

# On a new species of the genus *Pseudonenia* BOETTGER, 1877, from Namchik, NEFA, India

(Mollusca: Pulmonata: Clausiliidae).

By

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With two textfigures.

Amongst specimens of molluscs received for identification on 19. XII. 1962 from the Eastern Regional Station of Zoological Survey of India, Shillong, Assam, were found seven quite good and peculiar land snails of the family Clausiliidae collected by Sri C. B. SRIVASTAVA from Namchik in Tirap Division, NEFA, on 17. 1. 1962. Having failed to ascertain their exact identity and relationships we thought it advisable to approach Dr. F. E. LOOSJES of Wageningen, Netherlands, for his expert opinion. So, the material was sent to him and after critical study he also arrived at the conclusion that they doubtless represent an undescribed species of the genus *Pseudonenia*. Now, we consider it a pleasure to associate with this new form, *P. loosjesiana*, the name of Dr. LOOSJES as a token of the great help so kindly offered by him.

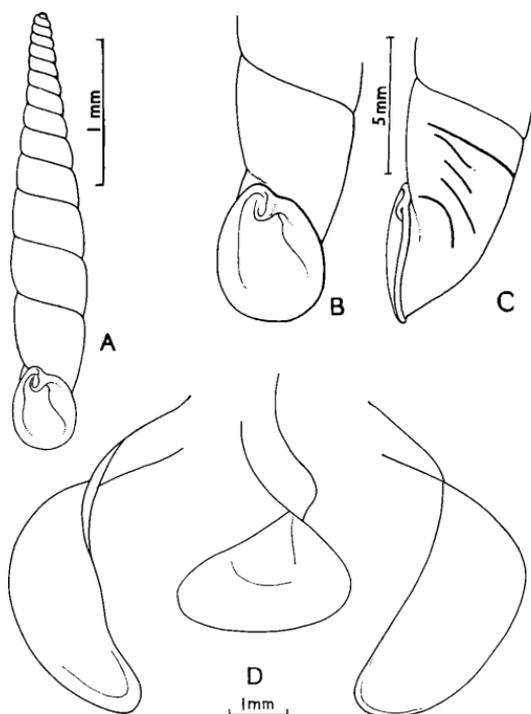
Stylommatophora.

Phaedusinae.

## ***Pseudonenia (Pseudonenia) loosjesiana* n. sp.**

**Diagnosis.** Shell large, sinistral, sub-rimate, rather solid, fusiform, turreted, brownish, glossy and rather semi-transparent; spire long, straight and gradually attenuated upwards with almost straight lateral outlines and its apex blunt, nuclear whorls  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , smooth, ventricose and light brown to white (especially the tip); whorls  $13\frac{1}{2}$  to  $14\frac{1}{2}$ , slightly convex, gradually increasing in size and sculptured with numerous fine, close and straight vertical striae often appearing coarser and less close in the lower whorls (more so in the bodywhorl or neck) and traversed by indistinct spirals; bodywhorl slightly longer and narrower than the penultimate whorl and its neck slowly and regularly bent towards the aperture; sutures impressed and oblique, but no trace of any thread-line below; palatal plicae five in number, but rarely six (Textfig. 2, no. 5), first or uppermost one, known as 'plica palatalis principalis', longest of all and running parallel to the suture from the ventrolateral on the

right side to the dorsal side and nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  whorl long, while the remaining plicae below it four in number or rarely five (Textfig. 2, no. 5), short and differing as regards their length, form and position, but the lowest one appearing semi-circular in all and only in one case found to be forked at its outer end (Textfig. 2, no. 2); aperture wide, pear-shaped, trumpet-like and brownish within; peristome continuous, thickened, white and brown-tinged, glossy, outwardly expanded and reflexed; sinulus high and prominent somewhat recalling *Clausilia (Phaedusa) annandalei* PRESTON (1915) from upper Rotung in Abor, Assam, just clear of the preceding whorl and formed by the upper peristomal margin being raised up and then bent to the right and thus becoming very slightly obliquely angular where it is touched by the oblique superior lamella; from sinulus the outer peristomal margin runs slightly curved down, while the parieto-columellar margin first slightly expanded at its upper part somewhat-like in *Pseudonenia obesa obesa* (MARTENS, 1867) from Sumatra figured by LOOSJES (1953: 68, Textfig. 16a) and then descending down curvedly and regularly and both the margins finally uniting at the bottom of the aperture form a rather rounded base; inferior lamella low but distinct, more strong and broad and ascending inwards rather straight and visible from inside the aperture, but the lamella subcolumellaris ('columellar of ROSSMÄSSLER') not at all discernible;



