

**Alvania abstersa nom. nov., a new name for *A. obsoleta* Van der Linden, 1993, non *A. obsoleta* (S.V. Wood, 1848) (Gastropoda Prosobranchia: Rissoidae)**

J. VAN DER LINDEN

Frankenslag 176, 2582 HZ The Hague, The Netherlands

& J.J. VAN AARTSEN

Adm. Helfrichlaan 33, 6952 GB Dieren, The Netherlands

*Alvania obsoleta* Van der Linden, 1993, is preoccupied by *Alvania obsoleta* (S.V. Wood, 1848); *Alvania abstersa* is proposed as a nomen novum.

Key words: Gastropoda, Prosobranchia, Rissoidae, *Alvania*, taxonomy, Azores.

In 1993 Van der Linden described a new species of *Alvania* from the Azores under the name *Alvania obsoleta*. Unfortunately this name is preoccupied by *Alvania obsoleta* (S.V. Wood, 1848), a well-known fossil species from the Pliocene sands in the Antwerp area, Belgium. Although described by Wood (1848: 105, pl. 11 figs. 11a-b) as *Rissoa obsoleta* and consistently referred to by this name by more recent authors, there can be no doubt that this species belongs to the genus *Alvania* Risso, 1826. This can be concluded not only by examination of the shells themselves, but also of the figures of the species in the literature, e.g. Harmer (1925: 859, pl. 65 fig. 6), Van Regteren Altena et al. (1954: 63, pl. 4 fig. 40) and especially Glibert (1957: 24, pl. 1 fig. 23).

Therefore the species described by Van der Linden is in need of a new name for which we propose *Alvania abstersa*, which means the 'abraded' *Alvania*, the abrasion resulting in an obsolete sculpture.

REFERENCES

- ALTENA, C.O. VAN REGTEREN, A. BLOKLANDER & L.P. POUDEROYEN, 1954. De fossiele schelpen van de Nederlandse stranden en zeegaten. Deel 1. — *Basteria* 18: 54-64.
- GLIBERT, M., 1957. Gastropodes du Diestien, du Scaldisien et du Merxemien de la Belgique. Première note. — *Bull. Inst. Roy. Sci. Nat. Belg.* 33 (36): 1-27.
- HARMER, F.W., 1925. The Pliocene Mollusca of Great Britain, being supplementary to S.V. Wood's Monograph of the Crag Mollusca 2: I-XIII, 485-900. London.
- LINDEN, J. VAN DER, 1993. *Alvania obsoleta* spec. nov. from the Azores (Gastropoda, Prosobranchia: Rissoidae). — *Basteria* 57: 79-82.
- WOOD, S.V., 1848. A monograph of the Crag Mollusca. Part 1 Univalves: I-XII, 1-208. London.