

## Two new species of *Bocageia* GIRARD from Ethiopia

(Mollusca: Subulinidae).

By

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Amongst material from Ethiopia handed to me by Dr. M. A. J. WILLIAMS for examination were a number of Subulinidae from Mt. Gughé (6°12' N., 37°22' E.) and the nearby mountains of Tola and Woosha. Two of these I have failed to identify with any known species. The area is still not too well-known and, although it was explored by Dr. HUGH SCOTT and an account of his travels published (Proc. Linn. Soc. Lond., 163: 85-189 (1952)), he does not seem to have collected these species or, if he did, then the specimens are not available at the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) to whom he donated the material collected during the Gughé Highlands expedition. The peak of Tola (3445 m) is only about 12.8 km E. of the twin peaks of Gughé (4134 m) (see the maps in the above mentioned paper opposite p. 110 and Fig. 6 on p. 145). Three species appear to be involved — a large elongate-conical species (A) from Mt. Tola at 3100 m, a smaller more oblong-conical species (B) from Mt. Gughé at 3350 m and a very much more ovoid species (C) from Mt. Gughé at 3350 m. My initial impression was that species A and B could be matched with some of the *Homorus* species depicted on plate 8 of KOBELT's paper on some of the molluscan results of VON ERLANGER's expedition (Abh. senckenb. naturf. Ges., 32: 1-52, Taf. 1-11) particularly as he describes the apices of several of them as acute. Species A, B and C are characterised by markedly sharply pointed apices quite unlike the more obtuse bulbous apices of *Homorus* subg. *Homorus* and *Homorus* subg. *Subulona* MARTENS, now usually considered a separate genus but similar to many species of *Homorus* subg. *Oreohomorus* PILSBRY also often considered a separate genus. The apices of species A, B and C indicate that their correct position is in the genus *Bocageia* but I believe that many species at present referred to *Oreohomorus* probably also belong to *Bocageia*. Too little spirit material is available to make an adequate anatomical survey at present. I sent material to Dr. R. KILIAS of the Zoological Museum in Berlin and he considered that species A from Tola and species B from Gughé were probably conspecific; although closely resembling *Homorus erlangeri* KOBELT in form and colour they differ in the shape of the apex, the ribbed sculpture and the columella fold (based on a comparison with a paratype preserved in the Berlin collections. Dr. KILIAS kindly also compared my material with all the types of the species described from Ethiopia by THIELE and states 'there is only *Bocageia aethiopica* THIELE which could be the same species; but there exists only the holotype and that is a

juvenile shell' I had come to similar conclusions after studying a paratype of *Homorus erlangeri* and other specimens in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) collection. Dr. KILIAS confirmed that nothing at all similar to species C is present in the collections at Berlin but pointed out that despite the characteristic shape nevertheless it is very closely related to species A and B.

***Bocageia ovoidea*** n. sp. (Fig. 1).

Shell ovoid to oblong-ovoid, fairly thick, imperforate, chestnut brown with irregular rather ill-defined vertical darker blackish-brown stripes particularly on the body whorl which is the darkest part of the shell, glossy. Spire conical with slightly convex sides, the extreme apex very acute, forming an angle of  $70^\circ$ . Whorls  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , moderately convex, the first whorl more or less smooth, the next 3-4 very strongly ribbed (5-8 per mm.) with oblique costae which are sinuous just below the suture, cut by a few spiral lines to give a rather obscure granulated texture; rest of the whorls with less marked costae and no spiral lines. Suture moderately impressed. Aperture narrowly pyriform, white inside save for about 1.5-2 mm bordering the actual edge which is blue in fresh shells. Peristome sharp-edged, more or less vertical, the body whorl often thickened near the peristome. Columella truncate usually with a white curved thickened callus on its edge just above the truncation and reaching the parietal wall.

