

# THE GENUS ANTEMETULA REHDER IN THE INDO-WESTPACIFIC AREA, WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW FOSSIL SPECIES

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## INTRODUCTION

REHDER (1943: 199) pointed out, that *Buccinum clathratum* Adams & Reeve, 1848, is the type of the genus *Metula* H. & A. Adams, 1858. For the species congeneric with *Buccinum metula* Hinds, 1844, he proposed the generic name *Antemetula*, with that species as the type.

*Buccinum metula* was described by HINDS from a specimen dredged by the Sulphur off the West coast of Veragua, at a depth of a few fathoms. There are no other records of the species from the American West coast. SMITH (1904: 465) called attention to the fact that young specimens of *Buccinum mitrella* Adams & Reeve, 1848, match HINDS's figure of *B. metula*. *B. mitrella* was described from one or more specimens dredged by the Samarang in the China Sea, at a depth of 10 fathoms, and has been recorded since from some more localities in the Indo-Westpacific area. SMITH thought *B. mitrella* to be a synonym of *B. metula*, and the type locality of the latter possibly erroneous. It is, indeed, unlikely that a benthonic prosobranch inhabiting the West coast of America between the tropics will also occur in the Indo-Westpacific area, because the eastern Pacific barrier is practically insurmountable for littoral species, as EKMAN (1935: 105—107) has shown. If therefore SMITH's opinion, that *B. mitrella* is a synonym of *B. metula* be right, the type locality mentioned by HINDS must be wrong. The Sulphur dredged in the China Sea also, and therefore it seems possible that material from that sea was confounded with shells from the American West coast.

Everyone comparing young shells of *Buccinum mitrella* with HINDS's figure of *B. metula* must be struck by the great resemblance between these two. Unfortunately, however, the type of *B. metula* is not in the British Museum, as Dr. W. J. REES kindly informs me, and the synonymy supposed by SMITH cannot be proven. Therefore all the records of the species from the Indo-West-

Bijdragen tot de Dierkunde, Afl. 28.

pacific area resembling *B. metula* have been kept under the heading *Antemetula mitrella* in this paper.

### THE GENUS ANTEMETULA

*Antemetula* Rehder, 1943, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 93, no. 3161: 199.

Type species (original designation): *Buccinum metula* Hinds, 1844<sup>1</sup>.

Fusiform, slender buccinids, with a delicate decussate sculpture all over the shell. Outer lip somewhat thickened, old apertures showing more or less clearly as varices on the older whorls. Columella smooth, no parietal tooth, palatal wall of aperture finely plicate, canal short. Protoconch paucispiral and consisting of 1—2 smooth whorls, or multispiral, conoid, and consisting of 2½—5 whorls of which the younger ones bear keels. Operculum unknown. Radula: rhachidian tooth with five cusps, laterals with three, of which the medial is by far the largest.

All the recent and fossil species from the Indo-Westpacific area hitherto assigned to the genus *Metula* are here considered to belong to *Antemetula*, excepting *Fusus* (*Metula* ?) *philippinarum* Watson, 1882.

Lower Miocene: Karachi, Java.

Upper Miocene: Java, Timor.

Pliocene: Sumatra, Java, Timor, Ceram, Taiwan (Formosa).

Recent: Gulf of Oman, Indian Ocean, China Sea, Suruga Gulf (Japan), ? off West coast of Veragua. 10—156 fathoms.

THIELE (1929: 314) assigned his new subgenus *Appisania*, type *Pisania montrouzieri* Crosse, 1862, to the genus *Metula* H. & A. Adams on account of the characters of the radula. THIELE took *Metula* in a wide sense, including the species here assigned to *Antemetula*. The only species of *Metula* thus conceived of which the radula is known, is a species belonging to *Antemetula*, viz. *A. mitrella* (Adams & Reeve). Therefore the group *Appisania*, which future research may show to contain more species hitherto assigned to *Pisania*, seems to be the group most related to *Antemetula* which at present occurs in the Indo-West-pacific area.

