

REPORT UPON A COLLECTION OF RECENT SHELLS FROM JAVA

by

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1. Introduction.

In the Geological Institution of the University of Amsterdam there is a collection of recent shells as material for comparison with fossil Mollusca. From this collection the writer identified a lot of shells collected by Professor Dr. H. Gerth during his stay in Java from 1928 to 1929. These materials will be discussed here.

The writer is indebted to Prof. Dr. H. A. Brouwer (Amsterdam) for his permission to publish the results of these investigations on materials belonging to the Geological Institution, to Prof. Dr. H. Gerth for placing at his disposal the present collection and his field notes, and further to Dr. Ch. Bayer (Leiden), Mrs. W. S. S. van der Feen-van Benthem Jutting (Amsterdam), Mr. L. de Priester (Apeldoorn), Dr. F. A. Schilder (Naumburg-on-Saale), and Mr. J. R. le B. Tomlin (St. Leonards-on-Sea) for their assistance in identifying the recorded species.

2. List of the localities.

The numbers in brackets refer to the sketch map (fig. 1). The remarks on local conditions have been borrowed from field notes by Prof. Gerth and from the labels of the samples. The localities have been classified from an ecological point of view by Prof. Gerth.

A. Beaches with coral reefs.

North coast:

a) Thousand Islands (Duizend Eilanden) (7).

This is the only sample not collected by Prof. Gerth himself; it was collected by Prof. J. H. F. Umbgrove. The labels contain no particulars about the exact locality or localities from which the shells derive. According to the paper by Umbgrove (1929, p. 34): "The group of the so called Thousand Islands consists of about 80 coral islands; these islands consist of patch reefs and cays in greatly different stadia of development, small submarine reefs, reefs which have grown under the sealevel and where

the surf throws up the finer reef detritus to bare sandy isles, and finally the older sandy isles, covered with vegetation and surrounded by shingle walls." The Mollusca therefore may derive from totally different biotopes: reef, shingle wall, "lagune" (reef platform), or the beach of the sandy island, on which a mangrove vegetation may be developed to the side of the reef platform (cf. Umbgrove, 1929, figs. 1-5 on p. 10).



Fig. 1. Sketchmap of Java. The numbers refer to the localities dealt with in the text.

b) Islands of Hoorn, Purmerend, and Leiden in the Bay of Batavia (8) 1).

The shells derive both from the shingle walls of the coral reefs (*Nerita*) and from the "lagune" (reef platform) behind the living edge of the reef (*Cerithium*) and its beach.

c) West of Sepoeloe at the northwestern coast of Madoera (15).

The sample was collected on the beach with reef debris.

d) Weroe near Patjiran (12).

Sandy beach with reef debris.

South coast:

e) Beach of Wijnkoopsbay near Palaboean Ratoe and more to the West between Tjimadja and Tjisolok (6).

In this locality the surf has cut an abrasion terrace in the rock, which runs dry at low tide. At the outer edge of the terrace there is a coral reef. On the rock at low tide mark a fringe of *Ostrea*.

f) Tjilaoet Eureun (4).

The shells derive from the beach and the abrasion plane of the coral reef South of Tjilaoet Eureun as well as from the sandy beach in the bay of Tjilaoet Eureun.

1) For the description of these islands cf. Umbgrove (1928).

g) Peninsula of Panandjoeng (3).

The shells were collected near the pasanggrahan (Government resthouse intended for the use of Government officials when on a round of inspection) and farther Southwest on the beach and in the lagoon behind the reef.

h) Bay of Popoh, South of Kediri (1).

The sample was collected for the greater part on the eastern beach of the bay, which contains coral reefs.

B. Mixed beach.

i) Parangtritis, South coast of Djokja (2).

The shells were collected on the rocky beach of the *Zuidergebergte* (Southern Mountains) East of Parangtritis (*Helcioniscus*, *Nerita*), and on the sandy beaches East of Parangtritis and near the "watering place" itself (bivalves).

C. sandy beach with dunes.

j) Sindangbarang (5).

D. Sandy and muddy beaches with mangrove vegetation of the North coast.

k) Fish ponds and mangrove West of the Pasar Ikan (fish market), Batavia (9).

Beach of silt with many fiddler crabs (*Uca*). *Nerita*, *Cerithium*¹⁾ and *Ellobium* on roots of mangrove trees. *Telescopium* and *Polymesoda* in the fish ponds.

l) Sandy beach at Kramat, East of Tegal (10).

