

## Conchylia

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### Correction to Conchylia 50

In the article of HUGH MORRISON & BEN SCHNEIDER (2019): Description of Two New Species of the Genus *Bothriembryon* (Gastropoda, Pulmonata: Bothriembryontidae) from the Fitzgerald River National Park in the South Coast of Western Australia (Conchylia, 50: 129-142) erroneously on Plate 4 the Figures 4a and 4b displayed the Holotype of *Bothriembryon* (*B.*) *diversicolor* n. sp., already figured on Plate 3, Figures 3a and 3b, instead the Paratype 5, as mentioned in the captions. Opposite we show the correct Figures of that Paratype 5.





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## Description of a New *Chicomurex* Species (Gastropoda, Muricidae) from the Western Indian Ocean

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With 16 Figures on Plate 1

### Keywords

Gastropoda, Muricidae, Western Indian Ocean, Mauritius, *Chicomurex*, new species.

### Abstract

A new species of *Chicomurex* ARAKAWA, 1964 is described from deep water off Mauritius. It is compared with *Chicomurex laciniatus* (SOWERBY II, 1841), *C. turschi* (HOUART, 1981) and *C. rosadoi* HOUART, 1999 which also occur in the western Indian Ocean, and to *C. protoglobosus* HOUART, 1992 from New Caledonia.

### Zusammenfassung

Eine neue Art der Gattung *Chicomurex* ARAKAWA, 1964 wird aus dem Tiefwasser vor Mauritius neu beschrieben. Sie wird mit *Chicomurex laciniatus* (G. B. SOWERBY II, 1841), *C. turschi* (HOUART, 1981) und *C. rosadoi* HOUART, 1999 welche ebenfalls im westlichen Indischen Ozean vorkommen, sowie mit *C. protoglobosus* HOUART, 1992 von Neu Kaledonien verglichen.

### Abbreviations and Acronyms

IRSNB Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, Brussels, Belgium.

MNHN Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France.

Terminology used to describe the spiral cords and the apertural denticles (after MERLE 2001 and 2005) (Plate 1, Fig. A).

### Convex part of teleoconch whorl and siphonal canal

ab: Abapical (or abapertural); ABP: Abapertural primary cord on the siphonal canal; ad: Adapical (or adapertural); adis: Adapical infrasutural secondary cord (on subsutural ramp); ADP: Adapertural primary cord on the siphonal canal; IP: Infrasutural primary cord (primary cord on subsutural ramp); MP: Median primary cord on the siphonal canal; P: Primary cord; P1: Shoulder cord; P2-P6: Primary cords of the convex part of the teleoconch whorl; s: Secondary cord; s1-s6: Secondary cords of the convex part of the teleoconch whorl (example: s1 = secondary cord between P1 and P2; s2 = secondary cord between P2 and P3, etc.).

### Aperture

D1 to D5: abapical denticles.

### Introduction

*Chicomurex* is a genus consisting of Recent species almost exclusively named since the 1970s.

VOKES (1971) considered *Chicomurex* ARAKAWA, 1964 a synonym of *Siratus* JOUSSEAUME, 1880 and assigned the type species of *Chicomurex* to the latter. She then listed two species currently in *Chicomurex*: *C. laciniatus* (G. B. SOWERBY II, 1841) that she included in *Chicoreus* and *C. superbus* (G. B. SOWERBY III, 1889), the type species. However, later (VOKES 1996) she recognized the genus *Chicomurex* with 6 or 7 species.

A third new species was added thereafter by FAIR (1974) and a fourth species was described by REHDER & WILSON (1975).

The genus was regarded a synonym of *Phyllonotus* SWAINSON, 1833 by RADWIN & D'ATTILIO (1976) who then assigned only two species, ~~then~~ to *Phyllonotus*: *C. laciniatus* and *C. superbus*.

Three additional species were described by SHIKAMA (1977), LAN (1981) and HOUART (1981) bringing the total of species to seven.

HOUART (1992) separated *Chicomurex* on genus level and listed seven Recent species, including one new, and two fossil ones. *C. gloriosus* (SHIKAMA, 1977) was then considered a synonym of *C. venustus* (REHDER & WILSON, 1975).

