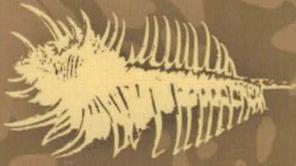


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CLUB CONCHYLIA

INFORMATIONEN



PORZELLANSCHNECKEN
NEUES AUS
SÜDAFRIKA

FEHLERSUCHE MITRA- & OVULIDEN-BÜCHER

GRENZGÄNGER ONCHIDELLA IM OSTATLANTIK

TYPENSUCHE ICONOGRAPHIE VON CONUS-TYPEN

SÜSSWASSER BIOLOGIE & ARTENSCHUTZ

A new *Cypraeovula* from South Africa (Gastropoda: Cypraeidae)

By FELIX LORENZ, Buseck-Beuern

Plate 3

Abstract

Description of one new marine gastropod species of the Family Cypraeidae: *Cypraeovula kesslerorum* n. sp. from South Africa in discussion with *Cypraeovula colligata* LORENZ, 2002 and *Cypraeovula conelli* LILTVED, 1983.

Zusammenfassung

Beschreibung einer neuen Meeresschneckenart aus der Familie Cypraeidae: *Cypraeovula kesslerorum* n. sp. von Südafrika im Vergleich mit *Cypraeovula colligata* LORENZ, 2002 und *Cypraeovula conelli* LILTVED, 1983.

Description of a new species

The eastern coast of South Africa is subdivided into several faunistic sub-provinces characterized by specific communities of gastropods, including cowry-species and subspecies (LORENZ 2002). In the following, a new species of Cypraeidae is described from the least known of these sub-provinces: the central area between Port Alfred and the western Transkei, around East London.

Cypraeovula kesslerorum n. sp.

Plate 3 Fig. 1-4

Material: One live collected and two dead collected specimens designated as type material, four further live collected specimens, 3 in coll. CARGILE and one illustrated by LILTVED (2001: 231, fig. 124d) were studied.

Types: Measurements enumerated as follows: length x width x height (mm), depository.

Holotype: 25.2 x 16.7 x 14.5 (Plate 3 Fig. 1a-d) Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

Paratype 1: 25.8 x 16.8 x 14.7 coll. ELFRIEDE KESSLER, Zumikon, Switzerland (Plate 3 Fig. 2a-d)

Paratype 2: coll. MARCO CHIAPPONI, Lecco, Italy

Paratypes 3-5: coll. BILL CARGILE, Woodside, USA (Paratype 3 see Plate 3 Fig. 3a-d)

Description: The holotype is pyriform-inflated with callused extremities. The posterior extremity is produced on the labral side but short on the left, and distinctly ribbed. The anterior extremity forms a longitudinally ribbed dorsal callus deposit. The labral margin is slightly callused, as are the base and left margin. The spire is slightly umbilicate

and covered with callus. The aperture is narrow throughout and distinctly curved posteriorly. The base on left side is covered with distinct, rather coarse ridges. These ridges extend towards the columellar edge along the aperture. They are not attenuated to form columellar teeth, but instead, about every third of them extends into the shell, visible as prominent denticles along the columellar peristome. The fossula is distinctly projecting and coarsely denticulate. The labral teeth are fine, sharply cut and extending across the labrum towards the dorsum. The ground colour of the slightly eroded holotype is brownish, the dorsum shows remnants of coarse brown netting along the margins, the margins show numerous large darker spots, the spire is blotched with darker.

In the paratypes and all other specimens so far studied, there is no conchological variability. All have dense brown spotting dorsally which condenses towards the margins, and distinct lateral spots along both margins. The teeth, the base and the extremities are pale brown.

Etymology: The new species is named in honour of my dear friends ELFRIEDE and Dr. HANS CONRAD KESSLER of Zumikon, Switzerland.

Habitat and distribution: Live shells of *Cypraeovula kesslerorum* were dredged from a rubble and sponge substrate at 90 to 110 m approximately 5 km offshore East London. The exact positions are kept secret by the finders.

Discussion: *Cypraeovula kesslerorum* is a conspicuous member of the genus *Cypraeovula* because of its partly ribbed shell. It resembles *Cypraeovula colligata* LORENZ, 2002 from the eastern Transkei (Plate 3 Fig. 4a-d) in general shape, color pattern and the peculiar formation of the peristome, which is coarsely ribbed in both species. In all other species of *Cypraeovula*, the columellar peristome is smooth. In *colligata*, the base is smooth and there are defined columellar teeth, which in *kesslerorum* are replaced by finer ribs with extend all the way across the base and the margins toward the dorsum. Furthermore, *colligata* is a slender-pyriform shell whereas *kesslerorum* is more inflated and broader oval. *Cypraeovula conelli* LILTVED, 1983 has less distinctly spotted margins and a smooth base. *Cypraeovula capensis* GRAY, 1828 has a ribbed base, but lacks marginal spotting and dense dorsal pattern, instead, it has a central blotch. The deep water subspecies *capensis profundorum* SECCOMBE, 2003 from the area in which *kesslerorum* is found is rather small, elongate and mostly lacks the dorsal blotch. LILTVED (2001) illustrates a live taken specimen of

kesslerorum as “apparent hybrid” between *capensis* and *connelli*. This interpretation does not meet the conchological diagnosis, as in a hybrid, features should be intermediate. This is not the case as the coarsely ribbed columellar peristome is not found in any of the suggested parent species but only *colligata*, which is found in a different, more eastern locality, at similar depth. Both species are rare members of the genus, each of them with very restricted geographic and bathymetric ranges.

