

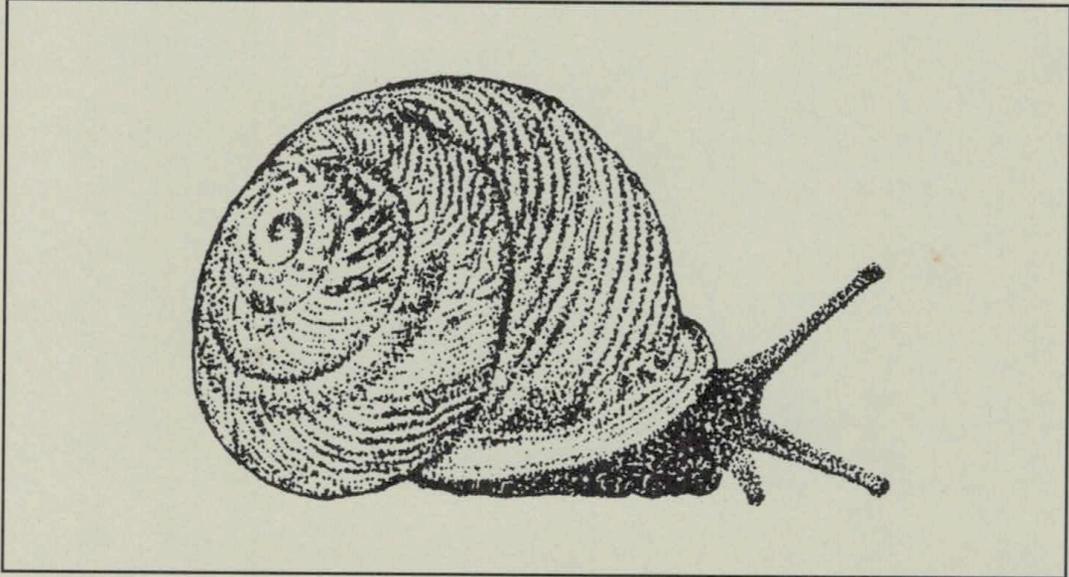
# Schriften zur Malakozoologie

aus dem Haus der Natur – Cismar

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## A new subspecies of *Zoila marginata* (Gastropoda: Cypraeidae).

By

FELIX LORENZ jun., Lauenburg.

**Abstract:** A globose deep water *Zoila* from the Great Australian Bight is described as a *Zoila marginata raybaudii* n. ssp.

In 1983 ENA COUCOM showed me an unusually inflated and very regularly spotted specimen of *Z. marginata* said to come from deep water off the Spencer Gulf area. Later my friend and collaborator Prof. Dr. ALEX HUBERT showed me two more specimens quite identical to ENA COUCOM's shell. The origin of these specimens was given as "Freeling Island (St. Vincent Gulf), South Australia". This new locality is so clearly separated from the usual range of *Z. marginata* that, along with the shell features, it is apparent that it represents an extreme eastern subspecies of *Z. marginata*. Dr. LUIGI "GINO" RAYBAUDI, well known for his attentive studies on the genus *Zoila*, confirmed my suspicions with further data and shells and asked me to describe this new subspecies. I am naming it in his honour:

Cypraeidae - Bernayinae -

### *Zoila marginata raybaudii* n. ssp.

**Description:** The holotype is a fresh dead collected shell. The dorsum is moderately inflated and slightly humped. The margins are barely expanding but rather round, with a strikingly corrugated outline towards the extremities. Midways along the shell the margins are reduced. There is faint brown spotting along the labral margin. Along the left side of the shell the spotting is darker and coarse, reaching almost the middle of the base. The corrugations of the margins seem to be correlated with the spots. The spire is distinctly projecting and barely covered by callus. The margins and the base are greyish-white, the dorsum whitish-salmon pink. There is a scattered, dark brown and coarse spotting covering the dorsum. The teeth are well produced along the labral side but less distinct on columellar side. In the paratypes and other specimens so far investigated it is apparent that the scattered, regular dorsal spotting and the features described for the margins are characteristic. Only the degree of marginal and dorsal spotting and the shape vary slightly. Because of their thicker nacre the colour of live-collected shells naturally is more whitish or white than slightly pinkish as in the case of fresh dead collected specimens like the holotype.

