

## Conchylia

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urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:61172DE1-2074-4AF0-80AA-B0237473397E

## A New Species of Conidae from Taiwan (Gastropoda)

By FELIX LORENZ, D-Buseck & JEAN PIERRE BARBIER, PH-Lapu-Lapu City

With 11 Figures on 1 Plate

### Keywords

Conidae, *Profundiconus weii*, new species, Taiwan.

### Abstract

*Profundiconus weii* n. sp. from Taiwanese deep water superficially resembles *P. dondani* (KOSUGE, 1981) and *P. lani* (CRANDALL, 1979) in shape but differs by the absence of darker pattern and more widely spaced and more developed axial ridges on the body whorl.

### Zusammenfassung

*Profundiconus weii* n. sp. aus dem Tiefwasser von Taiwan ähnelt *P. dondani* (KOSUGE, 1981) und *P. lani* (CRANDALL, 1979) in der Form des Gehäuses, unterscheidet sich aber durch das Fehlen dunklerer Pigmentierung und weiter auseinanderstehende und stärker entwickelte Axialrippen auf dem letzten Umgang.

### Introduction

In the recent taxonomic iconography of the Conoidea by MONNIER et al. (2018), the genus *Turriconus* comprises about twenty species accommodated in three subgenera (*Turriconus*, *Kurodaconus* and *Mitraconus*). Most of them are restricted to deep water, but the type of *Mitraconus* (*mitratus* HWASS in BRUGURIÈRE, 1792) is a shallow water species. Another deep-water species, *dondani* (KOSUGE, 1981), is only tentatively placed in *Mitraconus* in their work. According to TENORIO (pers. comm. 2018), *dondani* might be better-placed in *Profundiconus* on account of its morphology. The new species shares its range and habitat with *dondani*, but differs by a number of conchological features. It is described as

*Profundiconus weii* n. sp.

### Material

Three specimens, one of them (Paratype 1) apparently live collected.

Holotype: 17.5 × 7.5 mm, coll. MSF No. co1991.

Paratype 1: 22.5 × 9.6 mm, coll. FELIX LORENZ.

Paratype 2: 20.6 × 9.0 mm, coll. FELIX LORENZ.

All from SW Taiwan, dredged on rubble bottom at 280-350 m.

### Methods and Abbreviations

The terminology in the description follows that proposed by MONNIER et al. (2018).

MSF Molluscan Science Foundation, Inc.,  
Owings Mills, Maryland, USA.

RD relative diameter (width by length).

RSH relative spire height (spire height by length).

### Description

The holotype is a dead collected adult with part of the lip broken off. It was nevertheless chosen as type because it retains most of the protoconch and displays the sculpture of the spire well.

The shell is small, solid, narrow (RD = 0.43), conical, with straight sides. The spire is high (RSH = 0.38) and slightly stepped, with a straight outline of the last whorl. The protoconch measures 0.8 mm in diameter and 1.1 mm in height. It is rounded, projecting and slightly swollen, its tip is slightly chipped but 2.5 whorls are discernible. The first three sutural ramps are slightly concave, the following two are flat. There are distinct spiral ribs on the sutural ramps, increasing in number, from 4 to 8 in the later ramps. The shoulders of the sutural ramps show indistinct tubercles in the first three whorls. The body whorl has distinct, evenly spaced spiral cords of equal strength and distance from each other. The anterior end is rather broad. The holotype shell is plain white with no indications of darker pattern.

The three specimens available for study agree in shape and proportions. Paratype 1 has several indistinct, very pale orange spots on the sutural ramp above the shoulder of the last whorl. This specimen is also quite glossy.

### Type locality and habitat

The three specimens known to us were dredged on rubble bottom at 280-350 m, in the Southwest of Taiwan.

## Etymology

In honour of PENG WEI who made the three type specimens available to us.

## Discussion

Although the Conidae is one of the best-studied gastropod families in terms of molecular sampling and radula morphology, the generic assignment of the new species is problematic. At this point, authors do not agree with a common systematic of the Conidae. In the group of smaller, solid-shelled deep-water species, the genus *Profundiconus* comprises a number of species whose general shell-morphology recalls that of the new species described herein, namely *P. dondani* (KOSUGE, 1981), and *P. lani* (CRANDALL, 1979). Both species occur in the same general area and depth as *P. weii* n. sp. The main differences from these species is the absence of darker pattern on the body whorl and the spire in *P. weii* n. sp., and the stronger and more distant spiral cords on the body whorl. The white, narrowly conical shell with its high, straight spire and sides of the body whorl cannot be confused with any other species of the family.

## Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Dr. MANUEL JIMENEZ TENORIO, Dr. ERIC MONNIER, KLAUS GROH, Dr. CARSTEN RENKER, JANA KRATZSCH, and Dr. MICHAEL A. MONT (MSF).

