

This species, described from the Vicksburgian Eocene, appears also in the older Miocene of Santo Domingo, of the Tampa Orthaulax bed, and of the Alum Bluff beds at De Funiak Springs, Florida. It may be distinguished from *T. polygyra* and other similar species by its spiral striation.

DALL 1895 Pz. US. NAT. MUS. p. 36

Terebra (Strioterebrum) tantula Conrad

Plate 39, figures 1-4; Plate 59, figure 9 ^{p. 168}

- 1848a. *Terebra tantula* Conrad, Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, Proc., v. 3, p. 283.
- 1848b. *Terebra tantula* Conrad, Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, Jour., 2nd ser., v. 1, p. 11, pl. 11, fig. 15. Plates reprinted in Docks 1982, Appendix I.
- 1865. *Terebra tantula* Conrad, Amer. Jour. Conchology, v. 1, p. 28.
- 1866. *Terebra tantula* Conrad, Smithsonian Misc. Coll., v. 7, No. 200, p. 29.
- 1890. *Terebra (Acus) tantula* Conrad, Wash. Free Inst. Sci., Trans., v. 3, No. 1, p. 24.
- 1937. *Terebra (Terebrella) divisura* Conrad, Paleont. Bull. Amer. Paleont., v. 7, No. 32, p. 468.

Original Description: Conrad, 1848a.

Subulate, with longitudinal ribs dislocated by an impressed line; whorls with minute revolving lines. Length 2/3. Rare.

Very similar to the preceding, but narrower, far less in size and distinguished by the revolving lines and by the ribs on the whorl, which extend to the beak.

Description: Shell moderately small and slender, protoconch consisting of 4 smooth whorls; aperture moderately narrow, produced anteriorly to form a well developed siphonal canal, moderately curved in profile; columella moderately twisted, bearing a small basal fold and an upper fold mostly concealed by the siphon; parietal callus well developed; siphonal face slightly rounded or flat, bordered above by a raised thread which in the aperture becomes the mostly concealed upper fold, separated from the body whorl by a broad, depressed area; suture strongly indented, extended by a strong subsutural band and a spiral groove, the band being about a third the width of the exposed portion of the whorls; both the band and the groove appearing on the first post-nuclear whorl; sculpture consisting of numerous, fine or moderate

incised, spiral lines with raised interspaces, the interspaces being from broad and flattened to fine and thread-like between the subsutural band and the lower portion of the whorl, and coarse axial ribs which are not obscured by the spiral sculpture, the axials usually being discontinuous by the deeply incised subsutural groove.

Discussion: This species can hardly be confused with the larger Byram species *T. (T.) divisura* from which it differs in being much smaller and slenderer and in having well developed spiral sculpture. *Terebra (Strioterebrum) tantula* is slenderer and the spiral sculpture is more thread-like than in most of the Miocene and later species of *Strioterebrum* from America. *T. (S.) tantula* is closely related to the Mint Spring species *T. (S.) alaba* described below. Some specimens of the Mint Spring species approach *T. (S.) tantula* in the strength of the axial ribs but differ in having weaker spiral lines and a weaker subsutural

axial. The axials on *T. (S.) alaba* generally are not covered by the subsutural groove. Specimens can be separated from these two species that are very close, but the end members are quite distinct.

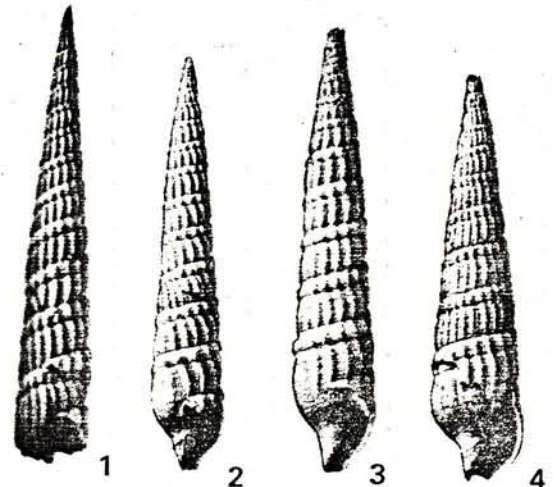
Terebra (Strioterebrum) tantula may be related through the forms with coarse spiral sculpture to *T. longiana* Dall from the Chipola Formation (lower Miocene) of Florida. However, the spiral grooves of *T. longiana* are coarser and the species has fewer axial ribs and deeper punctations along the subsutural groove.

The closest known relative of *T. (S.) tantula* is *T. (S.) mansfieldi* (Mansfield 1937, p. 77), a species which was described as *T. tantula* by Dall, from the Tampa Limestone (lower Miocene) of Florida. The type of the latter species differs in having a slightly greater diameter than shells of *T. (S.) tantula* of equal height, and in having a weaker subsutural groove with a less sharply defined collar. The spiral sculpture of *T. (S.) mansfieldi* is indistinguishable from that of typical *T. (S.) tantula*.

The relationships of this species are further discussed under *T. (S.) alaba*.

Type Lectotype 13418 ANSP and paratypes 13419 ANSP all from the Byram Formation judging from the matrix and preservation, Vicksburg, Mississippi (Conrad).

Occurrence: Byram Formation, USGS localities 3722, 3729, 5615, 5623, 6454, 6455, 6978, 7295, 7376, 7385, 7440, 7457, 7460, 7941, 13286, 14683, 14772, MGS localities 93, 106, 109, 114, 115. ^{p. 168}



- Terebra (Strioterebrum) tantula* Conrad, 1848
1. Figured specimen 560923 USNM (x3). Height (incomplete) 20.4 mm, width 4.2 mm; USGS locality 3722.
 2. Figured specimen 560922 USNM (x3). Height 18.5 mm, width 3.3 mm; USGS locality 3722.
 3. Figured specimen 560924 USNM (x3). Height 19.6 mm, width 3.6 mm; USGS locality 13286.
 4. Figured specimen 560925 USNM (x3). Height 17.9 mm, width 4.1 mm; USGS locality 13286.

MAC NIEL 1984 p. 168

TEREBRA (OXYMERIS) TANTULA Conrad.

Terebra tantula CONRAD, Journ. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., n. ser., vol. 3, p. 114, pl. 11, fig. 15, 1848; Amer. Journ. Conch., vol. 1, p. 28, 1865.—DALL, Trans. Wagner Inst., vol. 3, pt. 1, p. 24, 1890.

Oligocene of Vicksburg, Mississippi, Conrad; of the Tampa silex beds at Ballast Point, Tampa Bay, Florida; Dall; and at De Funiak Springs, Florida; Burns. U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 165028.

Specimens of the typical *tantula* have been obtained from Ballast Point since my remarks in the Wagner Institute Transactions were published.

DALL. 1895 U.S. NAT. MUS. BULL. 40 p. 36

1915

TANTULA (2)

CONRAD 1848