**Type material** (Dimensions enumerated length x width x height, number of labral teeth - columellar teeth):

Holotype: 53,3 x 35,0 x 28,3 mm, labral teeth 26, columellar teeth 19. (HNC 29089)

Paratype 1: 58,9 x 39,4 x 31,1 mm, labral teeth 24, col. teeth 21. (coll. HUBERT)

Paratype 2: 58,0 x 37,5 x 30,5 mm, labral teeth 26, col. teeth 17. (coll. LORENZ)

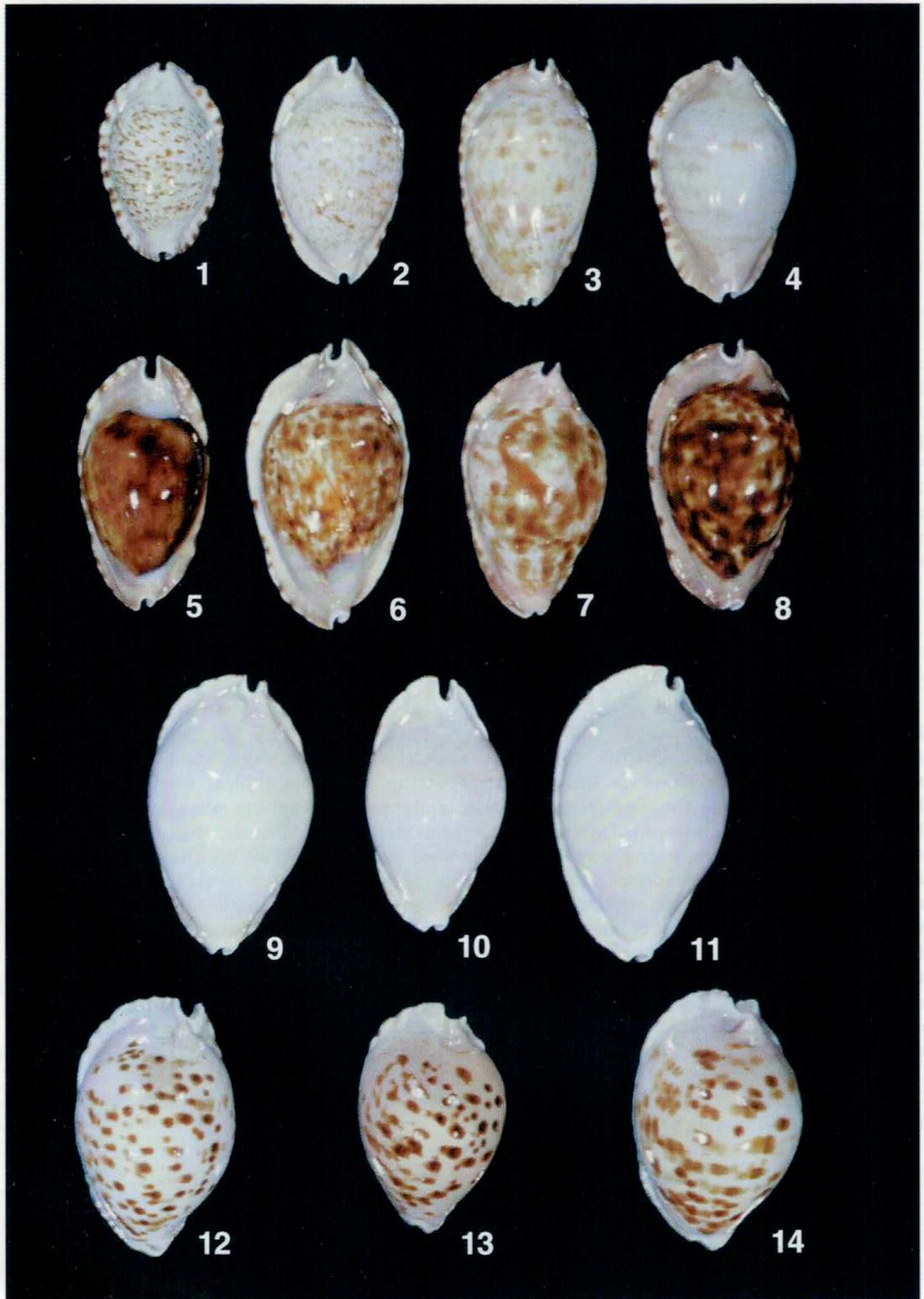
Paratype 3: 59,4 x 39,5 x 32,4 mm, labral teeth 25, col. teeth 20. (HNC 29874)

