

**The *Lambis truncata* complex in Indonesia
(Gastropoda, Strombidae)**

by

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In 1955 I published a popular talk on the genus *Lambis* in Indonesia (BUTOT, 1955). Notes from the existing literature collected in an extensive manuscript served at that time as a working list and a first step in the identification of the museum specimens of this genus. This work was started when I met with difficulties in the identification of *Harpago* forms and the names in the *Lambis bryonia* complex. As the available material was insufficient for a revision of the Indonesian species, it was thought worth while to capitulate to a request and attach a key and preliminary list of Indonesian species to the popular talk about the genus in the Natural History periodical of Indonesia. The MS had been considerably reduced and TRYON's monograph (TRYON, 1885) served as a basis. As no literature for collectors existed, it was hoped that the list and pictures would succeed in bringing more specimens and living material into my hands. Unfortunately I left the museum and Indonesia in 1956 so that the possibilities for further study came abruptly to an end.

One of the unsolved problems was the occurrence of *Lambis truncata* in Indonesia, and its relation to *sebae*, *sowerbyi* and *bryonia*. In the Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense were present specimens labelled "*Pterocera bryonia* Gmelin, Kangean Islands, coll. Ouwens 107/1" (Now MZB 1377). Furthermore an odd label "*Pterocera sebae* Val., Kangean Island, coll. Ouwens" was found in the handwriting of Miss VAN BENTHEM JUTTING, without a shell. A set of unidentified juvenile shells came in from the South Moluccas, coll. RIJKSCHROEFF; they were without doubt the same species as the shell labelled *Pterocera bryonia* Gmelin.

Shells with a flat spire as shown in *Lambis truncata truncata* (Humphrey) were at that time unknown to me. *Lambis sebae* (Val.) of which only an odd label had been found, was thought to belong to a species with a spire similar to the spire shown by *Lambis lambis* (L.) (BUTOT, 1955, Pl. 1 fig. 2). Consequently *Lambis sebae* was not duly recognized in the available specimens of *Lambis bryonia*, and *Lambis sebae* was included in the list only on the authority of Miss VAN BENTHEM JUTTING's odd label.

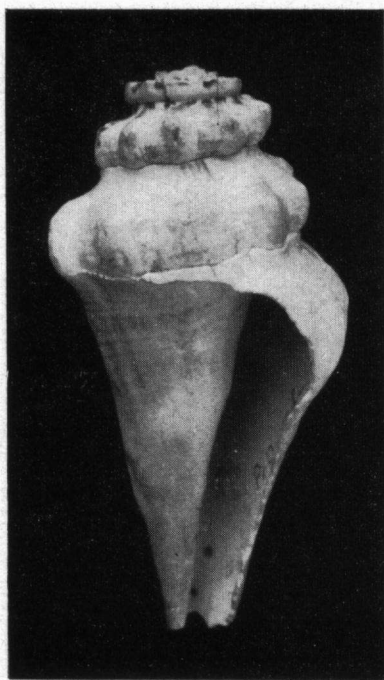


Fig. 1. *Lambis (Lambis) truncata truncata* (Humphrey) juv. from Portuguese East Africa, ex. coll. Mulder in RMNH. Length 117 mm. Photo: H. F. Roman (R.M.N.H.).

R. TUCKER ABBOTT, in his monograph of the genus *Lambis* (ABBOTT, 1961) settled the status of *Lambis sebae*. It is now assumed that Miss VAN BENTHEM JUTTING while working at the Bogor Museum correctly identified the Kangean shell as *Lambis sebae* (Kiener, 1843) and that the shell in fact had never been lost. The odd label must belong to OUWENS' Kangean shell named *Pterocera bryonia* and re-