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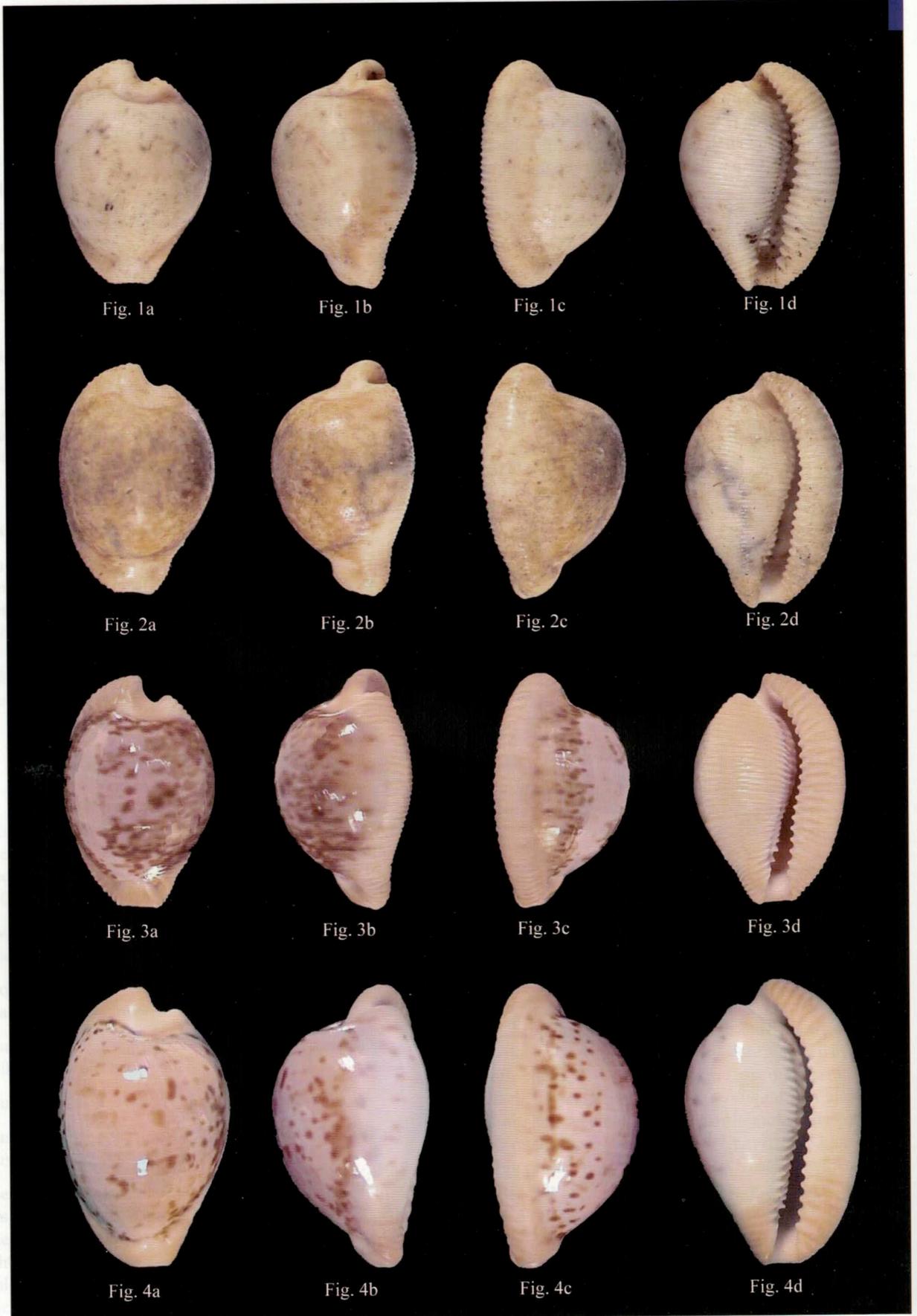
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Plate 3: (see next page)

- Fig. 1a-d:** *Cypraeovula kesslerorum* n. sp. Holotype, 25 mm, East London, coll. MNHN
Fig. 2a-d: *Cypraeovula kesslerorum* n. sp. Paratype 1, 25 mm, East London, coll. KESSLER
Fig. 3a-d: *Cypraeovula kesslerorum* n. sp. Paratype 3, 25 mm, East London, coll. CARGILE
Fig. 4a-d: *Cypraeovula colligata* LORENZ, 2001, 26 mm, Mbotyi, Transkei, coll. CHIAPPONI



Explanation see p. 15