BARCO et al. (2010) confirmed *Chicomurex* as a valid taxon in a highly supported muricine clade and MERLE et al. (2011) listed and illustrated 8 Recent and 3 fossil species in this genus.

Seven new species were subsequently added to this apparently poorly known genus by HOUART (1999, 2013) and by HOUART et al. (2014, 2015, 2017). These authors also reviewed the synonymy and the validity of some names, to reach a total of 14 valid Recent Indo-West Pacific species. The new taxon described below increases this number to 15.

While many areas in the Western Pacific have been fairly well investigated for their molluscan fauna below diveable depths, the Western Indian Ocean has numerous areas that are relatively unknown. Exceptions are the coasts of Mozambique and Kwa-Zulu Natal, where commercial dredging has produced a fair amount of malacofauna which has and still is a source of new species. The same is true for the southern coast of Madagascar, which has recently been explored by the MNHN. On the other hand, the Mascarene Ridge has been in the focus of attention only once, when in the 1990s, material dredged by Russian Research vessels from the Saya de Malha Bank revealed a wealth of spectacular hitherto unknown species. Other places, such as the Plateau of the Nazareth Bank, the deep waters of the Seychelles, La Réunion, and Mauritius are quite unknown. In the family Muricidae, the recent discoveries of large species such as *Haustellum lorenzi* HOUART, 2013 from the Nazareth Bank, and *Chicoreus (Triplex) janae* HOUART, 2013 from St. Brandon are good examples that the less well-explored areas still may yield malacological surprises. On a dredging excursion conducted in the north of Mauritius, an unexpected wealth of rare or unknown deep-water shells was collected. Among them, a new species of Terebridae, numerous turrids of uncertain taxonomic status, and a rather striking species of *Chicomurex*, which is described in the following.

#### Material and Methods

**Material:** The shells were collected by Dr. JEAN-PIERRE VAULBERT DE CHANTILLY and ALAN FRASER, during dredging tests in the north of Mauritius (2018).

**Methods:** The characters used to describe shell morphology address the general aspect of the shell, its shape, size, and colour, the shape of the spire including the number and features of the teleoconch whorls, details of the suture and of the subsutural ramp, details of axial and spiral sculpture, the aperture and the siphonal canal. The description is based on the holotype.

#### Systematics

Family Muricidae RAFINESQUE, 1815  
Subfamily Muricinae RAFINESQUE, 1815  
Genus *Chicomurex* ARAKAWA, 1964

Type species by original designation: *Murex superbus* G. B. SOWERBY III, 1889, Western Pacific.

#### *Chicomurex vaulberti* n. sp.

Plate 1, Figs A-H

#### Type Material

Holotype Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France, MNHN-IM-2000-35213, 1 paratype MNHN-IM-2000-35214.

#### Type Locality

Northern Mauritius, dredged in 100 m.

#### Distribution

To date known only from the type locality.

#### Description

Shell medium sized for the genus, 35.0 mm in length. Length/width ratio 1.7. Globose, biconical, heavy, spinose, squamous and weakly nodose. Subsutural ramp narrow, weakly sloping, lightly convex.

White with small brown blotches on axial varices of last whorl, more particularly on apertural varix, between P1 and P2, P4 and P5 and on s6, most obvious on ventral side of varix. Additional small blotch on subsutural area of last whorl.

Spire low, acute. Teleoconch of 6 broad, broadly convex, weakly shouldered, spinose and nodose whorls. Suture adpressed. Protoconch partially broken (Fig. H), consisting of rounded, smooth, glossy whorls. Width 800 µm. Terminal lip thin, weakly prosocline.

