebrum*) *alaba* MacNeil n. sp.Plate 9, figure 19; Plate 23, figures 24-27; ^{p. 169}

Plate 24, figures 1-7

Description: Shell moderately small, moderately inflated; protoconch consisting of 4 smooth whorls; aperture moderately narrow, produced anteriorly to form a short canal, gently curved in profile; columella moderately twisted, bearing a weak basal fold and a rounded callus above; parietal callus well developed; siphonal fasciole weakly raised or flat, bordered above by a raised thread which in the aperture becomes covered by callus, separated from the body whorl by a moderately broad depressed area; suture weak and appressed, subtended by a weak subsutural band of about a third the width of the exposed portion of the whorl; spiral groove and subsutural band not appearing until about the third or fourth whorl; sculpture consisting of numerous, very fine, incised, spiral lines and thin, gently curved axial ribs, the axials stronger in juveniles, weaker and sometimes obsolete in adults, the spiral lines present only between the axials in juveniles, but continuous over the weak axials in adults.

Discussion: *Terebra* (*Strioterebrum*) *alaba* differs from *T. (S.) tantula* from the Byram in being relatively stouter and in having weaker sculpture. The axials of *T. (S.) tantula* are stronger and do not show any tendency to become weaker in adults as in typical *T. (S.) alaba*. The spiral sculpture of *T. (S.) tantula* is much coarser, the grooves are wider, and the spaces between them are flattened, raised bands, whereas in *T. (S.) alaba* the spirals are fine, incised lines. The

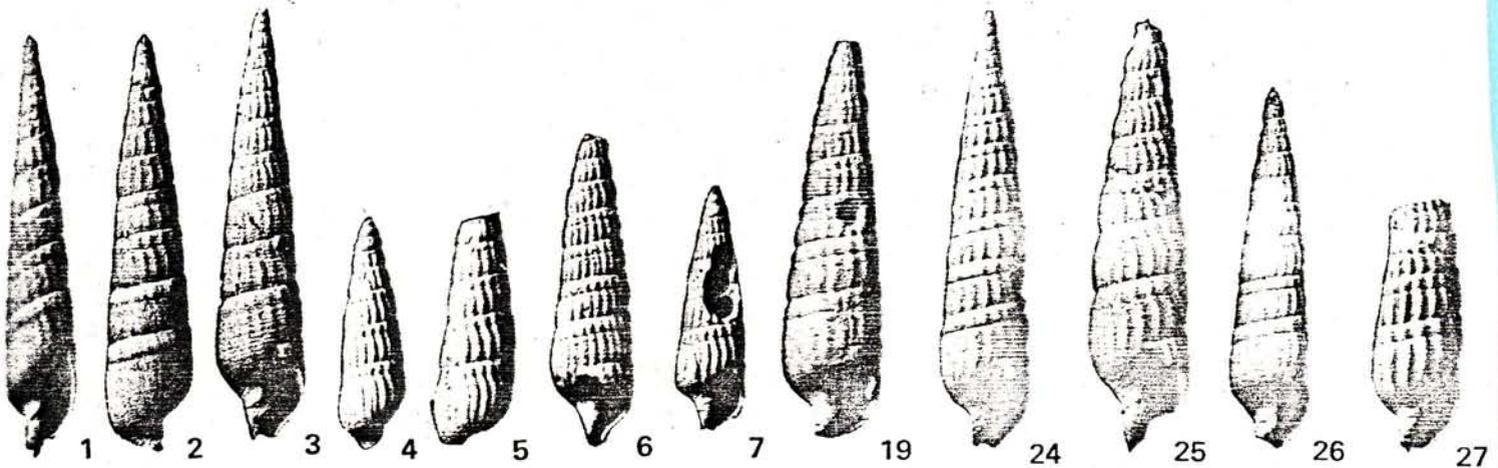
subsutural band in *T. (S.) tantula* is more in relief and the subsutural groove is stronger. The spiral sculpture of *T. (S.) alaba* crosses the axials whereas in *T. (S.) tantula* it does not. However, some of the more coarsely sculptured specimens of *T. (S.) alaba* approach *T. (S.) tantula* in both the persistence of the axials and in the failure of the spirals to cross the axials.

A single specimen of an apparently undescribed species from the Moodys Branch Formation (upper Eocene) of Jackson, Mississippi, USGS locality 4250, may be related to *T. (S.) alaba* and *T. (S.) tantula* but it has a much weaker subsutural band than either of the Vicksburg species. However, its axial ribs are moderately coarse and curved as in the Vicksburg species rather than fine, straight, and closely spaced as in the Claiborne species *T. venusta* Lea, 1833. The Jackson species has more weakly incised spiral sculpture than typical *T. (S.) alaba*, but compares with the more coarsely sculptured variety.

A typical specimen of *T. (S.) alaba* is in the Red Bluff collection, from USGS locality 309. If the label accompanying this specimen is correct, there does not appear to be any difference between the Red Bluff and Mint Spring forms.

Type: Holotype 498145 USNM from the Mint Spring Formation, USGS locality 7671 (Plate 24, figure 3).

Occurrence: Red Bluff Formation, USGS locality 309; Mint Spring Formation, USGS localities 3723, 3727, 3728, 6648, 6451, 6452, 7268, 7384, 13287, 14071, 14072, 14162. ^{Mac Neil 1984 p. 169}



Terebra (*Strioterebrum*) *alaba* MacNeil n. sp.

1-2. Figured specimen 498146 USNM (x4). Height 13.6 mm, width 3.0 mm; USGS locality 14071.

3. Holotype 498145 USNM (x4). Height 14.2 mm, width 2.9 mm; USGS locality 13287.

4. Figured specimen 479937 USNM (x6). Height 5.1 mm, width 1.4 mm; USGS locality 13287.

5. Figured specimen 376517 USNM (x6). Height (incomplete) 5.0 mm, width 1.9 mm; USGS locality 13287.

6. Figured specimen 498148 USNM (x4). Height (incomplete) 10.4 mm, width 2.6 mm; USGS locality 7671.

7. Figured specimen 376518 USNM (x6). Height 5.4 mm, width 1.5 mm; USGS locality 13287

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19. Figured specimen 136486 USNM (x4). Height 12.9 mm, width 3.0 mm; USGS locality 309.

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24. Figured specimen 498148 USNM (x4). Height 14.4 mm, width 2.9 mm; USGS locality 7671.

25. Figured specimen 498147 USNM (x4). Height 14.3 mm, width 3.3 mm; USGS locality 13287.

26. Figured specimen 560926 USNM (x4). Height 11.9 mm, width 2.6 mm; USGS locality 7671.

27. Figured specimen 376516 USNM (x4). Height 8.2 mm, width 2.8 mm; USGS locality 7671