Dimensions of representative specimens (mm):

Height	Breadth	Height of aperture	Breadth of aperture
31.5	17.0	15.0	9.5
31.5	17.0	14.0	9.0
30.5	17.0	13.0	9.5
30.0	16.5	13.0	9.5
28.5 holotype	16.5	12.0	9.5
28.0	17.5	13.0	10.0
27.5	16.5	13.0	10.0
27.0	16.5	12.0	10.0
26.0	16.0	11.0	8.0
25.5	16.0	12.0	8.5
24.5	15.5	11.0	8.0

Ethiopia, Gamo-Gofa Province, Mt. Gughé, 3350 m, leg. M. A. J. WILLIAMS, (holotype SMF 242527; paratypes in SMF 242528/8, Zoologisches Museum, Berlin, Musée de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, British Museum (Nat. Hist.) and Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden).

***Bocageia fusiformis*** n. sp. (Fig. 2).

Shell oblong-fusiform, fairly thin, imperforate, chestnut-brown with irregular vertical darker blackish chestnut stripes (none of the material available has retained much of the original colour), glossy. Spire conical with convex sides, the extreme apex very acute forming an angle of  $56^\circ$ . Whorls 7, moderately

convex, the first whorl probably more or less smooth, the rest with strong ribs (4-8 per mm) which are sinuous just below the suture, cut by a few spiral lines to give a very obscure granulated effect. Suture moderately impressed. Aperture narrowly ovate, white inside. Peristome sharp-edged, slightly sloping forwards. Columella truncate with a white curved thickened callus on its edge near the junction of the columella with the parietal wall.

Dimensions of representative specimens (mm):

	Height	Breadth	Height of aperture	Breadth of aperture
Gughé				
	29.0 holotype	11.5	11.0	6.0
	28.5	12.0	12.0	7.0
	28.0	12.0	12.0	7.0
	22.0	10.0	9.5	5.5
	18.5	8.0	7.0	4.0
Woosha				
	27.5	11.5	11.0	6.0

Ethiopia, Gamo-Gofa Province, Mt. Gughé, 3350 m, leg. M. A. J. WILLIAMS (holotype SMF 242529; paratypes in SMF 242530, Musée de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren); Woosha, 3500 m, leg. M. A. J. WILLIAMS (British Museum (Nat. Hist.)). A small specimen from the footslopes of Mt. Gughé, 3000 m, leg. M. A. J. WILLIAMS is probably the same species.

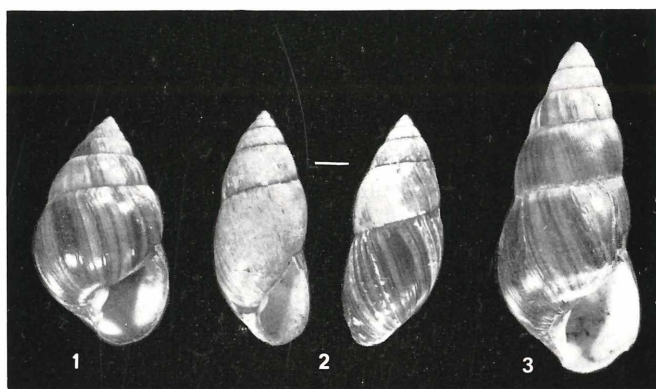


Fig. 1. *Bocageia ovoidea* n. sp. — Holotypus SMF 242527.  
 Fig. 2. *Bocageia fusiformis* n. sp. — Holotypus SMF 242529.  
 Fig. 3. *Bocageia* cf. *aethiopica* THIELE. — SMF 242531a.

***Bocageia* cf. *aethiopica* THIELE (Fig. 3).**

1933 *Bocageia aethiopica* THIELE, S.-B. Ges. naturf. Fr. Berlin, 1933: 307, figs. 44, 44a.

Ethiopia, Gamo-Gofa Province, Mt. Tola, 3100 m, leg. M. A. J. WILLIAMS (SMF 242531/5; British Museum (Nat. Hist.) and Musée de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren).

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