Some recent species of "*Metula*" have been described from the Caribbean Sea: they closely resemble the species here assigned to *Antemetula*. They are: *Metula lintula* Guppy, 1882, *M. amosi* Vanatta, 1913, and *M. fusiformis* Clench & Aguayo, 1941. They seem, however, to have developed in loco, as several apparently closely related species have been described from the neogene tertiaries of the same region. Nothing is known of the anatomy of the Caribbean species, and moreover a closer comparison of these species with *Antemetula* on conchological lines, with special attention to the characters of the apex,

1) *Antemetula metula* (Hinds). *Buccinum metula* Hinds, 1844, Zool. Voy. Sulphur, 2: 31, pl. 16 f. 13, 14. ?*Metula Hindsii* H. & A. Adams, 1858, Gen. Rec. Moll., 1: 84. *Metula Hindsii* Tryon, 1881, Man. Conch., 3: 153, pl. 72 f. 240.

might reveal differences. The Carribean group of species and the genus *Antemetula* may have developed independently from common palaeogene ancestors.

As long as the anatomy of *Buccinum clathratum* Adams & Reeve, described from Cape of Good Hope, but which TOMLIN (1927: 160) has shown to be an inhabitant of the Northwest coast of South America\*), is unknown, the relation of *Antemetula* to the genus *Metula* H. & A. Adams will remain unclear.

KEY TO THE INDO-WESTPACIFIC SPECIES OF ANTEMETULA

- I. Bodywhorl 8/II of total height in adult shell . . . . . 1. *martini*
- II. Bodywhorl less than 8/II of total height in adult shell
  - A. Shell very slender, varices not conspicuous
    - a. Altitude 25 mm, protoconch about 2¾ whorls, with both spiral keels and axial ribs . . . . . 8. *mitrella*
    - aa. Altitude 35 mm, protoconch unknown . . . . . 9. *elongata*
  - B. Less slender, varices more or less conspicuous, protoconch smooth, or with spiral keels only (sometimes youngest whorl of protoconch finely wrinkled in axial direction)
    - a. Protoconch multispiral (3 or more whorls), its youngest whorls with spiral keels
      - b. Youngest whorl of protoconch bearing 3 spiral keels . . . . . 2. *beauforti*
      - bb. Youngest whorl of protoconch bearing 2 spirals
        - c. Altitude 32 mm, sculpture coarser than in *daphnelloides*, protoconch 3¼—3½ whorls . . . . . 3. *ih'ei*
        - cc. Altitude 26 mm, sculpture finer than in *daphnelloides*, protoconch about 3 whorls . . . . . 4. *andamanica*
        - ccc. Altitude 18½ mm, protoconch 3¾—5 whorls . . . . . 5. *daphnelloides*
    - aa. Protoconch paucispiral (less than 2 whorls)
      - b. Youngest whorl of protoconch with one keel . . . . . 6. *jonkeri*
      - bb. Protoconch wholly smooth . . . . . 7. *boettgeri*

SURVEY OF THE INDO-WESTPACIFIC SPECIES OF ANTEMETULA

I. *Antemetula martini* (Vredenburg).

*Metula martini* Vredenburg, 1923, Rec. Geol. Survey India, 55: 70 (nom. nud.); 1925, Mem. Geol. Survey India, 50: 195, pl. 9 f. 5a, b.

VREDENBURG gives the following measurements of the unique type: altitude

\*) After the present paper had gone to press, I found that SMITH (1896, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (6) 18: 370) records an exceptionally large specimen of this species from off Ceylon, 180—217 fms.

22, diameter 7, height of spire 11, height of bodywhorl 16 mm. In his figure, however, which is said to be  $\times 2/1$ , the bodywhorl has a height of 16, the spire of 6 mm. So there must be some mistake in these data. It is here assumed that the figure represents the specimen natural size, and that consequently the height of the spire is 6 mm.

Lower Miocene (Gaj beds): Karachi, India.

2. *Antemetula beauforti* spec. nov. (Figure 1).

*Metula boettgeri* [non Martin] Pannekoek, 1936, Altmioc. Moll. Rembang: 41, pl. 2 f. 20.