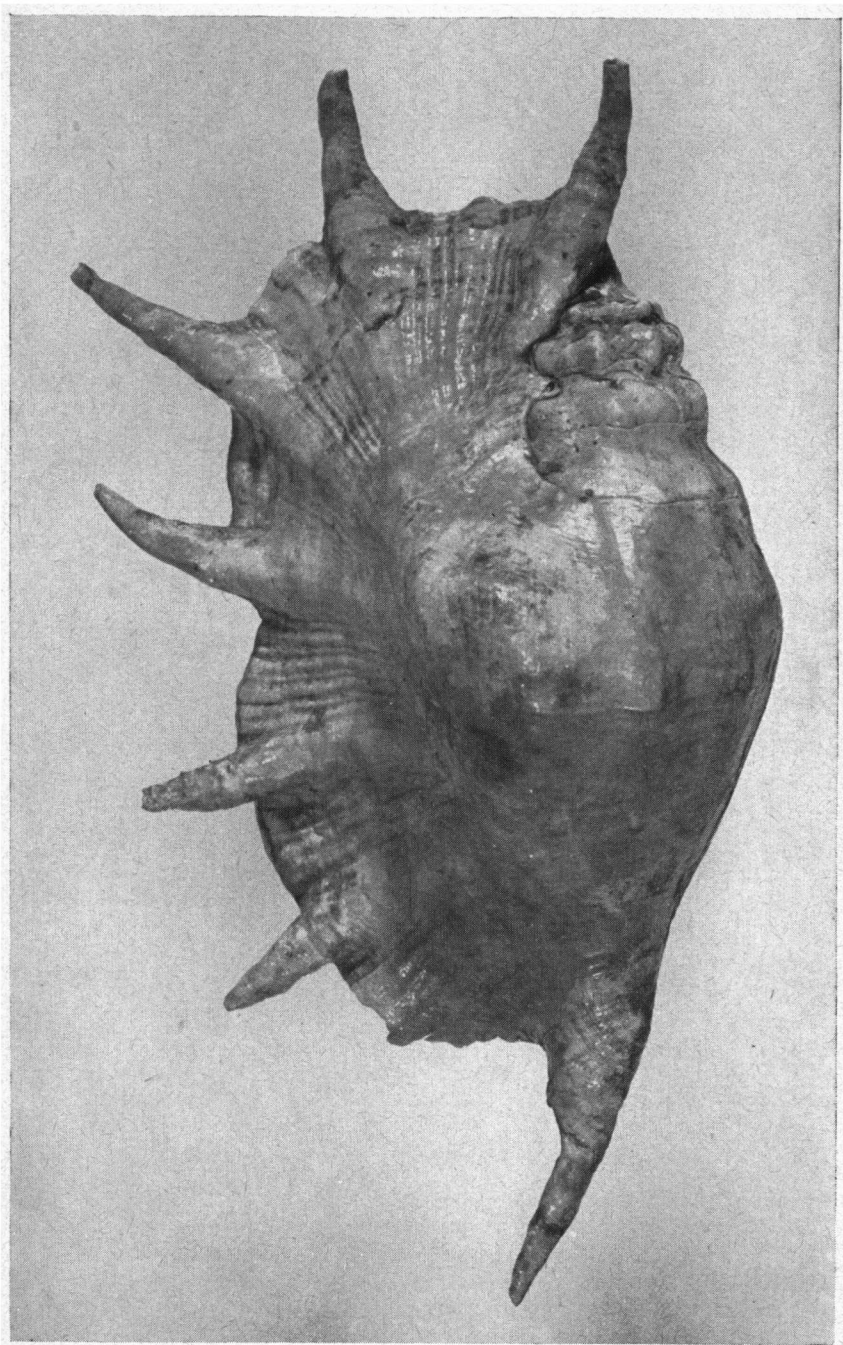


Fig. 2. *Lambis (Lambis) truncata truncata* (Humphrey) bought at Djakarta fish market, 1956, coll. L. Butot. Length 32 cm. Photo: Wermenbol (R.I.V.O.N.).