Axial sculpture of teleoconch whorls consisting of low, narrow ribs from first to third whorl and of rounded varices and intervarical ribs from fourth to last whorl. Apertural varix very broad and ventrally squamous. First whorl with 16, low, narrow ribs, second and third whorls with 17 similar ribs, fourth whorl with 3 varices and 4 ribs between each pair of varices, fifth whorl with 3 varices and 3 intervarical ribs, last teleoconch whorl starting with a varix and 3 ribs, followed by a second varix, a broader rib and a narrower one between antepenultimate varix and penultimate one, and a single, broad rib with obvious node between penultimate and apertural varix. Varices increasing in strength and height abaperturally. Spiral sculpture of moderately high, rounded, squamous, primary and secondary cords topped with squamous, narrow lirae. First whorl with visible P1 to P4, second whorl starting secondary cords, third to penultimate whorls with visible IP, P1, s1, P2, s2, P3, s3, P4. Last teleoconch whorl with adis, IP, P1, s1, P2, s2, P3, s3, P4, s4, P5, s5, P6, s6, followed by two threads and ADP, MP

and ABP on siphonal canal. Spiral cords increasing in strength abapically, ending as short, acute, open spines on apertural varix. ADP and MP spines strongly dorsally recurved, ABP abapically bent.

Aperture broad, roundly ovate. Columellar lip narrow, smooth with strong, narrow, elongate parietal tooth at adapical extremity; rim partially broken. Anal notch deep, narrow. Outer lip crenulate, with low, split D1-D6 denticles within. Siphonal canal moderately long, 38 % of total shell length, broad, strongly dorsally bent at tip, narrowly open, with acute, short ADP, MP and ABP spines.

Operculum unknown.

### **Etymology**

Named in honour of Dr. JEAN-PIERRE VAULBERT DE CHANTILLY of Mauritius.

### **Remarks**

Four species of *Chicomurex* live in the western Indian Ocean, namely *Chicomurex laciniatus* (G. B. SOWERBY II, 1841), *C. gloriosus* (SHIKAMA, 1977), *C. turschi* (both HOUART, 1981) and *C. rosadoi* HOUART, 1999. Of these four species, *C. laciniatus* and *C. gloriosus* have a conical, multispiral protoconch denoting planktotrophic larval development as opposed to the rounded protoconch whorls in *C. vaulberti* n. sp., denoting lecithotrophic development. Their shell characters are also very different of those of the new species.

*Chicomurex turschi* (Plate 1, Figs I-J), described from Papua New Guinea was also recorded from the Philippines, New Caledonia, Madagascar and South Africa by HOUART (1992), but differs in many ways, in having a narrower, less squamous and more colourful shell with narrower axial varices, lower intervarical ridges, a higher spire and a narrower siphonal canal.

*Chicomurex rosadoi* (Plate 1, Figs K-M) is also different, having a broad, large, rounded protoconch denoting intracapsular larval development, a broad, more angular, more colourful shell with a much higher spire and comparatively narrower, less squamous, axial varices on the last teleoconch whorl.

Another species with broad, paucispiral, rounded protoconch, *Chicomurex protoglobosus* HOUART, 1992 (Plate 1, Fig. N), living in the New Caledonia area also differs in having a broader protoconch, denoting intracapsular larval

development and *Ipso facto* a probable geographical distribution endemic to the region. *C. protoglobosus* also has a more angular shell with a higher spire, narrower and less squamous varices on the last teleoconch whorl and straight spines on the siphonal canal, not or much lesser dorsally bent.

All other *Chicomurex* species are highly different and do not need to be compared here.

The paratype of *Chicomurex vaulberti* n. sp. (Plate 1, Figs F-G) is a damaged, dead collected and bleached shell, but undoubtedly belonging to the same species.

