Notes on Recent and fossil Neritidae, 23. A record of Smaragdia abakionigraphis Drivas & Jay, 1989, from Indonesia¹

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Smaragdia abakionigraphis Drivas & Jay, 1989, originally described from Réunion Is., western Indian Ocean, is here reported from dredged material from Teluk Djakarta, Java, Indonesia.

Key words: Gastropoda, Prosobranchia, Neritidae, Smaragdia, distribution, Indonesia

Until recently, two species of the genus Smaragdia Issel, 1869 (Neritidae), were known to occur in the waters near the island of Réunion in the western Indian Ocean, viz., S. rangiana (Récluz, 1841) (as S. viridis auct., see Mienis, 1991) and S. souverbiana (Montrouzier, 1863) (Viader, 1937: 100). Both species are inhabitants of eelgrass meadows in shallow water.

Several years ago a third species was described from Réunion as S. abakionigraphis Drivas & Jay, 1989. It was found in relatively less shallow water at depths of between 24 and 54 m. A sample of three or four specimens I had studied some 25 years ago in the collection of L.J.M. Butot was immediately recognized as conspecific with this new species. This sample had been dredged by J.D.F. Hardenberg (dredge no. 7A 1/2b) in Teluk Jakarta (Baai van Batavia), Java, Indonesia; no date was given. One shell was separated from the lot and transferred to my private collection of Neritidae (HM 21045). In the mean time the collection of Butot was donated to the Institute for Taxonomic Zoology/Zoological Museum, Amsterdam; however, so far the sample under discussion could not be located in that collection.

The single remaining shell measures: heigth 3.0 mm, width 3.0 mm. Its characteristic colour pattern, consisting of rectangular brownish blotches, agrees completely with the original description.

The discovery of S. abakionigraphis in Indonesia, some 6000 km east of Réunion, might be an indication that it has a lengthy pelagic stage in its larval development, like all other species of Smaragdia.

In the near future the shell discussed here will also be transferred (together with the major part of my Neritidae collection) to the Institute of Taxonomic Zoology in Amsterdam. I should like to thank Mr. L.J.M. Butot (Bilthoven) for having allowed me to study the Neritidae in his collection.

¹ For Notes on Recent and fossil Neritidae, 22, see Pallidula 22 (1), 1992.

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