Description: Shell of the usual *Antemetula* habitus and with the delicate decussate sculpture characteristic of the genus. Whorls about  $8\frac{1}{2}$ , somewhat convex. There are some conspicuous varices in the spire. The nucleus is missing. Probably the protoconch consisted of 4 whorls, of which the first  $1\frac{1}{4}$  were smooth. Then a peripheral keel appears; the third whorl is bicarinate, the fourth bears 3 keels, and a fourth keel starts on the youngest portion of the fourth whorl. These 4 keels correspond with the four spirals on the oldest whorl of the definite shell. The second half of the last whorl of the protoconch bears close set axial wrinkles. As the outer lip is damaged, the characters of the aperture cannot be examined. Altitude  $18\frac{1}{2}$ , diameter  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

I have named this new species after my highly esteemed master of zoogeography, Prof. Dr. L. F. DE BEAUFORT.

*Antemetula beauforti* is very nearly related to both *A. ihlei* and *A. boettgeri*. From the first it differs by the sculpture of the protoconch, by the definite sculpture being a trifle finer, and perhaps by its smaller size; from the second mainly by the totally different protoconch.

Lower Miocene (Rembang beds): ! Sedan<sup>2)</sup>, Residence of Rembang, Java.

The unique specimen of this species was recorded as "*Metula boettgeri* Mart." by miss PANNEKOEK. Although she described the protoconch, she apparently did not notice that it was virtually different from that of MARTIN'S species.

3. *Antemetula ihlei* spec. nov. (Figure 2).

*Metula Boettgeri* [non Martin] Tesch, 1915, Palaeont. Timor, 5, no. 9: 54, pl. 81 f. 116.

?*Metula* spec. 1 Martin, 1928, Wetensch. Meded. Mijnb. Ned.-Indië, 10: 10, 19; Van der Vlerk, 1931, Leidsche Geol. Meded., 5: 231.

*Metula boettgeri* Van der Vlerk, 1931, Leidsche Geol. Meded., 5: 231 (partim).

*Antemetula* spec. A v. R. Altena, 1949, Leidsche Geol. Meded., ? : ?, no. 243 (in the press).

Description: As this new species can only be distinguished from *A. boettgeri* by the shape of the protoconch, a description of that part of the shell only will follow here. Protoconch conoid, consisting of  $3\frac{1}{4}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$  whorls, bearing

2) The names of localities from which the author examined specimens are preceded by a !