### **Acknowledgements**

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Formatiert: Kapitälchen

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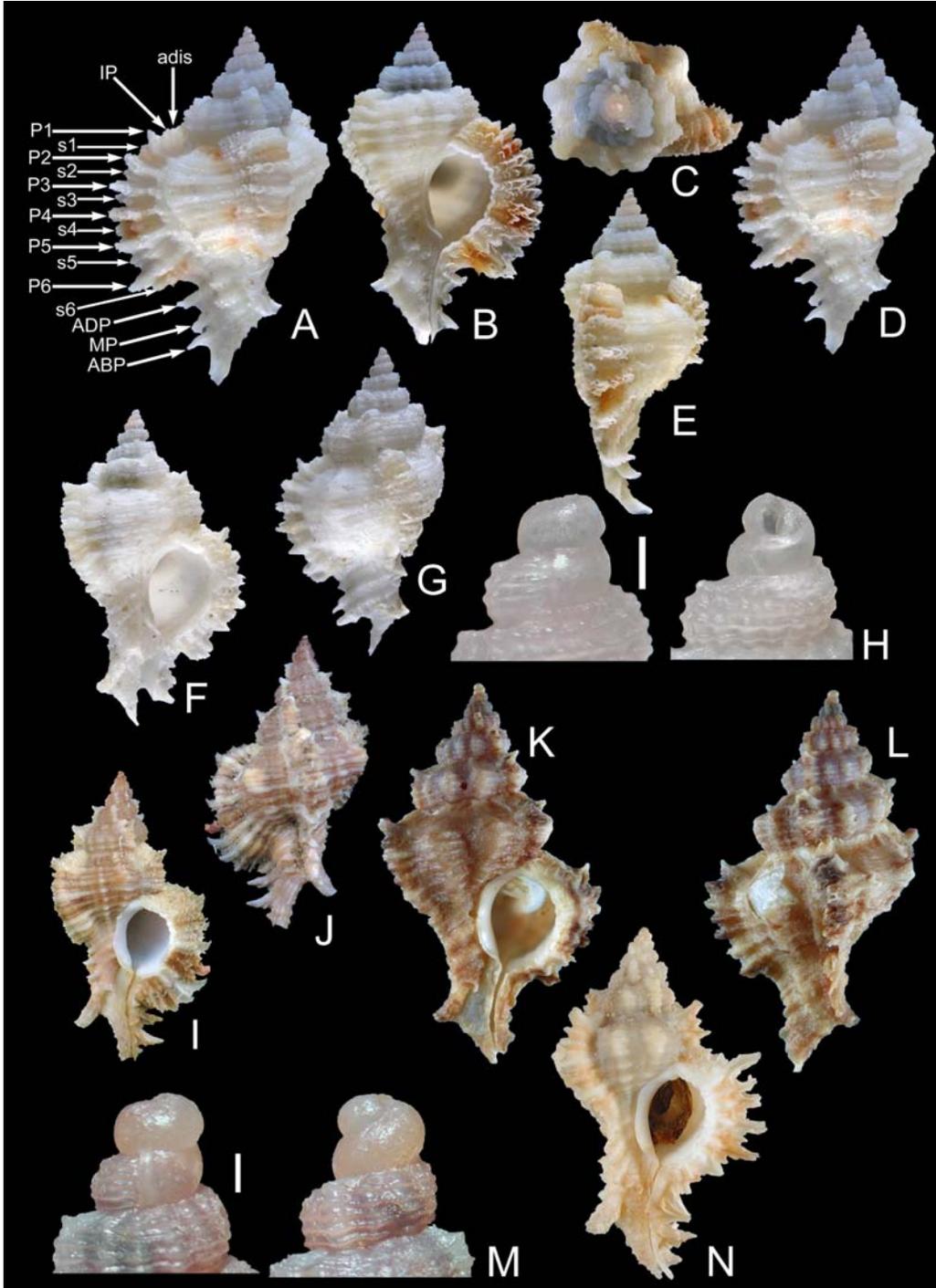
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**Plate 1** (on opposite page)

(scale bars: 500 µm)

- Figs A-E, H:** *Naquetia vaulberti* n. sp., N Mauritius, dredged 100 m, Holotype MNHN-IM-2000-35213, 35.0 mm.
- Figs F-G:** *Naquetia vaulberti* n. sp., N Mauritius, dredged 100 m, Paratype MNHN-IM-2000-35214, 30.3 mm.
- Figs I-J:** *Chicomurex turschi* (HOUART, 1981), Papua New Guinea, Hansa Bay, off Durangit, 45-60 m, Holotype IRSNB IG 26178/MT 374, 30 mm.
- Figs K-M:** *Chicomurex rosadoi* HOUART, 1999, South Mozambique, trapped, deep water, coll. R. HOUART, 46.5 mm.
- Fig. N:** *Chicomurex protoglobosus* HOUART, 1992, New Caledonia, Norfolk Ridge, 300-400 m, coll. R. HOUART, 39.4 mm.

Plate 1



Explanation on opposite page