Jouannetia Des Moulins, 1828 (Bivalvia: Pholadidae) from Costa Rica

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Jouannetia pectinata and Jouannetia duchassaingi have been collected in Costa Rica, the latter in large numbers. Some specimens of J. duchassaingi had a hole drilled by a predator.

Key words: Bivalvia, Pholadidae, Jouannetia, Costa Rica. Pacific.

During a stay in Costa Rica from October-December 1982, a visit was paid to 20 localities on the Pacific coast. Only on Playa Naranjo in the National Park Santa Rosa, two species of Jouannetia were recorded. A beach-worn right valve was found of Jouannetia (Pholadopsis) pectinata (Conrad, 1849). This species has been reported before from Costa Rica by Turner (1955: 138). In addition 39 right and 12 left valves of Jouannetia (Jouannetia) duchassaingi Fisher, 1862, were collected (fig. 1). Most specimens, bar four, were beach-worn. This species was only known from its holotypevalve, collected in Panama, and three valves from Manta, Ecuador (Olsson, 1961: 450). Nothing is known about the biology of this species, but as far as is known, all Jouannetia are rock and coral-borers (Turner, 1955: 134). However, in five valves we found holes drilled by predatory gastropods. Since predators must have been able to reach the living bivalve, this might be indicative for a boring habit of Jouannetia duchassaingi in a softer substratum like clay or wood. In that case erosion might accidentally expose the valves, or the shell may grow beyond its substratum.

All material is in the Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam.

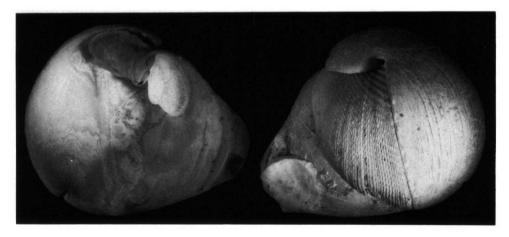


Fig. 1. Jouannetia duchassaingi, right valve, both inside and outside, 45.1 × 37.0 mm. Photos E. Gittenberger (Leiden).

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