Textfig. 1. Holotype of *Pseudonenia (Pseudonenia) loosjesiana* n. sp. from Namchik, NEFA, India. — A, B) ventral view of shell; C) ventro-lateral view of the same showing the palatal plicae; D) three views of clausilium.

clausilium provided with a saddle-shaped flexible elastic plate (Textfig. 1D) looking somewhat-like that of *Hemiphaedusa excurrens* (MARTENS, 1864) from Sumatra figured by LOOSJES (1953: 183, 194, Textfigs. 55d and 56f respectively), the margins of which appearing entire as in all the Indian forms (GUDE, 1914: 304) and merging regularly into a narrow twisted pedicle (Textfig. 1D) curving upwards into the penultimate whorl.

Largest specimen measures 40 mm. in height and 6.5 mm. in diameter (but its tip is slightly damaged) and the aperture 7 mm. in length and 5.5 mm. in breadth.

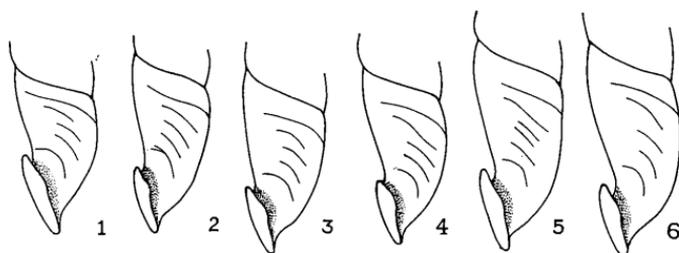
Measurements in millimetres:

	L. of shell	D. of shell	L. of spire	No. of whorls	No. of plicae	L. of ap.	B. of ap.
Holotype	36.5	6	27	14½..	5..	6.5	5

**Holotype:** Regd. No. M. 17982/3. Deposited in the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta (India).

**Paratypes:** Regd. No. M. 17983/3. Deposited in the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta (India) and SMF 192722/1.

**Type-locality:** Namchik in Tirap Division, NEFA, India. Coll. C. B. Srivastava. Date of collection. 17. 1. 1962.



Textfig. 2. Diagrammatic representation of the palatal plicae as observed in the ventro-lateral view of the paratypes of *Pseudonenia loosjesiana*.

**Remarks.** *P. (P.) loosjesiana* is a peculiar form of large Clausilid, the discovery of which has really made an interesting addition to the land mollusca of India and thereby increased the number of truly Indian clausilids from twelve to thirteen, the majority being confined to the Himalayan region (GUDE, 1914: 304). Its affinities with other clausilids, such as, *Clausilia anmandalei*, *Pseudonenia obesa obesa* and *Hemiphaedusa excurrens*, are already pointed out above. It also appears somewhat-like *P. javana* (PFEIFFER, 1841) from Java in form (figure given by LOOSJES, 1953: 60).

In connection with this study the monograph on Indo-Australian Clausiliidae published by LOOSJES (1953) has proved quite useful to us, as he has nicely illustrated the characters of all the forms dealt with. Besides this, the work of GUDE (1914) is also carefully consulted.

### References.

- GUDE, G. K. (1914): The Fauna of British India, Mollusca, II. (Trochomorphidae-Janelidae), London, pp. 301-339 (Family Clausiliidae).
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- PRESTON, H. B. (1915): Zoological results of the Abor Expedition 1911-12. Mollusca V. — Rec. Ind. Mus. Calcutta, 8: 537-541 (538, Textfig. 2).

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Archiv für Molluskenkunde](#)

Jahr/Year: 1968

Band/Volume: [98](#)

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Artikel/Article: [On a new species of the genus Pseudonenia Boettger, 1877, from Namchik, NEFA, India \(Mollusca: Pulmonata: Clausiliidae\). 91-94](#)