Murex, *Nassarius* and *Turricula* from sea weed near the fishing boats.

m) Grisee (13).

Fish ponds and mangrove near the kampong (native village) of Indra, West of Grisee. The beach covered with *Placenta*, accumulated to thick piles at high water mark. Rubbish heaps with *Arca*, *Amusium* and *Placenta*, which apparently are eaten.

n) Kamal, Southwest point of Madoera (14).

Mangrove silt beach.

o) East of Rembang (11).

Sandy beach with mangrove, many pagurids and fiddler crabs (*Uca*).

3. Survey of the identified Mollusca.

The identified Mollusca and their localities have been compiled in the following table. A few specimens could not be identified as to the species,

1) Presumably *Cerithidea* is included.

the base shows a narrow cream coloured spiral, and in the aperture a band of the same colour, characteristic of the subgenus *Melaraphe*, is visible.

Altitude $8\frac{1}{2}$, Diameter $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

This new species is closely related to *L. acutispira* E. A. Smith (1891, p. 487, pl. 40 fig. 3), from which species it differs by the subcarinate body whorl, the plainer colour, and the characteristic spirals along the suture. In two young specimens of *L. acutispira* from Port Jackson in the collection of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie at Leiden the whorls are slightly more convex than in this new species.

Type: 1 specimen, Tjilaoet Eureun (South coast of Java), Prof. Dr. H. Gerth leg.

70. *Cerithidea djadjariensis* (K. Martin). On the taxonomy of the section *Cerithideopsilla* Thiele cf. my publication of 1940.

188. *Buccinum marmoratum* Reeve, 1846 is a primary homonym of *Buccinum marmoratum* Link, 1807; we leave it to a revisor of the group to dig out a valid name for this species or to invent a nomen novum. As to its allocation to *Engina* cf. Peile (1939, p. 271).

190. *Engina zonata* (Reeve, 1846) is preoccupied by *Engina zonata* J. E. Gray, 1839; this question also we refer to a revisor of the group.

242. *Conus ebraeus* Linnaeus. From one of the islands of Purmerend or Leiden the collection contains a subscalarid specimen of which the altitude is 50 mm.

296. The specimens referred to *Mytilus perna* Linnaeus agree with samples from Cape of Good Hope and Magellan Straits, with which I could compare them. They are different from Mediterranean specimens of what I think Lamy (1936, p. 130) calls *Mytilus perna*.

318. *Anomia aenigmatica* Anton: 2 specimens on the root of a mangrove tree on the island of Leiden.

321. *Ostrea cucculata* Born: The specimens from locality 11, Rembang, were fixed on shells of *Cerithium* spec.

324. *Ostrea* cf. *vitrefacta* G. B. Sowerby II: the specimens from locality 11, Rembang, lived on the roots of mangrove trees.



Fig. 2. *Littorina (Melaraphe) sundaica* nov. spec., type, $\times 7\frac{1}{2}$, recent, Tjilaoet Eureun (South coast of Java), Prof. Dr. H. Gerth leg., collection Geological Institution, Amsterdam, no. O 6678.

332. The specimen of *Scintilla timoriensis*, an odd valve, agrees very well with the original description by Deshayes (1855, p. 174). Its measurements are: altitude 15, length 20 mm.

359. *Venus listeri* (Gray). The present collection contains one specimen of this species, which agrees with other specimens from the East Indian Archipelago and with fig. 8 on pl. 152 of the *Thesaurus Conchyliorum* (Sowerby, 1853). West Indian samples, however, match fig. 7 of the same plate and should therefore be called *Venus crispata* Deshayes (cf. Deshayes, 1853, p. 2). I do not understand why Dall (1903, p. 372) and Lamy & Fischer-Piette (1938, p. 294) are of opposite opinion.

380. *Macoma* spec. This specimen agrees with Sowerby's figure of *Tellina lucerna* Hanley (1866, pl. 15 fig. 69), but I doubt whether this really represents Hanley's species (cf. Hanley, 1844, p. 147; 1846, p. 300, pl. 58 fig. 98). In the Zoological Museum at Amsterdam I could examine a specimen labelled *Macoma lucerna* (Hanley) which agrees with Hanley's description and figure. It differs from my Javanese specimen both by its shape and its thicker shell.

389. *Martesia ovum* (Gmelin): one specimen was found in a cavity in a colony of *Porites* near the pier at Grisee.

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