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Nassarius cernohorskyi spec. nov. from the Marquesas Islands (Gastropoda, Caenogastropoda, Nassariidae)

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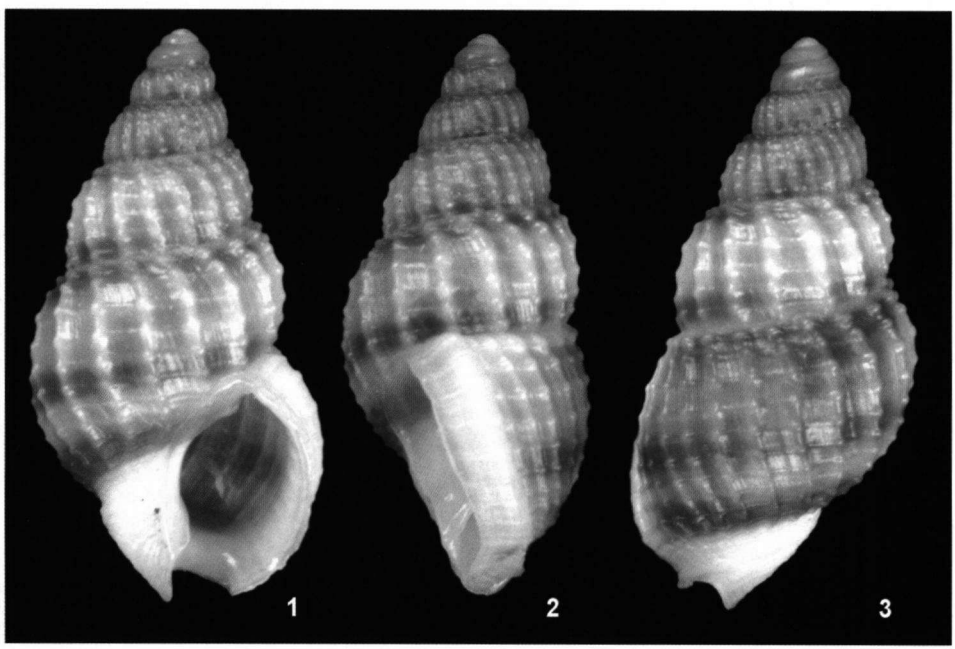
Specimens of an undescribed species of *Nassarius* were collected from the Marquesas Islands. This species is described here as *N. cernohorskyi* spec. nov.

Key words: Gastropoda, Caenogastropoda, Nassariidae, *Nassarius*, taxonomy, Pacific, Marquesas Islands.

During the expedition "MUSORSTOM 9" by the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, specimens of an undescribed species of *Nassarius* were collected from the Marquesas Islands. This species is described below as *N. cernohorskyi* spec. nov.



Figs 1-3. *Nassarius cernohorskyi* spec. nov, holotype (MNHN), actual height 8.7 mm. Expédition MUSORSTOM 9, St. DW 1213, Marquesas Islands, Hiva Oa Island, 9°50.3'S 140°03.2'W, 18-20 m, 29.viii.1997.

Abbreviations: HHK, collection H.H. Kool, Dieren, The Netherlands; MNHN, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris; RMNH, Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden, The Netherlands; USNM, National Museum of Natural History, Washington DC, USA; ZMA, Zoölogisch Museum, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Subfamily Nassariinae Iredale, 1916
Genus *Nassarius* Duméril, 1806

Nassarius cernohorskyi spec. nov. (figs 1-3)