Paratype 4: 54,3 x 35,1 x 26,1 mm, labral teeth 26, col. teeth 22. (coll. HUBERT).

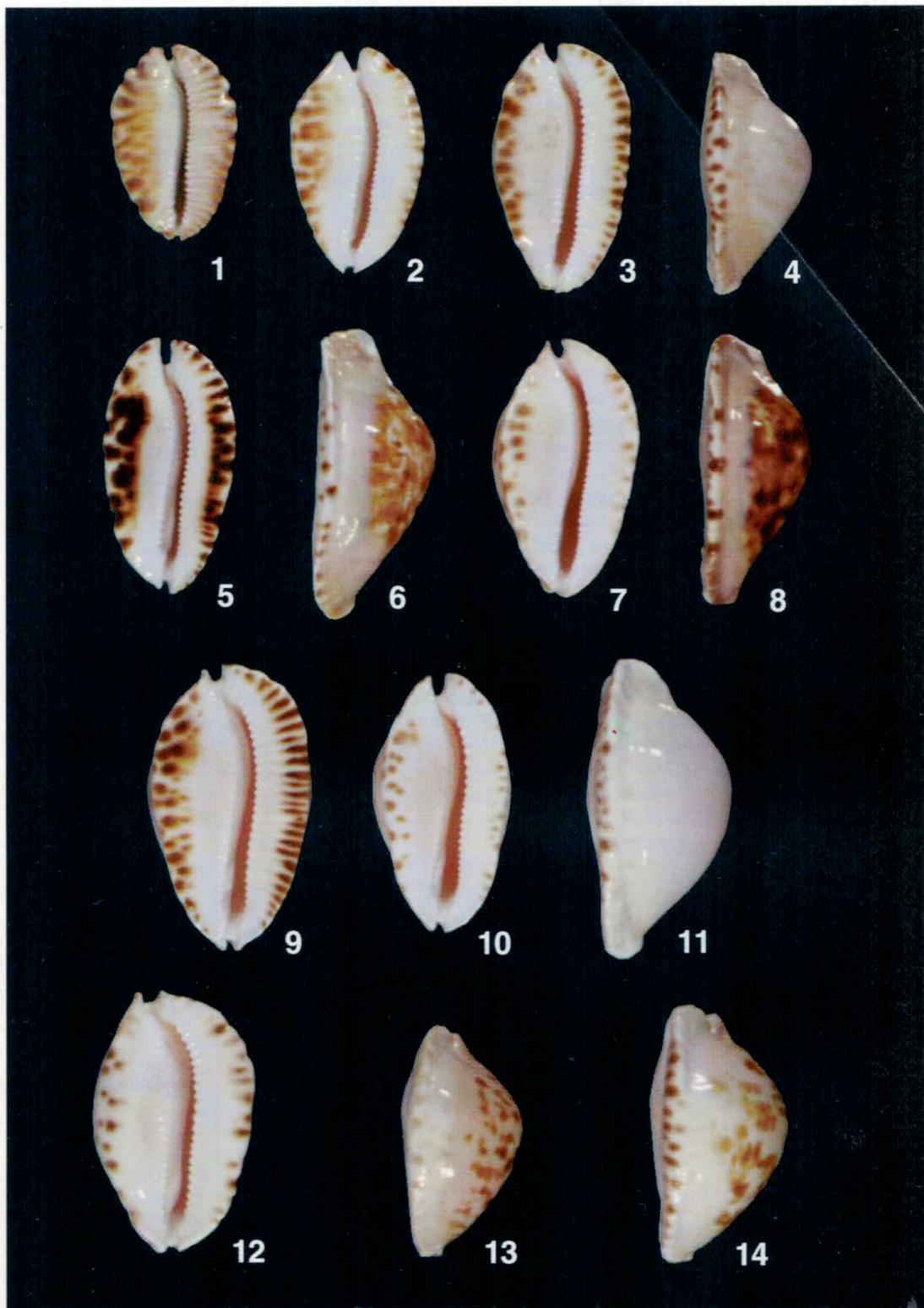
Paratype 5: 54,8 x 36,1 x 28,1 mm, labral teeth 26, col. teeth 23. (coll. HUBERT).

