

A neotype for *Aegopinella nitidula* (Draparnaud, 1805) (Mollusca: Gastropoda Pulmonata: Zonitidae)

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Gittenberger, E. A neotype for *Aegopinella nitidula* (Draparnaud, 1805) (Mollusca: Gastropoda Pulmonata: Zonitidae).

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In order to preserve the current use of the name *Aegopinella nitidula* (Draparnaud, 1805), going back to Rossmässler (1835), a neotype is proposed for this taxon. The specimen concerned is described in the present paper. Two alleged syntypes in the collection of Draparnaud, in the Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, are not accepted as syntypes because they represent two other species. The case is referred to the ICZN for a ruling.

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Introduction

Forcart (1957, 1959) demonstrated that the current interpretation of *Aegopinella nitidula* (Draparnaud, 1805), going back to Rossmässler (1835), is not supported by the two alleged syntypes of this nominal taxon kept in the Draparnaud collection in the Viennese Naturhistorisches Museum. According to Forcart (1957, 1959), these specimens are a juvenile *Oxychilus draparnaudi* (Beck, 1837) and a full-grown *Aegopinella nitens* (Michaud, 1831) (see Forcart, 1959: pl. 3, figs. 5 and 6). Earlier, Locard (1895 [1896]: 148) had noticed that the two specimens labelled as *Helix nitidula* in the Draparnaud collection are not conspecific and both differ from the specimen figured by Draparnaud ("il nous faut conclure que le *H. nitidula* est représenté dans la collection par des formes différentes entre elles et différentes du type figuré"). It has to be added here, that these very poor figures (Draparnaud, 1805: pl. 8 figs. 21, 22) do not even enable the recognition of the genus concerned.

In order to preserve the current use of the name *Aegopinella nitidula* (Draparnaud, 1805) for a common western European species, a neotype is proposed for this species and the case is referred to the ICZN for a ruling (case no. 2871: Gittenberger, in press).

A neotype for *Aegopinella nitidula* (Draparnaud, 1805)

In order to preserve the current use of the name, a specimen from France, department of Pas-de-Calais, Forêt de Guines, 3 km SE of Guines [UTM DS13], is here proposed as neotype of *Aegopinella nitidula* (Draparnaud, 1805). The shell (figs. 1-3) is 4.1 mm high and 8.1 mm broad. It has four whorls that increase relatively slowly and gradually in width.

The genitalia (fig. 4) of the proposed neotype specimen are similar to those figured for the species by Forcart (1959: figs. 6-8). The penis is not subdivided into a

proximal and a distal part that can be recognized as separate entities on the outside. The distal part is curved down, with the penial retractor muscle inserting at its distal end, where the epiphallus starts. The epiphallus is about as broad as the vas deferens and runs along the penis. It is connected to the penis proximalis by a ring-like connective tissue. Close to this connection, the vas deferens opens into the epiphallus with a papilla in the lumen (fig. 4a). The vagina passes smoothly into the very broad proximal end of the spermathecal duct, which gradually tapers towards the spherical spermatheca. The free oviduct is about as long as the entire bursa copulatrix. The spermoviduct, with the prostata, narrows towards the glandula hermaphroditica.

The proposed neotype, i.e. the shell, a slide with the mounted genitalia, and the remaining soft parts in alcohol, has been deposited in the Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna: collection Mollusca, no. 86934.

