On a new Charopa from Celebes (Charopa (Discocharopa) microdiscus nov. spec.)

by

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Among the minute species of land snails from South Celebes which Mrs. G. A. TAMMES-BOLT collected in 1948 ¹) I came upon a small Endodontid shell apparently not rare in the region, which is new for Celebes and new for science.

Similar shells were discovered almost at the same time among ground litter from Java, so that now the species is known to occur in two of the Greater Sunda Islands.

Charopa (Discocharopa) microdiscus nov. spec. (Fig. 1)

Shell very small, discoidal, the spire in immature shells not, in adult ones hardly, emerging. Cream-colour, transparent. From the very beginning radially ribbed with delicate, closely placed riblets.

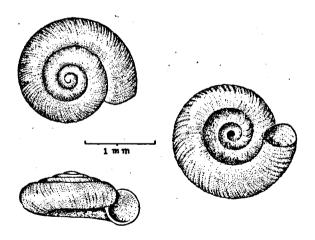


Fig. 1. Charopa (Discocharopa) microdiscus nov. spec., type. Limestone hills of Pangkadjene, near Makassar, South Celebes, May 9, 1948

¹⁾ From the same source I described and figured a new Gyliotrachela (G. concreta) in 1949 (Basteria, vol. 13, p. 64-65, fig. 1).

Whorls 3-3½, convex, regularly increasing in size. Last whorl not descending to the aperture. Periphery round. Suture deep.

Apex in the horizontal plane, or only slightly projecting. Base

rounded. Umbilicus very wide, showing all previous whorls.

Aperture oblique, broadly lunar to almost round. Without teeth. Peristome not continuous, sharp, not reflected.

Dimensions: height 0.5—0.7, breadth 1.0—1.6, height of aperture 0.4—0.5 mm.

Dimensions of the type and a few paratypes:

	Type	Paratypes fr. Celebes			Paratypes fr. Java	
height	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
breadth					1.1	
height of aperture					0.4	0.4

Distribution: Celebes, Java.

Habitat: Celebes: Pangkadjene near Makassar, in soil debris of limestone hills, 9 May 1948 (type locality) 1 + about 60 specimens; Pangkadjene near Makassar, near swimming pool, sea level, 14 Oct. 1948, 18 specimens; limestone hills along main road from Makalé to Kalossi, 700—800 m alt., Sept. 1948, 3 specimens; from moss under limestone hill along road from Palopo to Rante Pao, 700—800 m alt., 13 Oct. 1948, 1 specimen. Java: Kuripan, West Java, 21 Febr. 1932, 2 specimens. All shells were collected in empty condition.

The new species differs from Charopa (Discocharopa) exquisita Iredale (Proc. Malac. Soc. London, vol. 10, 1913, p. 379, pl. 18, fig. 8) from Sunday Island, Kermadec Group, in having the spire slightly raised instead of sunken, and in having the initial whorls ribbed from the very beginning, instead of smooth. Also IREDALE's species is a trifle smaller: diam. max. 1.25, min. 1 mm; alt. 0.5 mm. (the diagnosis says: "alt. 5 mm", but that must be a lapsus).