

BASTERIA

TIJDSCHRIFT VAN DE NEDERLANDSCHE
MALACOLOGISCHE VEREENIGING

Mollusca from the Karimata Islands (West Borneo)

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In March 1931 Messrs L. Coomans de Ruiter and J. P. Schuitemaker made a few days' collecting trip from Pontianak (West Borneo) to the Karimata Archipelago, a group of about 60 small islands, situated in Karimata Strait, close to the West coast of Borneo.

They had the good fortune to secure quite a number of marine shells and a smaller set of land and freshwater molluscs in the islands Pelapis tiang balai and Penebangan. The bulk of the collection is preserved in the Zoological Museum of Buitenzorg, Java; duplicates of the *Cyclophorus*, *Hemimpecta* and *Amphidromus* were presented to the Zoological Museum of Amsterdam.

Here follows a list of all the species, arranged according to their occurrence in Pelapis tiang balai Id. and Penebangan Id. respectively:

Pelapis tiang balai Island

Sea shells	<i>Strombus muricatus</i>	
<i>Diodora</i> spec.		Martin i
<i>Monodonta labio</i> (L.)	„	<i>succinctus</i> L.
<i>Trochus maximus</i> Koch	„	<i>turritus</i> L.
„ <i>maculatus</i> L.	„	<i>melanostomus</i>
<i>Angaria delphinus</i> (L.)		Swains.
<i>Astraea calcar</i> (L.)	<i>Pterocera lambis</i> (L.)	
<i>Nerita chameleon</i> L.	<i>Polynices taeniatus</i> (M k e.)	
„ <i>albicilla</i> L.	<i>Pustularia erosa</i> (L.)	
„ <i>spengleriana</i> Rec l.	<i>Talparia isabella</i> (L.)	

<i>Cypraea arabica</i> L.	<i>Gastrarium gibbia</i> (Lam.)
<i>Conus nussatella</i> L.	<i>Meretrix meretrix</i> (L.)
" <i>textilis</i> L.	<i>Mactra antiquata</i> Spengl.
<i>Pteria margaritifera</i> (L.)	<i>Donax faba</i> Chemn.
<i>Brachydontes bilocularis</i> (L.)	<i>Asaphis deflorata</i> (L.)
<i>Arca fusca</i> Brug.	Freshwater shells
" <i>nivea</i> Chemn.	<i>Neritina auricularia</i> Lam.
" <i>scapha</i> Chemn.	
" <i>granosa</i> L.	
<i>Cardita variegata</i> Brug.	Land shells
<i>Cardium flavum</i> L.	<i>Ellobium aurismidae</i> (L.)
<i>Tridacna crocea</i> Lam.	" <i>aurisjudeae</i> (L.)
<i>Hippopus hippopus</i> (L.)	<i>Pythia</i> spec.

Penebangan Island
Freshwater shells
Neritina pulligera (L.)

Land shells

Cyclophorus perdix borneensis (Metc.) local name sipoet babi.
Hemiplecta humphreysiana densa (Ads.) local name sipoet babi.
Amphidromus inversus (Müll.) local name sipoet toengtoeng.

As far as I could ascertain no mollusca have ever been recorded from the Karimata Archipelago before. The rather out-of-the-way position of these islands and little intercourse with spheres of European interest may account for this neglect.

The marine shells do not give rise to special discussion. All of them are common species of the shallow water throughout the whole Netherlands East Indies, frequenting coral reefs and sandy bottom. The *Neritina*'s inhabit rivers and estuaries, the two *Ellobium* prefer the muddy shores and banks in the mangrove zone. These four species are also common in various islands of the Malay Archipelago.

The land shells *Cyclophorus perdix borneensis*, *Hemiplecta*

humphreysiana densa and *Amphidromus inversus* are typical wood-dwellers and by this property they afford the most important evidence when inquiring after the affinities of the fauna of the Karimata Archipelago with that of neighbouring islands.

The land shells, and more particularly inhabitants of primaeval forest, must have reached Penebangan Id. by way of land connection, because a more or less prolonged sojourn in open or barren country and transport by water, especially seawater, is fatal and therefore must be left out of account. Hence the occurrence of landsnails in Penebangan Id. is a definite proof that the island at one time has been connected with one or more islands in the vicinity whence it received its snail fauna. How long ago such a connection should be estimated I do not venture to decide. No doubt this is a question of hundreds of centuries and reaches back to a previous geological period.

An analysis of the land shells of Penebangan Id. shows that two species (*Cyclophorus perdix borneensis* and *Hemiplecta humphreysiana densa*) are characteristic for the fauna of Borneo. The third, *Amphidromus inversus*, inhabits Borneo, Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula.

These facts, poor as they are, indicate that Penebangan Id. adopted its mollusc fauna from the adjacent main island Borneo.

Samenvatting

L. Coomans de Ruiter en J. P. Schuitemaker verzamelden in Maart 1931 mollusken op twee der Karimata Eilanden (West Borneo). Hiervan zijn de zee- en zoetwatersoorten, evenals de beide Ellobiums algemeen in den Indischen Archipel. Van de overige landslakken zijn twee soorten typisch voor Borneo, de derde komt bovendien voor op Sumatra en het Maleische Schiereiland. Op grond van deze verdeeling ligt het voor de hand om aan te nemen, dat de Karimata Eilanden van Borneo uit met landslakken zijn bevolkt en dat er dus eertijds een landverbinding tusschen het hoofdeiland en den Karimata Archipel heeft bestaan.