Notes on caenozoic and recent mollusca from the Dutch East Indies 6-7¹) (Stenoglossa)

by

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6. On the supposed occurrence of the genus Euthriofusus Cossmann in pliocene deposits of the Indo-Westpacific area

The first species of Euthriofusus from pliocene deposits of the Indo-Westpacific area was described by Cossmann (1903, p. 126, pl. 4 fig.

1) Number 4-5 see: Basteria, vol. 5, pp. 40-43, figs. 1, 2, 1940.

20) as E. inopinatus, type locality: pliocene of Karikal, India. Cossmann classed it as a Euthriofusus with some hesitation, because it did not show all the features characteristic of that genus.

Recently I examined a large series of Clavilithes verbeeki (K. Martin, 1895) from lower pleistocene beds of Java, and it appeared that the young shells of that species match exactly the description and figure of E. inopinatus Cossmann. Consequently Cossmann's name falls as a synonym²).

As the most characteristic feature of the genus Clavilithes is the peculiar shape of the body whorl, which has not yet developed in young specimens, it is evident why Cossmann had troubles in classifying his shell. Such difficulties are well known to every one who worked up materials deriving from boring samples (as Cossmann's material did), which generally contain a large percentage of young specimens.

J. Fischer (1927, pp. 9, 82, pl. 2 (CCXIII) figs. 56, 57) assigned a second species from the pliocene of the same area to this genus, viz. E. wanneri Fischer, type locality: Fufa layers of the island of Ceram, Moluccas. The same species has been recorded from the upper miocene of Timor by miss Koperberg (1931, p. 93).

An accurate examination of some specimens from the pliocene and lower pleistocene of East Java which without any doubt belong to Fischer's species, convinced me that the allocation to the genus Euthriofusus is wrong. Fischer compares his species with E. virgincus (Grateloup, 1840), but he would have done better by comparing it with the genotype designed by Cossmann: E. burdigalensis (Basterot, 1825). This species may be supposed to show the generic characters in optima forma. It has a short spire, no siphonal fasciole, a long and narrow siphonal canal, and smooth embryonic whorls, whereas Fischer's species has a long spire, a distinct siphonal fasciole, a broad and rather short siphonal canal, and keeled embryonic whorls. The habitus of E. virgineus (Grateloup) is slenderer than that of the type species and therefore E. wanneri Fischer agrees better with the latter species than with E. burdigalensis (Basterot). Still especially the characters of the siphonal canal prevent one to judge them congeneric.

I have been puzzled to which genus Fischer's species really may belong; on account of its habitus and protoconch it certainly belongs to the Buccinidae. After comparison with several Buccinidae I have placed it in the genus Pisania Bivona-Bernardi, 1832.

As the two species dealt with above are the only ones ever recorded

²) After this note had been written I found that Vredenburg (Rec. Geol. Survey India, vol. 55, p. 56, 1923) already placed Cossmann's species in its proper genus. as Euthriofusus from pliocene deposits of the Indo-Westpacific area, there is no evidence of the occurence of Euthriofusus in these deposits.

References

Cossmann, 1903. Faune pliocénique de Karikal (Inde française). Journ. de Conch., vol. 51, pp. 105-173, pls. 3-6.

Fischer, J., 1927. Beitrag zur Kenntnis der Pliozänfauna der Molukkeninseln Seran und Obi. Palaeont. Timor,, part. 15, n. 25, 179 pp., 6 pls.

Koperberg, E. J., 1931. Jungtertiäre und quartäre Mollusken von Timor. Jaarb. Mijnw. Ned. O.-Indië; Verh. 1, 165 pp., 3 pls.

7. Some new synonyms

Fossils from the lower pleistocene of E. Java matching the description and figures of Melongena (Pugilina) proteiformis Cossmann, 1903 (Journ. de Conch., vol. 51, p. 130, pl. 4 fig. 26, pl. 5 fig. 10) agree on the other hand with the recent Cymia carinifera (Lamarck, 1822), to which Cossmann's name consequently falls as a synonym.

The shells from the pliocene of Mount Gombel near Tjandi, Residence of Samarang, Java, referred to by K. Martin (1912, Samml. Geol. Reichsmus., (1) vol. 9, p. 166) as Purpura (Cuma) spec. nov. appeared to belong to Cymia costata (Blainville, 1832), a well known recent species.

In the same publication Martin (l.c., p. 165) mentions Siphonalia (s. str.) spec. nov. from the same locality. Two specimens thus labelled in the collection of the Rijksmuseum van Geologie en Mineralogie at Leiden proved to belong to Siphonalia (Pseudoneptunea) inflata Oostingh, 1941 (Ing. Ned.-Indië, vol. 8, p. IV 63, figs. 3a, 3b). The type locality of this species, Tindjomojo near Tjandi, may belong to the same bed as from which Martin's shells derive.

Nassa (Zaphon) tambacana K. Martin, 1884 (Samml. Geol. Reichsmus., (1) vol. 3, p. 124, pl. 7 fig. 127) from Tambakwatoe, E. Java, has been based on a young specimen of a species of which recent specimens have been described later as Nassa (Alectryon) elegantula by Schepman, 1911 (Prosobr. Siboga Exp., p. 315, pl. 19 f. 11). Tomlin (1938, Journ. of Conch., vol. 21, p. 83) has pointed out that the name acuminata Marrat, 1880, which also happens to precede Martin's name, has to be used for this species.