

*Streptostele acicula* (Morelet) on Farquhar Is., western Indian Ocean  
(Gastropoda, Pulmonata, Streptaxidae)

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The on the western Indian Ocean islands widely distributed small streptaxid *Streptostele acicula* is for the first time recorded from Farquhar Is., NW. of Madagascar. This clearly fills a gap in the known range of the species.

Key words: Gastropoda, Pulmonata, Streptaxidae, *Streptostele*, western Indian Ocean islands, Farquhar Is.

A number of years ago Dr A.A. Schileyko of Moscow sent some interesting representatives of the pulmonate family Streptaxidae, mainly from the western Indian Ocean islands, to the present author for evaluation and deposition in the Leiden Museum. When studying material in this collection last year a single shell was identified as *Streptostele (Raffraya) acicula* (Morelet, 1877). This was obtained by Dr Schileyko on 5.IV.1983 in leaf litter on Farquhar Atoll in the western Indian Ocean NW of Madagascar. Publication of a recent paper on the land molluscs of the Aldabra group rekindled interest in this species (Gerlach & Griffiths, 2002: 672-674). According to Gerlach & Van Bruggen (1999: 27-30) and the above paper there are as yet no records of this taxon from Farquhar Is. (c. 51°07'E 10°07'S). In these papers *S. acicula* has been reported to occur on the following islands or island groups: Comoros, Aldabra, Nossi Bé (Madagascar), Amirantes, Seychelles (Mahé and Silhouette), Réunion, Mauritius, and Rodriguez. Farquhar Atoll obviously fills a gap in this enormous range consisting of scattered widely distant islands.

The shell measures 4.8 x 1.3 mm (ratio length/maj. diameter 3.69) and has 7½ whorls. Compared to what is known about the considerable variation in size and shape the present shell is medium-sized and comparatively slender, i.e. represents the nominate subspecies.

REFERENCES

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