Material examined (holotype and paratypes).– The coordinates are preceeded by the station codes. Marquesas Islands, campagne MUSORSTOM 9, DW 1213, Ile Hiva Oa, 9°50.3'S 140°03.2'W, 18-20 m (MNHN holotype/475 paratypes; ZMA 4.04.021/5; RMNH/5; USNM/2; O.K. McCausland, Sarasota, Fla., USA/2; G. Hansen, Lathlain, West Australia/2; H. Dekker, Winkel, The Netherlands/2; HHK 109.01/15); DW 1142, 9°21.1'S 140°02.7'W, 33-34 m (MNHN/2); DW 1152, 7°58.9'S 140°43.5'W, 85-150 m (MNHN/2); DW 1155, 7°58.9'S 140°43.3'W, 80 m (MNHN/1); CP 1156, 7°59.0'S 140°43.7'W, 80 m (MNHN/2); DW 1161, 8°55.6'S 140°06.1'W, 30-37 m (MNHN/230); DW 1162, 8.°56.2'S 104°06.1'W, 45-64 m (MNHN/35); DW 1184, 8°49.3'S 140°03.6'W, 23-30 m (MNHN/2000+; HHK 109.05/16); DW 1185, 8°48.9'S 140°03.4'W, 31-33 m (MNHN/80); DW 1186, 8°48.1'S 140°03.5'W, 42-45 m (MNHN/32); DR 1197, 9°57'S 140°02'W, 277-372 m (MNHN/2); DW 1203, 9°52.7'S 139°02.2'W, 60-61 m (MNHN/1); DW 1206, 9°51'S 139°09'W, 352-358 m (MNHN/1); DW 1209, 9°50.2'S 139°02.5'W, 85 m (MNHN/39); DW 1210, 9°50.4'S 139°00.5'W, 98-100 m (MNHN/60); DW 1211, 9°50.2'W 139°02.5'W, 50 m (MNHN/67; HHK 109.02/5); DW 1214, 9°49.8'S 140°03.1'W, 25-40 m (MNHN/18); CP 1215, 9°49.5'S 140°02.0'W, 49-62 m (MNHN/9); DW 1217, 9°44.5'S 138°49.9'W, 85-87 m (MNHN/5); DR 1223, 9°44.5'S 138°51.3'W, 90-150 m (MNHN/20); DW 1224, 9°44.6'S 138°51.1'W, 115-120 m (MNHN/15); DW 1225, 9°45.2'S 138°52.6'W, 42-70 m (MNHN/100); CP 1228, 9°44.8'S 138°51.5'W, 107-108 m (MNHN/3); DW 1235, 9°42.0'S 139°03.0'W, 105-285 m (MNHN/1); CP 1239, 9°42'S 139°03.6'W, 89-95 m (MNHN/1); DW 1241, 10°27.8'S 138°40.6'W, 85-130 m (MNHN/8); DR 1244, 10°28'S 138°42.1'W, 1015-1020 m (MNHN/4); DR 1245, 10°29.0'S 138°26.2'W, 85-130 m (MNHN/3); DW 1260, 9°25.4'S 140°07.3'W, 49-100 m (MNHN/1); DW 1279, 7°59.4'S 140°42.2'W, 23-70 m (MNHN/1); DW 1280, 7°58.9'S 140°43.3'W, 87-98 m (MNHN/3); DW 1283, 7°53.8'S 140°34.5'W, 55-56 m (MNHN/1); DR 1292, 8°54.1'S 139°37.8'W, 95-100 m (MNHN/40); DR 1293, 8°54.3'S 139°37.5'W, 50 m (MNHN/33); DR 1297, 8°54.2'S 139°37.4'W, 90-150 m (MNHN/7); DR 1298, 8°49.0'S 140°17.0'W, 305 m (MNHN/10); CP 1304, 8°54.4'S 140°13.9'W, 50-58 m (MNHN/16); DR 1305, 8°54.1'S 140°14.5'W, 90-155 m (MNHN/58); St. 22, Ua Huka, Baie de Vaipee, 6-10 m (MNHN/2); St. 23, 8°55.9'S 139°31.5'W (MNHN/3); St. 24, 8°53.6'S 139°37.0'W, 9-15 m (MNHN/210; HHK 109.04/10); St. 24 bis, Ua Huka, 8°53.6'S 139°37.0'W, 20-34 m (MNHN/560; ZMA 04.05.020/5; RMNH/5; H. Dekker, Winkel/2; HHK 109.03/15); St. 30, Ua Huka, 8°56.1'S 139°32.0'W, 20-30 m (MNHN/11); St. 34, Ua Huka, 8°56.8'S 139°35.7"W, 10-15 m (MNHN).

Description of holotype.— Shell height 8.7 mm, width 4.3 mm. Protoconch transparent, with 3¾ whorls, last two whorls strongly keeled. Teleoconch of 4½ convex whorls. Shell shiny, quite thin, semi-transparent. Last whorl with about 16 thin, axial ribs, crossed by about 11 thin, over-riding spiral threads, forming low, glossy beads at the crossings, strongest at the suture, also on the earlier whorls. Penultimate whorl with 15 axial and 6-7 spiral ribs. The interspaces of the axial ribs variable; the whole

shell with clear growth lines (under magnification). Varix of the outer lip broad but thin, with the spiral ribs of the body whorl visible. Aperture ovate, with thin outer lip; about nine faint lirae within; columella and parietal wall coated with a well-bordered enamel-like callus, showing some very faint lirae; parietal denticle weak. Anal and siphonal canal wide. Siphonal area with a faint fasciole and about 7 spirals and microscopic axial striae. Basic colour whitish to yellowish, protoconch light brownish. A (sub)sutural brown band on all teleoconch whorls, two more brown bands on the body whorl, one on and between the two spiral threads at the periphery and a wider one at the base. Aperture reflecting the outside colour and banding; varix, outer lip and siphonal area white. Operculum yellowish, oval and non-serrated.

Habitat.— The depth at which the specimens were obtained is very variable. Specimens were collected at 9, but also at 358 m. Most dead specimens with an operculum were dredged at 9-34 m in fine muddy sand.

Etymology.— The new species is named after W.O. Cernohorsky, in honour of his pioneering work on the family Nassariidae, resulting in books and papers which are invaluable for further studies on this family.

Variability.— The species is very variable in many features. Mature specimens measure 4.5-11.7 mm. The number of ribs on the body whorl of the largest specimens varies from about 15 to 22. The number of postnuclear whorls varies from 3 to 4.5. The holotype has about 15 axial ribs on the first postnuclear whorl, but some small mature specimens have only 8 to 9 ribs, which are stronger. This difference in number of ribs is also perceptible on the succeeding whorls. The aperture of the small specimens differs in that the lirae on the inside of the outer lip are more distinct. The width and the intensity of the coloured banding are also somewhat variable. The semi-transparency and the microscopic, but well visible, growth lines are characteristic for this species. Although the shell is thin and transparent, it is not fragile.

Distribution.— Although the species is abundant at some localities, its distribution seems to be very limited. To date it is only known from the Marquesas Islands.

Discussion.— *Nassarius cernohorskyi* spec. nov. is somewhat similar to *N. subtranslucidus* (E.A. Smith, 1903), a species without the spiral sculpture all over the body whorl, which is shouldered more conspicuously, and less transparent. The holotype of *N. subtranslucidus* is figured by Cernohorsky (1984: pl. 30 fig. 8) and Kaicher (card 4098).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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