**Distribution:** Known from approximately forty specimens taken from depths between 35 and 50 m. The type locality is Freeling Island, St. Vincent Gulf, South Australia.

The animal characteristics are unrecorded.



F. LORENZ jun.: A new subspecies of *Zoiila marginata* (Gastropoda: Cypraeidae).



F. LORENZ jun.: A new subspecies of *Zoila marginata* (Gastropoda: Cypraeidae).

Explanations of plates 4-5.  
(pages 14-15, reduced, approx. 1:2, photos: V. WIESE)

Identical numbers are showing identical shells from different views.

*Zoila marginata ketyana* RAYBAUDI 1978

Fig. 1: Rat Island, NW-Australia, 150-200 m, coll. F. LORENZ jun.

*Zoila marginata ketyana* RAYBAUDI 1978, intermediate form

Fig. 2: off Geraldton, NW-Australia, 40 m, coll. F. LORENZ jun.

*Zoila marginata marginata* (GASKOIN 1849)

Fig. 3: Esperance area, 17 m,

Fig. 4: Garden Island, W-Australia, 25 m,

Fig. 5: Lancelin, 14 m,

Fig. 6: Fremantle, 10 m,

Fig. 7: Carnac Island, 15 m,

Fig. 8: Rottnest Island, by diver,

*Zoila marginata* form "albanyensis" [taxonomical status under study]

Fig. 9-11: Albany, 25-35 m,

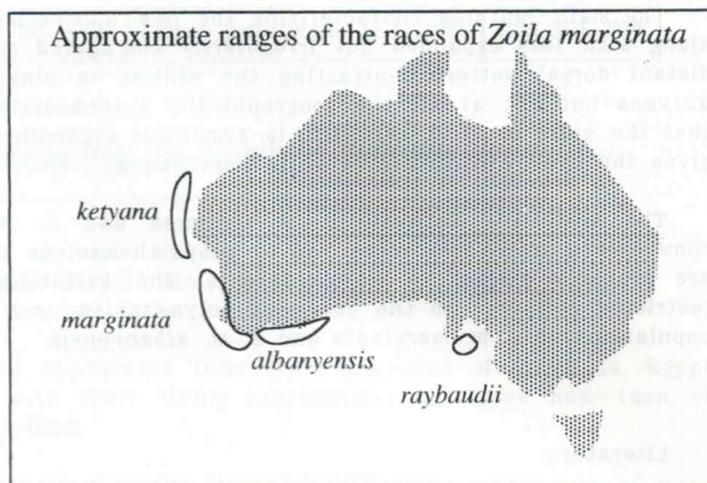
*Zoila marginata raybaudii* n. ssp.

Fig. 12: Paratype 1, Freeling Island, 150 m, coll. A. HUBERT.

Fig. 13: Holotype, Freeling Island, 150 m, HNC 29089.