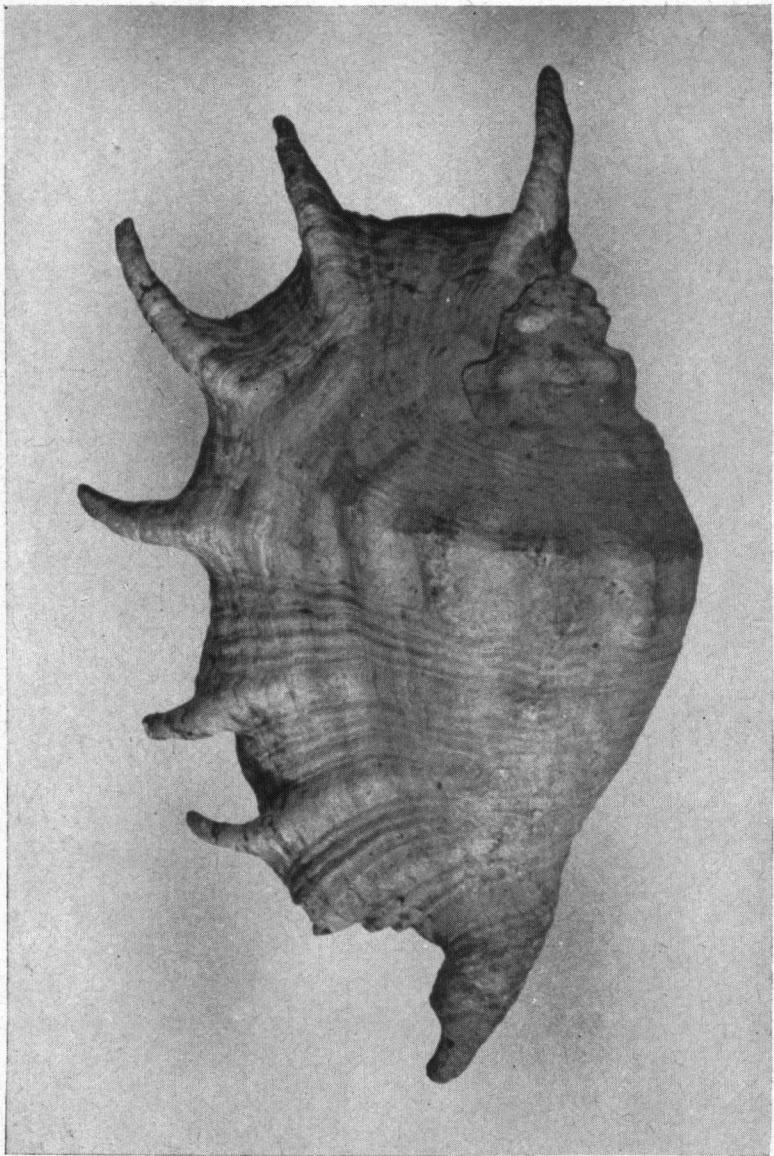


Fig. 3. *Lambis (Lambis) truncata sebae* (Kiener) from South Moluccas, coll. L. Butot. Length 27 mm, Photo: Wermenbol (R.I.V.O.N.).

corded by myself as *Lambis truncata*. TUCKER ABBOTT corrected this confusion. The features which characterize *Lambis truncata sebae* are most clearly observed in juvenile shells (Fig. 1). One is, however, soon inclined to call the acute *sebae* spire a flat one when compared with the spire of *Lambis lambis*. Anyway, *Lambis truncata* (Humphrey) was incorrectly recorded as an Indonesian shell by BUTOT, 1955, the two subspecies not being separated.

Shortly before I left Indonesia, two specimens of the genus *Lambis* came into my possession. One came in from the South Moluccas (Fig. 3) and the other was bought at Djakarta, Pasar Ikan (Fish Market) as an empty shell (Fig. 2). The locality data of both were insufficient. The Moluccan shell is doubtlessly *Lambis truncata sebae* (Kiener), measuring 27 cm in length and wide 17 cm (claws included). The shell bought at the fish market has the absolute flat topped spire, fewer, though heavier knobs on the spire and a large dorsal hump on the bodywhorl. It measures length 32, width 20 cm (claws included). This shell might be an indication for the probable occurrence of *Lambis truncata truncata* (Humphrey) in Indonesian waters.

Dr. C. O. VAN REGTEREN ALTENA (Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden-RMNH), Mrs. W. S. S. VAN BENTHEM JUTTING (Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam-ZMA) and Mr. G. H. RODING (Museum Enschede-ME) have given me permission to study the *Lambis* shells in their museums, which I gladly acknowledge on this page. From this study the following list of localities can be drawn.

