

## On the identity of *Poropteron graagae* Coen, 1947

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In a generally overlooked paper, never quoted in the Zoological Record, Coen (1947: 91) described a new muricid species from South Africa as *Poropteron graagae*, in honour of Miss M.J. de Graag, who collected the holotype on the beach of Margate, Natal, in July 1933. This type specimen is now in the mollusc collection of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJ 20.491, ex Coen 11.412).

A study of the literature revealed that Coen's taxon is conspecific with *Murex mitraeformis* Sowerby, 1841 (not Brocchi, 1814), which has been renamed recently as *Pteropurpura (Poropteron) incurvispina* Kilburn, 1970. In creating this new name Kilburn (1970: 44) pointed out the differences between *P. incurvispina* and the related *P. uncinarius* (Lamarck, 1822). These and additional differences were also mentioned by Radwin & D'Attilio (1976: 127).

A photograph of the holotype of *Murex uncinarius* was recently published by Cernohorsky (1971: fig. 11). In spite of its lack in sharpness, it shows a shell with a sloping shoulder as in *M. uncinarius*, although the arrangement of the major spines reminds one somewhat of *M. incurvispina*.

Since Radwin & D'Attilio (1976: 126) again raised *Poropteron* to generic level, the following synonyms are now known of its two South African representatives.

### *Poropteron uncinarius* (Lamarck, 1822)

*Murex uncinarius* Lamarck, 1822, Hist. nat. Anim. s. Vert. 7: 166.

*Murex capensis* Sowerby, 1841, Conch. Ill., *Murex*, pl. 190 fig. 76.

*Poropteron graagae* Coen, 1947

*Murex mitraeformis* Sowerby, 1841, Conch. Ill., *Murex*, pl. 190 fig. 75 (not Brocchi, 1814).

*Murex mitriformis* Sowerby, 1841, Conch. Ill., *Murex*, Catalogue, 4 (not Wood, 1828).

*Poropteron graagae* Coen, 1947, Acta pontif. Acad. Sci. 11 (7): 91.

*Pteropurpura (Poropteron) incurvispina* Kilburn, 1970, Ann. Cape Prov. Mus. (Nat. Hist.) 8: 44, fig. 6.

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