

A new species of *Tayloria* BOURGUIGNAT (Mollusca, Streptaxidae) from Tanganyika.

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With 2 Figures.

In 1958 I gave a synopsis of the genus *Tayloria* but left two species undescribed. I am now in a position to describe one of these. I collected a *Tayloria* at Amani in the E. Usambaras in 1950 and sent the specimen to the late Dr. K. L. PFEIFFER. He passed the animal on to the late HUGH WATSON but retained the shell for his own collection. After PFEIFFER died, his collection passed to the Senckenberg-Museum, Frankfurt. I retrieved a good deal of material from HUGH WATSON after his death including the animal of this *Tayloria*. It therefore seemed wise to borrow the shell and describe the species and then to return both shell and animal to Frankfurt. I am indebted to Dr. ZILCH for loaning me the shell.

Tayloria amaniensis n. sp.

Closely allied to *T. striata* VERDCOURT and *T. jucunda* THIELE but differing by being very much smoother below; thinner and more depressed than *T. striata*.

Shell white, rather dull above shining below, depressed-helicoid, spire very rounded, raised about 2 mm above the top of the aperture; umbilicus rather narrow, very deep, every whorl visible inside it, 2-2.5 mm wide. Whorls 6, moderately convex, the last rounded at the periphery with only the faintest suggestion of angulation. The first 2-2.5 whorls are almost smooth; the rest are finely, closely ribbed above; 12-14 per millimetre on 2nd. and 3rd. whorls, 10-12 per millimetre on 4th. and 5th. whorls and 6-10 per millimetre on the body whorl, the change in density being very regular; the ribs extend to the periphery but then disappear, most of the base being almost smooth and shining but the ribs reappear near the umbilicus and enter deeply into it, being particularly strong near the peristome. There is, therefore, a smooth band on the base between the two sets of ribs; between the ribs there is a distinct spiral sculpture element which does not cross the ribs. Aperture suborbicular-broadly lunate, set obliquely. Peristome rather sinuously curved at first, projecting in a smooth curve, then receding at the periphery and thence gradually to the base, slightly reflected, particularly near the columella, callus thin and indistinct.

Dimensions of holotype: major diameter 12.5 mm., minor diameter 11 mm., height 7 mm., breadth of aperture 6.3 mm., height of aperture 5.2 mm. (Fig. 1).

Locality Tanganyika Territory. East Usambara Mountains, Amani, Mt. Bomole, under moss and twigs near summit. B. VERDCOURT leg. 29. VII. 1950 serial

letter CO (holotype SMF 163023). A further specimen is in the collection of the late Dr. L. A. W. C. VENMANS.

The animal is white, save for the mantle which is pale but speckled with deep purple-brown spots, and for some dense grey flecks on the back. The genitalia are similar to those of other Streptaxidae including *T. urguessensis* (PRESTON), the only other species of *Tayloria* known to me anatomically. Part of the ducts are shown in Fig. 2. The radula is 13 mm long and 1 mm wide.

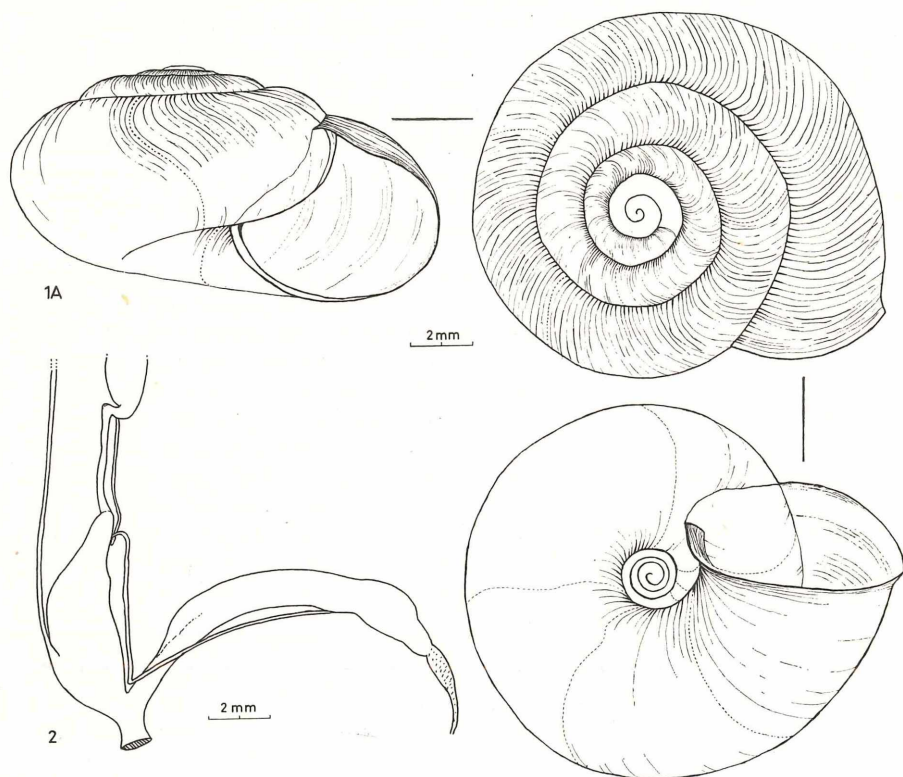


Fig. 1-2. *Tayloria amaniensis* n. sp. Shell of holotype (sculpture in Fig. 1A diagrammatic and spiral element omitted). Tanganyika, E. Usambaras, Amani. — 2) Part of genital ducts of holotype.

There are 72 rows, the 4th. to the 11th. nascent rows brown, the rest of the radula colourless. The formula is 1; 6←1 : 1 : 1→6; 1, the lateral teeth increasing up to the 6th. but the 7th. is small. This radula shows that this formula is not confined to the large-shelled species of the genus only but that the name *Colpanostoma* (often used as a subgenus for the large species) must also be extended to small-shelled species. I am not using the name since the characters do not appear to correlate.

I am very grateful to Mrs. E. J. BROWN for her assistance with the illustrations of the shells.

R e f e r e n c e .

VERDCOURT, B.: Descriptions of two new Taxa of *Tayloria* BGT. together with a Synopsis of the genus (Mollusca, Streptaxidae). — Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr., 58: 267-276 (1958).

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