

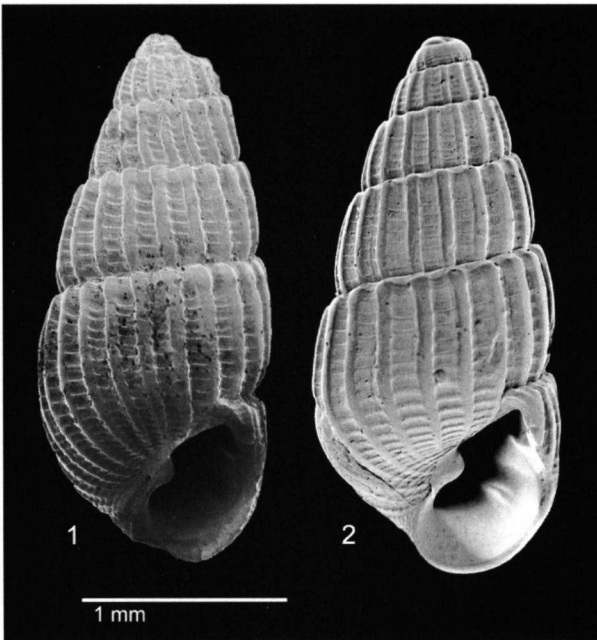
A note on *Chrysallida maiiae* (Hornung & Mermod, 1924)

J.J. VAN AARTSEN

National Museum of Natural History Naturalis. P.O.Box 9517, NL 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands

The species *Chrysallida maiiae* (Hornung & Mermod, 1924) is one of the better known Indo-Pacific migrants into the Mediterranean. It was mentioned first by van Aartsen (1963: 1116) from the coast of Israel and later on by Barash & Danin (1977: 96, 111 fig. 11). In 1958 it was found in Iskenderun (Turkey) and today it is one of the most common Pyramidellidae in the eastern Mediterranean.

Nordsieck (1973: 245, 243 fig. 66) described it as *Dunkeria scalaris dentata* n. subspec.



Figs 1-2. *Chrysallida maiiae* (Hornung & Mermod, 1924). 1, holotype, Massaua, Red Sea, L 2.5 mm, 2, Mediterranean specimen, Mersin, Turkey, L 2.6 mm.

as could be determined from the types in the Nordsieck collection (Senkenberg Museum).

Later on Schander (1994: 17) published as a personal opinion of L. Tringali that the shells were possibly not identical with *C. maiiae* from the Red Sea as there seemed to live two very similar species there. This was repeated by Buzzurro & Greppi (1995: 8,9) but not confirmed.

Thanks to the help of Dr Doria (Genua) the holotype of *C. maiiae* (see Hornung & Mermod, 1924: 14, 15 fig. 11) could be studied and is here figured (fig. 1). A specimen from the south coast of Turkey of about the same dimension is also figured (fig. 2).

The two shells are clearly conspecific. They both have two list-like teeth on the inside of the outer lip. Such teeth are very rare among Pyramidellidae and thus their presence strengthens the view that the shells belong to the same species. *C. maiiae* is sometimes iden-

tified with *Odontostomia decorata* Philippi, 1849. This identification is highly uncertain however. Philippi (1849: 28- 30) described six species of "*Odontostomia*", among which *O. decorata*. He mentioned a tooth on the columella only twice, viz. for *O. erythraea* and *O. suturalis*.

Issel (1869: 179, 335) identified a figure of Savigny (1817: pl. 3 fig. 38) with *O. decorata*. From this figure it cannot be concluded whether there is a tooth on the columella or not. In *C. maiae* a very conspicuous tooth is present. Moreover there are two or three teeth or lists on the inside of the outer lip. As this is exceptional in the Pyramidellidae it should in fact have been mentioned by Philippi if his *O. decorata* showed such a feature. Also the number of axial ribs is given as 14 whereas the specimens of *C. maiae* have 18 ribs on average.

It has to be noted too that Pallary (1926: 62) while discussing the figure in Savigny (1817: pl. 3 fig. 38) does not mention *C. maiae*, whereas he suggests identity with Hornung & Mermod species for several other figures on the same plate.

In conclusion, I cannot accept the identity of *C. maiae* with *O. decorata*. It is concluded that the specimens from the Mediterranean should be called *Chrysallida maiae*, as was done recently by Zenetos et al. (2003: 138).

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