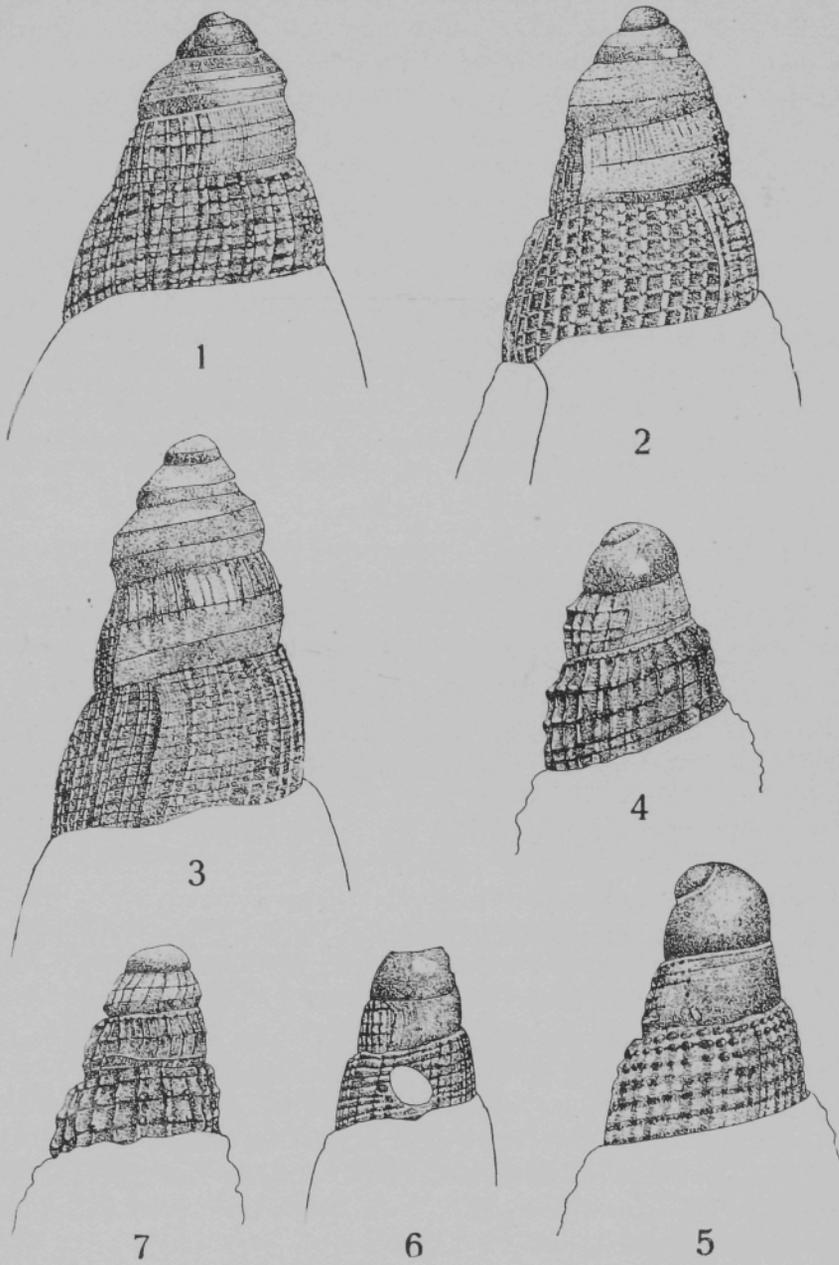


Figure 1—7. Protoconchs of various species of *Antemetula*,  $\times 16$ .  
 1: *A. beauforti* sp. n. (holotype); 2: *A. ihlei* sp. n. (holotype); 3: *A. daphnelloides* (Melvill & Standen) (Savu Sea); 4: *A. jonkeri* (Koperberg) (holotype); 5: *A. boettgeri* (Martin) (lectotype); 6: *A. boettgeri* (Martin) (locality M 257, Residence of Madioen, Java); 7: *A. mitrella* (Adams & Reeve) (pliocene, Ceram).

two spiral keels, of which the first one originates on the youngest part of the first whorl, the second (posterior) one occurs on the last whorl of the protoconch only. For the rest the surface of the protoconch is smooth, except the youngest  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the last whorl, in which fine, close set, axial wrinkles are visible.

Altitude 25, diameter 8 mm (holotype). The altitude of a damaged specimen from the Poetjangan layers may be estimated at 32 mm, diameter 9 mm.

I have named this new species in honour of my highly esteemed master of zoology, Prof. Dr. J. E. W. IHLE.

*Metula* spec. 1 Martin from the Pliocene of Atjeh is said to be closely related to *A. boettgeri*, but to differ by a slightly coarser sculpture and by the apex, therefore it may be the present species.

Pliocene: (main fossil bed): ? Atjeh (Martin); (Upper Kalibeng beds = Sonde beds): ! Locality M 252<sup>3</sup>), Residence of Madioen, Java (type locality) (v. R. Altena); ! Valley of the Noil Besi, Timor (Tesch).

Pleistocene (Poetjangan layers): ! Localities M 101 and M 301<sup>4</sup>), Residence of Soerabaja, Java (v. R. Altena).

#### 4. *Antemetula andamanica* (E. A. Smith).

*Metula andamanica* Smith, 1906, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) 18: 165.

Unfortunately this species has not been figured. The specimens here described as *A. ihlei* almost exactly match SMITH's description, but they show a sculpture coarser than that of *A. daphnelloides*, while in *andamanica* it should be finer.

Recent: Off Port Blair, Andaman Islands, 100 fms.

#### 5. *Antemetula daphnelloides* (Melvill & Standen) (Figure 3).

*Metula daphnelloides* Melvill & Standen, 1903, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) 12: 307, pl. 22 f. 9; Schepman, 1911, Prosobr. Siboga Exp.: 310; Woodring, 1928, Publ. Carnegie Inst., 385: 286.

In the original description the number of apical whorls of this species is said to be  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ; in the discussion added to the description it is "four to five". The specimens dredged by the Siboga have  $3\frac{3}{4}$  apical whorls, whereas a specimen from the Gulf of Oman in the British Museum, which Dr. W. J. REES was so kind as to send me on loan, shows  $4\frac{1}{4}$  of them. This specimen is the largest I saw, it measures: altitude  $18\frac{1}{2}$ , diameter 6 mm. Adult specimens of this species can be distinguished at a glance from other species of the genus by the somewhat expanding basal part of the outer lip.