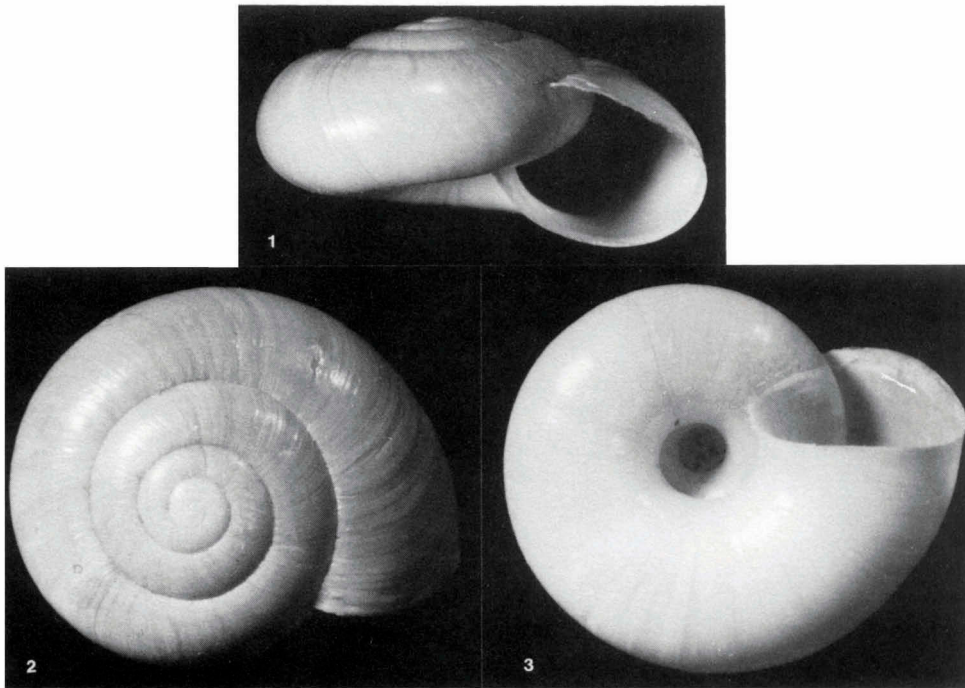
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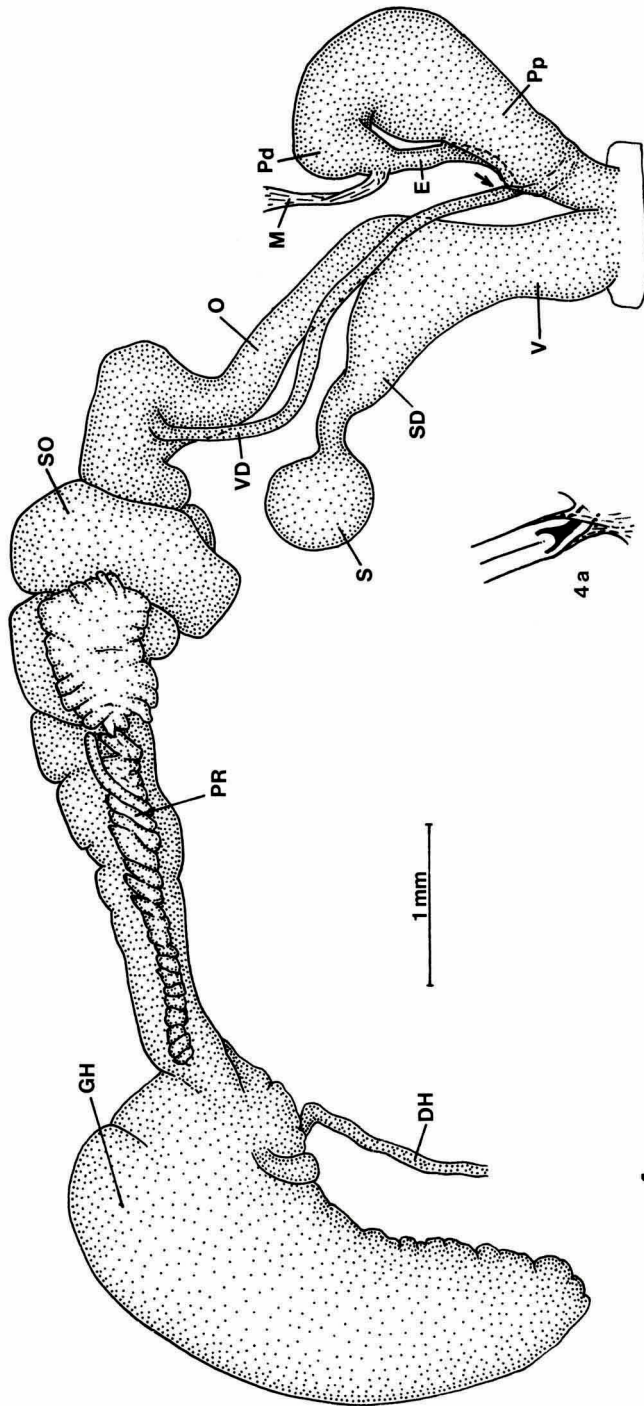
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Figs. 1-3. *Aegopinella nitidula*, proposed neotype (Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien: Mollusca, no. 86934); actual width 8.1 mm.



4

Fig. 4. *Agopinella nitidula*, proposed neotype, genitalia (Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien: Mollusca, no. 86934). The arrow indicates the location of the luminal papilla, marking the transition from the vas deferens into the epiphallus (fig. 4a). Abbreviations: DH = ductus hermaphroditicus; E = epiphallus; GH = glandula hermaphroditica; M = penial retractor muscle; O = oviduct; Pd = penis distalis; Pp = penis proximalis; PR = prostata; S = spermatheca; SD = spermathecal duct; SO = spermoviduct; V = vagina; VD = vas deferens.