

**Nassarius macharensis nova species, a gastropod
from the Upper Pliocene of the Netherlands**

by

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Nassarius macharensis nov. spec. (fig. 1a—f).

Description. — Height 11 to 20 mm, major diameter 7 to 13 mm, this being 64—70% of the height. Shell solid, whorls 6 or 7, with a distinct suture. Protoconch obtuse, consisting of $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 whorls with a faint indication of the sculpture of the younger whorls. Sculpture composed of 14 to 16 spiral grooves crossed by a large number (25 to 38 on the body whorl) of rather faint axial folds. These folds sometimes fade away in places, especially on the varices, and become less pronounced on the base of the shell. Outer lip denticulate on the inner side, with a varying number of elongate, not very projecting denticles, which do not correspond with the external sculpture. Inner lip reflected on the columella, and with one thread-like tooth (sometimes composed of two or three smaller ones) close to the upper angle of the aperture.

Type material. — Holotype (fig. 1a—b): height 14 mm, major diameter 9 mm; from Scaldisian beds at a depth of 62—64 mm in boring X at Macharen, province of Noord-Brabant, Netherlands; in the collection of the Geologische Stichting, afd. Geologische Dienst, Haarlem. Paratypes: 12 specimens, 3 of which are from the same locality and depth as the holotype, and 9 from an unknown depth in boring XV near boring X; in the collection of the author.

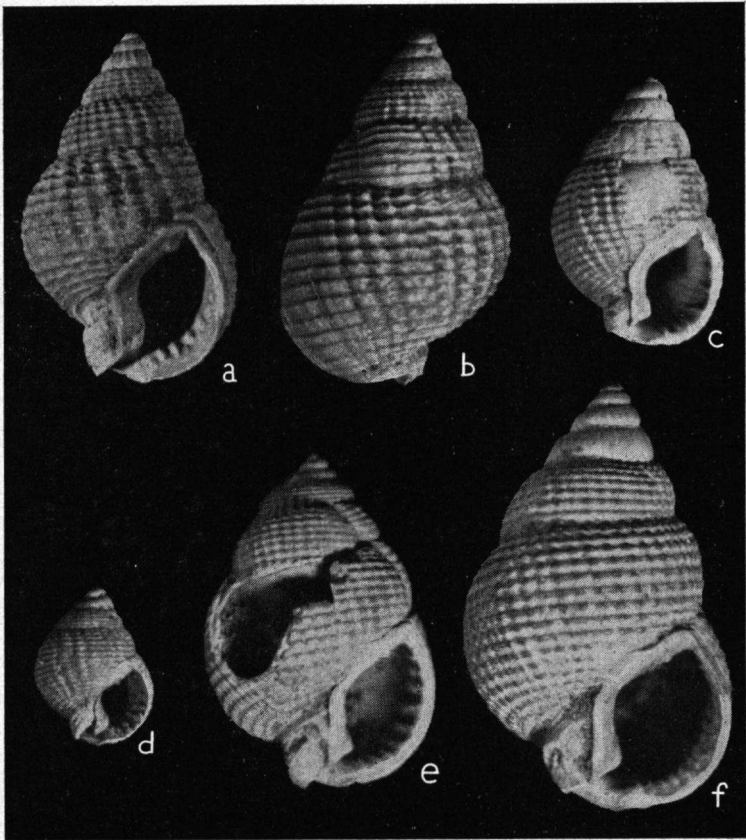


Fig. 1. *Nassarius macharensis* nov. spec.; a, b: holotype (length 14 mm); c: paratype 1 (length 11 mm), having the shell partly decorticated; d: paratype 2 (length 6.3 mm), a juvenile specimen with the siphonal canal damaged; e: paratype 3 (length 16 mm), a specimen with a more blunt spire; f: paratype 4 (length 20 mm), with the spire partly decorticated.

Discussion. — The new species seems to be closely related to *Nassarius serratus* (Brocchi, 1814) from the Italian Pliocene, which, however, is more slender and has grooves on the inner side of the outer lip corresponding with the external sculpture.

Dr. C. O. VAN REGTEREN ALTENA suggested that the new species was identical with *Nassarius craticulatus* (Foresti, 1868) as described and figured by BELLARDI (1882, *I Molluschi dei Terreni Terziari del Piemonte e della Liguria*, vol. 3, p. 69, pl. 4 fig. 23). This, however, is not the case, because in *N. craticulatus* the whorls are depressed anteriorly. This character is mentioned by FORESTI (1868, *Mem. Acc. Scienze dell'Istituto di Bologna* (2), vol. 2, p. 39—40, pl. 1 fig. 15—16) as well as by BELLARDI (l.c.). The figures of BELLARDI are incorrect because the depression is not visible, but it is shown in the figures of FORESTI. Moreover, *N. craticulatus* has grooves but no teeth on the inner side of the outer lip. In this respect the species of FORESTI resembles *N. serratus*.

At a certain stage of corrosion the shell of the new species can easily be split into two layers, an outer layer with the sculpture and an inner layer which shows no trace of the sculpture (see fig. 1c and 1f).

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