Recent: Gulf of Oman, 156 fms (type locality); ! Gulf of Oman, 50 fms, F. W. Townsend (British Museum); ! Savu Sea, 274 m (Schepman).

3) Cf. v. R. ALTENA, 1938, Leidsche Geol. Meded., 10: 256.

4) Cf. v. R. ALTENA, 1938, Leidsche Geol. Meded., 10: 251, 257.

6. *Antemetula jonkeri* (Koperberg) (Figure 4).

*Metula jonkeri* Koperberg, 1931, Jaarb. Mijnw. Ned. O.-Indië, 1930, Verh., 1: 101, pl. 3 f. 38.

More material is required for us to judge about this species. The protoconch is very near that of *A. boettgeri*, but it differs by possessing a basal keel on the youngest part of the last whorl.

Upper Miocene: ! Toi Osapi Sòka or Nono Fatoe Fekoe, Timor.

7. *Antemetula boettgeri* (K. Martin) (Figures 5, 6).

*Metula Boettgeri* Martin, 1899, Samml. Geol. Reichsmus. Leiden, (N. S.) 1: 221, pl. 21 f. 318, ? 317, 317a, b; 1906, Ibidem: 310; 1919, Palaeozool. Kenntn. Java: 83 (partim), 132, ? 141; ? Zwierzycki, 1915, Jaarb. Mijnw. Ned. O.-Indië, 1913, Verh.: 127.

?*Metula* Zwierzycki, op. cit.: 110.

?*Metula Boettger* [sic] Zwierzycki, op. cit.: 129.

*Metula boettgeri* Van der Vlerk, 1931, Leidsche Geol. Meded., 5: 231 (partim).

*Antemetula boettgeri* v. R. Altena, 1949, Leidsche Geol. Meded., ? : ?, no. 242 (in the press).

The specimen from the Menenteng ravine described and figured by MARTIN (1899, f. 318) is here designed as lectotype of this species. The protoconch of that specimen is refigured (fig. 5), because MARTIN's figured proved unsatisfactory. As the upper shell layer is somewhat worn off near the place in which the protoconch merges into the definite shell, this place cannot be located exactly, but the protoconch consists certainly of at most  $1\frac{1}{2}$  smooth whorl. The greater part of the bodywhorl is missing in the lectotype; presumably the altitude of the entire shell was about 30 mm. MARTIN's syntype from the Sonde beds (MARTIN 1899, f. 317, 317a, b), in which the apex is missing, has to be referred to as *Antemetula* spec., as it could equally well belong to *A. ihlei*.

Although the protoconch is damaged in the specimens recorded from locality M 257 of the Sonde beds, there is no doubt that it was of the same type as that of the lectotype, and here the border between protoconch and definite shell is distinct (fig. 6). These shells are not adult, and they are slightly slenderer than the lectotype. Their dimensions are: altitude 21, diameter  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mm, and altitude  $20\frac{1}{2}$ , diameter 6 mm.

Pliocene: ? Kroeë, Residence of Benkoelen, Sumatra (Zwierzycki); ? Ajer Lipai, Residence "Sumatra's Westkust", Sumatra (Zwierzycki); Menenteng ravine, Residence of Cheribon, Java (type locality); (Upper Kalibeng = Sonde beds): ! ? Sonde, Residence of Madioen, Java (Martin); ! Locality M 257<sup>5</sup>) near Sonde (v. R. Altena).

8. *Antemetula mitrella* (Adams & Reeve) (Figure 7).

*Buccinum mitrella* Adams & Reeve, 1848, Zool. Voy. Samarang, Moll.: 32, pl. 11 f. 13.  
*Metula mitrella* H. & A. Adams, 1858, Gen. Rec. Moll., 1: 84; Troschel, 1866-'93, Ge-

5) Cf. v. R. ALTENA, 1938, Leidsche Geol. Meded., 10: 256.

biss Schnecken, 2: 78, pl. 7 f. 10; Tryon, 1881, Man. Conch., 3: 152, pl. 26 f. 21, pl. 72 f. 239; Nomura, 1935, Sci. Rep. Tohoku Imp. Univ. Sendai, (2) 18: 149, pl. 8 f. 1; Yen, 1942, Proc. Mal. Soc., 24: 230.