Lambis truncata sebae (Kiener, 1843)

Red Sea: Gulf of Suez, Tor, Sinai, leg. F. HEYBROEK, 1948 (2 exx.), Wasta Island, leg. A. J. WENSINCK, 6-V-1930 (1 ex.), Red Sea, leg. L. W. RUYSSENAERS (2 exx.), all in RMNH; Red Sea, leg. v. d. SLEEN (1 ex.), id., coll. KEYZER (1 ex.), ME.

Indonesia: Waigeou, leg. H. A. BERNSTEIN (2 exx.), Ambon (bought by W. H. ZADELHOF (1 ex.), RMNH; Moluccas (3 juv. and 2 adults), ZMA; Flores, Maumerie, coll. J. E. KROON (1 ex.), Madura (2 exx.), RMNH; Java, coll. SCHEPMAN (1 ex.), Bali, leg. KLEIWEG DE ZWAAN, 1938 (1 juv.), ZMA; Java, Wijnkoopsbaai, leg. v. d. SLEEN (1 ex.), ME.

Pacific: Samoa Island, W. VON BÜLOW, 1917 (2 exx.), RMNH.

Lambis truncata truncata (Humphrey, 1786)

Africa: East coast, coll. J. MULDER (1 ex.), Portuguese East Africa, coll. J. MULDER (1 ex.), Bangamoya, Tanganyika Terr., East Africa, leg. H. v. BARNEVELD, Summer 1956 (1 ex.), RMNH; Diani Reef, Ukunda Kenya, East Africa, leg. S. HILLENAAR (1 ex.), ZMA.

Indonesia: Pulo Pandjang, Simalur, May 1913, leg. E. JACOBSON (1 ex.), RMNH; no loc. (probably Sumatra) leg. v. d. SLEEN (1 ex.), ME.

The localities for *Lambis truncata sebae* are situated within the geographical range as outlined by ABBOTT (1961, pl. 125). The occurrence of the subspecies on the south coast of Java at Wijnkoopsbay is the only locality known so far from the Indian Ocean shores and forms an extension of the Indo-Pacific range.

The localities for *Lambis truncata truncata* also fall in the normal distribution area. The Simalur shell extends the range of this subspecies to the West Sumatran shores. Simalur is the most northerly of the long chain of large islands which lie along the west coast of Sumatra. *Lambis truncata truncata* is therefore an Indonesian species, which might occur down to the south as far as the Straits of Sunda. At Pulo Panaitan, however, an island between Java and Sumatra which I visited in 1951 the species has never been collected.

REFERENCES

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 BUTOT, L. J. M., 1955. Duivelsklauwen, boksbeugels, schorpioenen of enterhaken (een voorlopige samenvatting). Penggemar Alam vol. 35, p. 71-83, 3 plates.
 TRYON, G. W., 1885. Manual of Conchology vol. 7, p. 123-126.

SAMENVATTING

De ondersoorten van *Lambis truncata* in Indonesië

Lambis truncata (Humphrey, 1786), werd ten onrechte uit Indonesië gemeld (BUTOT, 1955). Alle daar vermelde exemplaren zijn ten rechte *Lambis truncata sebae* (Kiener, 1843) (ABBOTT, 1961).

In 1956, kort voor mijn vertrek uit Indonesië, werd te Djakarta, Pasar Ikan (Vismarkt) een exemplaar van *Lambis truncata truncata* (Humphrey, 1786) aangetroffen en gekocht. Een onderzoek, ingesteld in de musea te Amsterdam, Leiden en Enschede bracht een exemplaar van de typische ondersoort aan het licht (Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie), afkomstig van Pulo Pandjang, Simalur, verza-

meld door E. JACOBSON in mei 1913. *Lambis truncata truncata* is dus een Indonesische soort. Een exemplaar uit de coll. VAN DER SLEEN in het Museum Enschede behoort ook tot deze soort. Daar volgens de directeur van het Museum Dr. VAN DER SLEEN nooit verzamelde buiten de Rode Zee en het Indonesische gebied, moet ook dit exemplaar uit Indonesië afkomstig zijn. Een ander exemplaar uit dit museum eveneens verzameld door VAN DER SLEEN, behoort tot *Lambis truncata sebae* (Kiener, 1843) en stamt uit de Wijnkoopsbaai aan de Zuidkust van West Java.