## Reference

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### Addresses of the authors:

Dr. FELIX LORENZ  
Friedrich-Ebert-Str. 12  
D-35418 Buseck-Beuern, Germany  
E-mail: felix.lorenz@t-online.de

JEAN-PIERRE BARBIER  
Coral Point – Punta Engaño, Mactan  
PH-6015 Lapu-Lapu City, Philippines  
E-mail: jp@topseashells.com

Received: 08. 12. 2018  
Accepted: 02. 01. 2019

## Plate 1 (on opposite page)

**Figs 1-8:** *Profundiconus weii* n. sp. from SW Taiwan, off 280-350 m.

**Figs 1-2:** Holotype (17.5 mm)

**Figs 3-4:** Details of the spire of the Holotype.

**Figs 5-6:** Paratype 1. Arrow: pale orange spot.

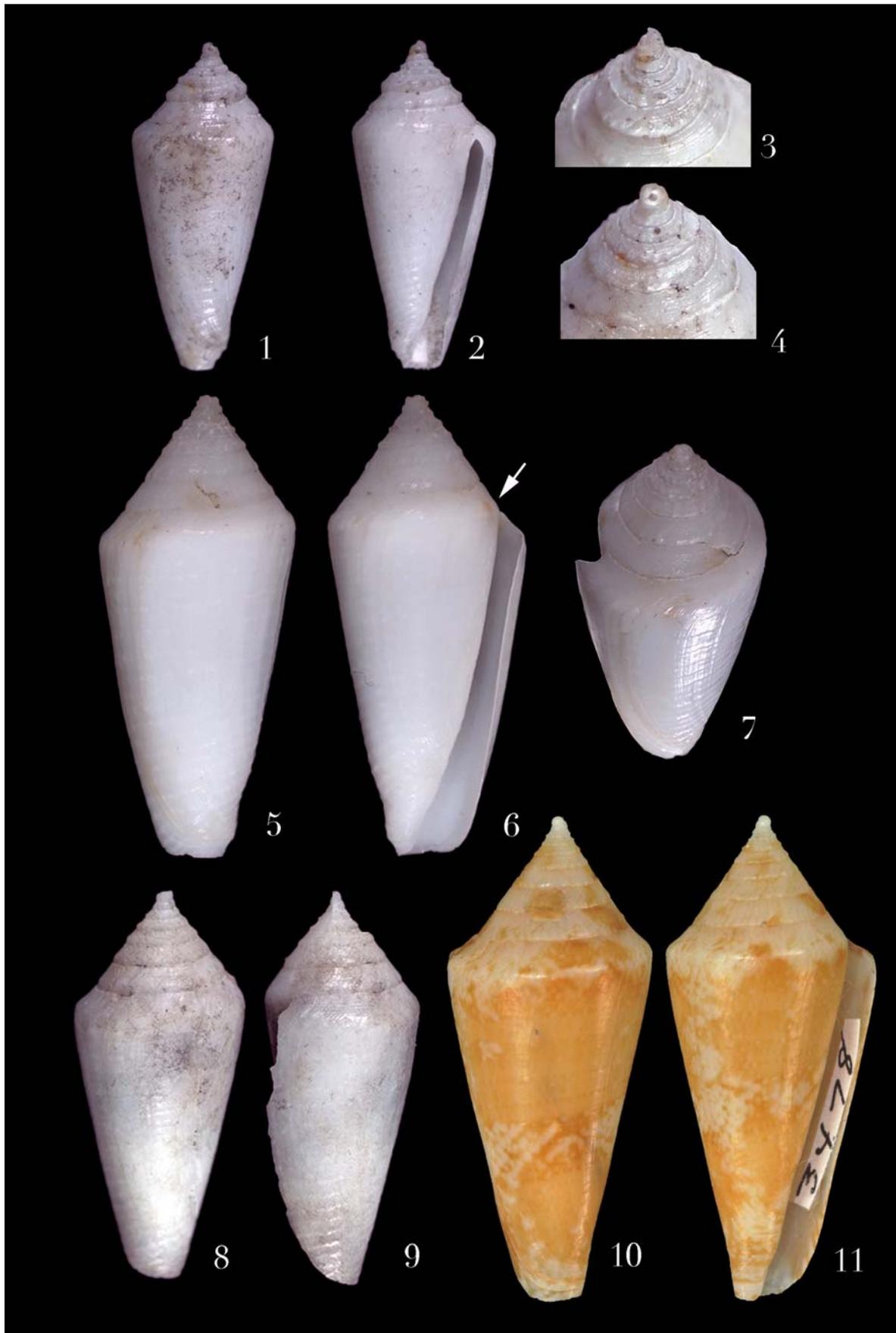
**Fig. 7:** Spiral cords of the body whorl of Paratype 1.

**Figs 8-9:** Paratype 2.

**Figs 10-11:** *Profundiconus dondani* (24.9 mm) Samar Is., Philippines, in tangle net from 200 m.

Illinois Natural History Survey INHS 44878. Photo courtesy MANUEL JIMENEZ TENORIO.

**Plate 1**



Explanation on opposite page