

Notes on the systematics, morphology and biostratigraphy of fossil holoplanktonic Mollusca, 5. *Cuvierina jagti* Janssen, 1995: a junior synonym of *Dentalium (Gadilina) ludbrooki* Caprotti, 1962¹

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The pteropod species *Cuvierina jagti* Janssen, 1995 was first described from Late Miocene deposits of northern Italy. It has subsequently turned out that the same species had been previously described as a scaphopod, under the name of *Dentalium (Gadilina) ludbrooki* Caprotti, 1962. This makes *Cuvierina jagti* a junior subjective synonym of *Cuvierina ludbrooki* (Caprotti, 1962). The whereabouts of the type specimen of this latter taxon are unknown.

Keywords: Mollusca, Gastropoda, Euthecosomata, Pteropoda, Cavoliniidae, *Cuvierina*, systematics.

When comparing Late Miocene specimens of *Cuvierina* from Tetti Borelli (northern Italy) with *C. tubulata* Collins, 1934, a species first described from Santa Rosa, Mexico, Janssen (1995: 41) came to the conclusion that these taxa were specifically distinct and proposed the new taxon *Cuvierina jagti* Janssen, 1995, for the Italian material.

Mr Ben G. Roest (Vianen, The Netherlands) subsequently brought to my attention Caprotti's (1962) paper, in which Early Pliocene Scaphopoda from the well-known locality Castell'Arquato near Piacenza in northern Italy were described. In that paper, *Cuvierina jagti* already appeared to have been described as *Dentalium (Gadilina) ludbrooki*. Hence *C. jagti* Janssen, 1995, is a junior subjective synonym of *Cuvierina ludbrooki* (Caprotti, 1962).

Caprotti's description and illustration (1962: 96, pl. 16 figs. 4-6) suffice to recognise these taxa as conspecific, though his figure 5, illustrating the transverse section of the shell close to the septum, is most probably incorrect. Although Caprotti indicated that the holotype was housed in the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale (Milano), I was informed by Dr G. Teruzzi that the specimen was never obtained by that institute. I have not been able to contact Dr Caprotti, which means that the whereabouts of the type specimen remain unknown.

The known stratigraphical range of *Cuvierina ludbrooki* is Tortonian (nannoplankton zone NN10; see Janssen, in prep.) to Zanclean (Late Miocene — Early Pliocene). Hence, Japanese occurrences, as illustrated in Ujihara et al. (1990), under the name of *Cuvierina* aff. *tubulata* Collins, 1934, are most probably conspecific indeed. Whether or not this holds true for the Serravallian-Early Tortonian specimens referred to by those authors, remains to be determined; specimens from that interval were not illustrated by them.

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¹ For no. 4 in this series see Basteria 63: 11-15, 1999.

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