Fig. 14: Paratype 3, Freeling Island, 150 m, HNC 29874.

Text-fig. 1:  
Distribution of  
*Zoila marginata*.



**Discussion:** *Zoila marginata* is split into four distinct geographic subspecies: In deeper northwestern Australian waters (approx. 150 m depth) there is the very distinct *Z. m. ketyana* RAYBAUDI 1978. An intermediate variety (variety-name *intermedians* given by BODONI not valid) linking *Z. m. ketyana* with the typical southwestern *Z. marginata* (GASKOIN 1849) lives in the area around Geraldton (Abrolhos I., approx. 50-80 m depth). The typical *Z. marginata* is found in moderately shallow water of 8-10 m to approx. 30 m. Further towards Albany lies the restricted range of a semi-albinistic race "*albanyensis*", whose status as a subspecies has yet to be discussed. Results will be given in a separate publication. Going eastwards there is a certain gap in the distribution of *Z. marginata*. Further eastwards in the area of the St. Vincent Gulf, eastern Great Australian Bight the subspecies described herein is found by divers. It is interesting to compare the differences of the subspecies given in the table (text fig. 2) with the distributions indicated in the map (text-fig. 1). The northwestern and the southeastern subspecies seem more similar conchologically than the forms in the geographical centre of the range of *Z. marginata*. *Z. m. ketyana* and *Z. m. raybaudii* seem to have developed similar features independently.

	<i>ketyana</i>	<i>marginata</i>	<i>albanyensis</i>	<i>raybaudii</i>
range	northwestern Australia, <b>deep water 80 - 150 m</b>	Western Australia, rather shallow water	Albany area, rather shallow water	St. Vincent Gulf, <b>deeper water 35 - 50 m</b>
shape	rather depressed, <b>shorter</b>	more elongate, rostrated, slightly humped	more elongate, rostrated, slightly humped	rather inflated, humped, <b>shorter</b>
margins	<b>rather rounded, corrugated</b>	very sharp, expanded, flaring	very sharp, expanded, flaring	<b>rounded, restricted, distinctly corrugated</b>
marginal spots	dark and coarse, visible from dorsal view, confluent on base, <b>forming corrugations</b>	dark and coarse, visible from dorsal view, distinct also on base	paler, hardly visible from dorsal view, more distinct on base	dark and coarse, hardly visible from dorsal view, more distinct on base, <b>forming corrugations</b>
dorsal spotting	<b>regular, distant, or absent</b>	irregularly mottled with darker	absent	<b>regular, distant</b>
dorsal ground colour	white	pale tan	white to pale pink	white to pale pink

Text-fig. 2: Identification table for the subspecies of *Zoila marginata*.

The main features characterizing the new subspecies are the more inflated shape along with less expanded but irregularly corrugated margins. The more distinct and distant dorsal pattern contrasting the whitish to pinkish background resemble *Z. m. ketyana* but not at all the geographically intermediate races. It is also noteworthy that the spire in *Z. m. raybaudii* is sometimes exceeding the posterior extremity which gives the shell a somewhat juvenile appearance.

The similarity between *Z. m. ketyana* and *Z. m. raybaudii* may be due to convergence since both races had to adapt themselves to deeper water habitats which are probably similar in many respects. The variability of these is also far more restricted compared to the enormous polymorphism seen in the various shallow water populations of *Z. m. marginata* and *Z. m. albanyensis*.

#### Literature:

BIRAGHI, G. (1975): The rare contrarias. -- La Conchiglia, Roma, 79-80: 16-17.

RAYBAUDI MASSILIA, L. (1978): *Cypraea (Zoila) marginata* GASKOIN 1849. -- La Conchiglia, Roma, 106-107: 11-14.

and the issues 1 (1985), 3 (1985) and winter 1989/1990 of The Connoisseur of Seashells by L. RAYBAUDI MASSILIA.

#### Address of the author:

FELIX LORENZ jun., Ginsterweg 6, D-2058 Lauenburg/Elbe.