

Notes on *Oxyloma verrilli* (Bland)

by

L. A. W. C. VENMANS

Succinea verrilli Bland, 1867, Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. of New York, Vol. 8, p. 169, fig. 17.

Oxyloma verrilli (Bland), Pilsbry, 1948, Land Mollusca of North America, Vol. 2, pt. 2, p. 777. Philadelphia.

In August 1950 Mr. G. K. MACMILLAN collected a number of specimens of *Oxyloma verrilli* (Bland) at several localities of Cape Breton, a small island North of Nova Scotia, Canada. He kindly sent me some examples, which are listed in my collection under the following numbers:

- Nr. 5914. 3 specimens. Woods, Baddeck, Victoria Co., Cape Breton. 8-VIII-1950.
Nr. 5924. 4 specimens. Swampy area along Baddeck Bay Brook, Baddeck Bay, Cape Breton. 18-VIII-1950.
Nr. 5955. 1 specimen. Environs of Town Reservoir, 1 mile N.W. of Baddeck, Cape Breton. 19-21 - VIII - 1950.
Nr. 5964. 6 specimens. Swamps along Whycomomagh Brook, Whycomomagh, Inverness Co., Cape Breton. 25-28 - VIII - 1950.
Nr. 5972 1 specimen. Lagoon, N.E. side of Baddeck, Victoria Co., Cape Breton. 23-VIII-1950.

The type locality of the species is Anticosti Island near the coast of Quebec. Further, it is known from the maritime province of

Canada, Nova Scotia, and from New Foundland at the other side of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. As far as I know, the localities of Cape Breton are new.

Of the anatomy of the animal only the genitalia and the jaw are described and figured by PILSBRY, 1948, fig. 416 B, b, and 414, No. 4.

In the specimens of MACMILLAN the bodies were still present, but it was impossible to dissect them, because they had become too brittle. I could get only the radulae and jaws undamaged out of them.

Jaw (Fig. 1a.) — The horny elasmognath jaw consists of a rounded-oblong basal plate and the recurved, arcuate true jaw bearing a triangular median thickening, which surpasses the front margin and is coloured somewhat darker yellow-brown. The surface of the true jaw shows slight striations converging towards the centre of the anterior side.

The average measurements are: total height 0.69 mm, breadth of basal plate 0.44 mm, total breadth 0.73 mm, length of triangular median thickening 0.21 mm.

Radula (Figs. 1b and 1c.) — The radula of adult specimens has an average length of 1.32 mm, and a breadth of 0.52 mm. The number of transverse rows varies from 74 to 92. In the transverse rows the teeth are arranged in a curved line as is shown in Fig. 1b.

The central symmetrical tooth is small and has an average height of about 0.02 mm and a breadth of 0.01 mm. It bears a strong median cusp and a very small cusp on either side of it.

The first seven asymmetrical laterals are somewhat larger than the rhachidian tooth and also tricuspid having a large mesocone on the inner side of the basal plate, a very small entocone, which is situated below the level of the mesocone, and a somewhat larger ectocone. The first lateral has an average height of 0.03 mm and a breadth of 0.02 mm.

The 8th lateral tooth has two, sometimes three ectocones, of which the outermost one is the longest.

The irregularly dentated marginals are much more slender and smaller, the cusps grow smaller and more slender also, but the entocones grow proportionally longer, whereas the number of the ectocones increases to five.

The radular formula is:

(31—38) — (8—10) — 1' — (8—10) — (31—38).

BLAND, 1867, whose notes on the anatomy were supplied by E. S. MORSE, says, that the lingual formula is 31 — 1 — 31, and that the lateral teeth are bidentate. As to the formula I am afraid there must be a mistake, because all the specimens I examined had at least 8 laterals and 31 marginals.

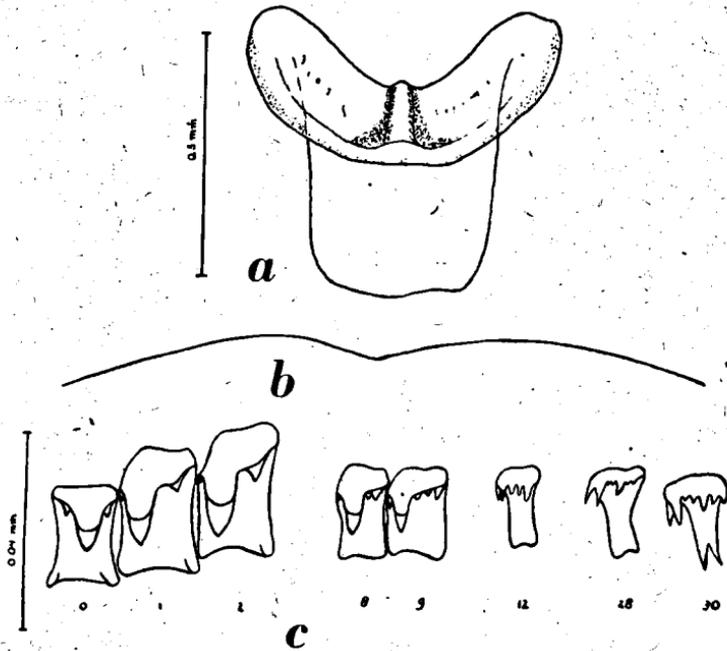


Fig.1. *Oxyloma verrilli* (Bland), Canada, coll. Venmans no. 5964; a: jaw; b: course of transverse rows of the radula, $\times 160$; c: teeth of the radula.

As to the supposed bidentation of the lateral teeth it is intelligible that the mistake has been made. It was not before examining the fourth radula that I could clearly observe the little entocone concealed aside behind the mesocone.