*Metula Hindsii* Martin, 1884, Samml. Geol. Reichsmus. Leiden, (1) 3: 106, pl. 8 f. 143; Tesch, 1915, Palaeont. Timor, 5, no. 9: 53, pl. 81 f. 115; Martin, 1919, Palaeoz. Kenntn. Java: 83, 134; Fischer, 1927, Palaeont. Timor, 15, no. 25: 81.

*Metula metula* Melvill & Standen, 1903, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) 12: 307; Ludwig, 1933, Geol. kaart Java, Toel. blad 30: 15.

*Metula Hindsii* Smith, 1904, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) 13: 464.

*Buccinum mitrellum* Woodring, 1928, Publ. Carnegie Inst., 385: 286.

*Metula* spec. 2 Martin, 1928, Wetensch. Meded. Mijnb. Ned.-Indië, 10: 10.

*Metula hindsii* Van Es, 1931, Age Pithecanthr.: 69; Van der Vlerk, 1931, Leidsche Geol. Meded., 5: 231.

I was able to compare some specimens from the Pliocene of Ceram with Recent ones of the British Museum collection, and they appeared to agree in every respect. A specimen of *Metula* spec. 2 Martin from the pliocene of Atjeh, which belongs to the Rijksmuseum van Geologie en Mineralogie at Leiden, could be identified with this species.

Upper Miocene: ! Ngembak, Residence of Semarang, Java (Martin); (Tjidadap layers): Tjikao, Residence of Batavia, Java (Ludwig).

Pliocene: (main fossil bed): ! Atjeh (Martin); Kalioeter, Government of Soerakarta, Java (Van Es); ! Between Noil Noni and Pene, Timor (Tesch); (Fufa layers): ! Ceram (Fischer); (Byôritu beds): Taiwan (Nomura).

Recent: China Sea, 10 fms (type locality); ! China Sea (Yen); Philippines (Troschel); off Coromandel coast, 41 fms (Smith); Gulf of Oman, 156 fms (Melvill & Standen).

#### 9. *Antemetula elongata* (Dall).

*Metula elongata* Dall, 1907, Smiths. Misc. Coll., 50: 166; 1925, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 66, art. 17 (no. 2554): 20, pl. 23 f. 4.

Dr. HARALD REHDER of the United States National Museum, Washington, kindly provided me with excellent photographs of the type of this species. Unfortunately the apex, which proves to be of so great diagnostic value, is missing. I would not wonder if it appeared to be a large form of *A. mitrella*. The difference in proportion to which DALL calls attention may be due to growth: when shells of this shape grow, the relation  $\frac{\text{height bodywhorl}}{\text{total height}}$  diminishes.

Recent: Suruga gulf, Japan, 57 fms.

? *Antemetula* spec.

*Metula* n. sp. Van Raalte, 1937, Geol. kaart Sumatra, Toel. blad 7: 18.

Pliocene (middle part of Upper Palembang layers): Bintoehan, locality e, E. of Barisan, Sumatra.

## SOME REMARKS ON THE NINE SPECIES RECORDED

Unfortunately the material at hand and the information in literature are insufficient to judge the real value of the 9 "species" recorded above. Future research may show some of them to be subspecies or even varieties. Three fossil and two recent species are represented by the type only, so we do not know anything about their variability.

The shells of *A. boettgeri* and *A. ihlei* can only be distinguished by their protoconchs. There is evidence that external factors may influence the shape of the larval shell in prosobranchs, and therefore the question arises if the difference between these two types of protoconchs cannot be due to the environment. There are, however, two reasons why I think this to be highly improbable: (1) the difference between the two types of protoconchs is large, and no transitions are met with; (2) the two types occur in the fauna of the same beds (the Pliocene Sonde beds), in which one would not expect to find forms developed under widely different external circumstances, unless at least one of them has been transported before being embedded, and such is improbable for shells which still possess their protoconchs.

Probably *A. ihlei*, *beauforti*, *andamanica*, *daphnelloides*, and *mitrella* had or have larvae with a long pelagic life, whereas *A. jonckri* and *boettgeri* hatched as bottom dwellers, or had a very short pelagic life. As species with a pelagic larva existed already in the early Miocene, this seems to be the more primitive condition. As far as we know the species developing immediately into bottom dwellers are restricted to the upper Miocene and Pliocene.

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