

Diacria quadridentata forma *danae* from the Atlantic

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A sediment sample, collected near Frederikstad, St. Croix in the Caribbean (17°N 65°W, depth 500 fathoms), presented to the Zoological Museum at Amsterdam by Dr. J. Hofker, proved to consist of five pteropod species. These are *Cavolinia inflexa* (Lesueur, 1813) forma *inflexa* (Lesueur, 1813) (32 specimens), *Cavolinia longirostris* (Blainville, 1821) forma *longirostris* (Blainville, 1821) (287), *Cavolinia uncinata* (Rang, 1829) forma *uncinata* (Rang, 1829) (11), *Diacria trispinosa* (Blainville, 1821) forma *trispinosa* (Blainville, 1821) (30), *Diacria trispinosa* (Blainville, 1821) forma *major* (Boas, 1886) (2), and *Diacria quadridentata* (Blainville, 1821) forma *danae* Van der Spoel, 1968 (29) (fig. 1), the last of which is new for the Atlantic Ocean. *Diacria quadridentata* forma *danae* was originally described from the Indian Ocean at 2° 57'S 99° 36'E.

For a description of the forma one is referred to Van der Spoel (1968). As the material from the Caribbean provides valuable meristic data to distinguish the forma *danae* from the other formae of *Diacria quadridentata* a graph is given here based on Van der Spoel (1968, fig. 4) and data from the Caribbean material (fig. 2). The sample proves that the forma *danae* is not restricted to the Indian Ocean. Like the other formae of *D. quadridentata* and also those of *D. trispinosa* it is not geographically separated from the other formae of *D. quadridentata*, and also not restricted to one ocean only.

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LITERATURE

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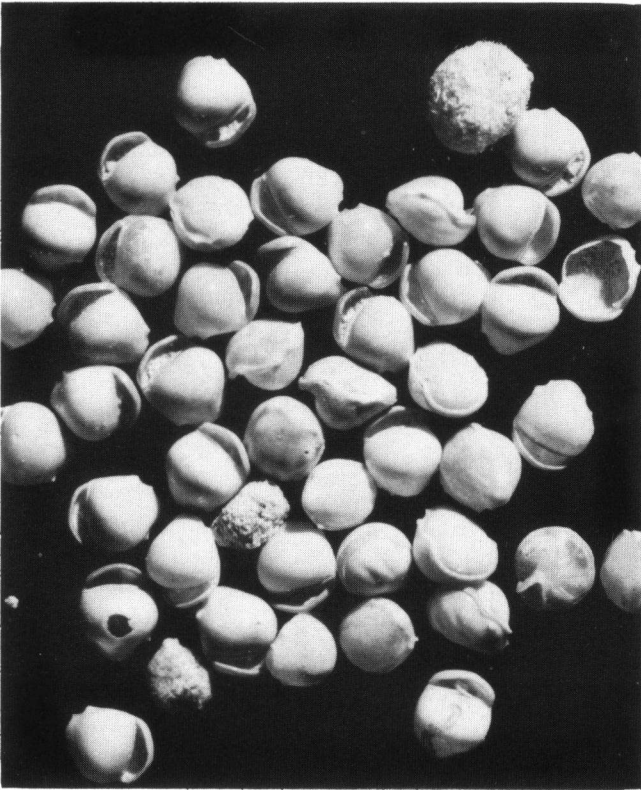


Fig. 1 Photograph of *Diacria quadridentata* fonna *danae* from Frederikstad (x 7.1)

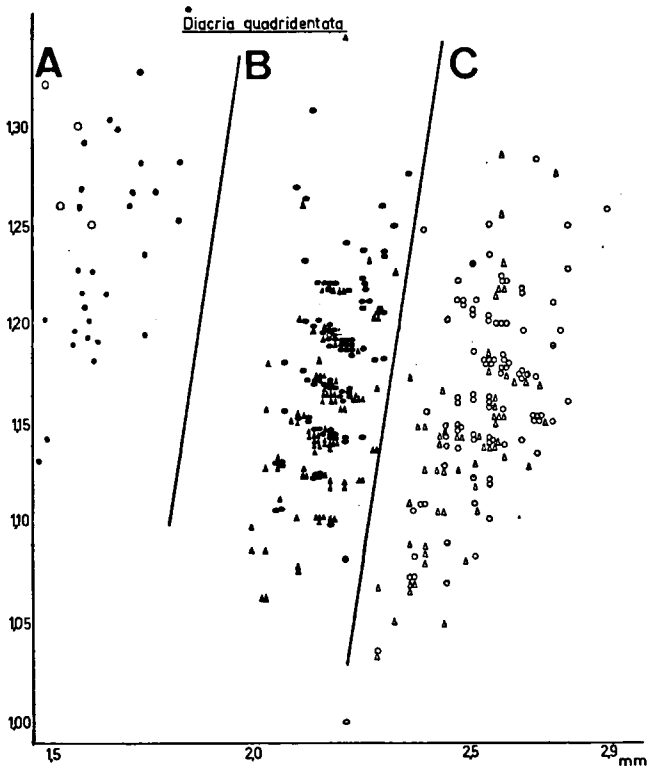


Fig. 2. Graph of the length/width ratio on the vertical, and the shell length on the horizontal axis in *Diacria quadridentata*. A: *forma danae*; B: *forma quadridentata*; C: *forma orbignyi*.