

## New Streptaxidae from East Africa.

By

BERNARD VERDCOURT,  
Maidenhead (England).

With 3 figures.

### ***Gulella planidens reductidentata*** n. subsp.

Fig. 1.

Shell very similar to that of typical *G. planidens* (MARTENS) but with only one small denticle on the outer lip; the characteristic upper columellar lobe is present with its central tooth. The shell is practically smooth save for some small, strong crenellations below the suture and some very obscure growth lines.

Dimensions: Height 10.5 mm., breadth 5 mm.

Distribution: Tanganyika, near Mbeya, Rungwe Mts., Kiwira, grass moorland on exposed cliff of volcanic ash; W. WILKINSON 9 March 1963 (holotype SMF 181611).

Many species of *Gulella* vary considerably in their dentition. It must not be assumed that the number of teeth is always of specific importance<sup>1</sup>).

### ***Gonaxis (Pseudogonaxis) stenostoma*** n. sp.

Fig. 2.

1960 *G. percivali* sensu VERDCOURT, Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr., 61: 258 in part not of PRESTON.

Shell rather small, oblong, umbilicate, rather thick, whitish, somewhat shining, very distorted so that when lying with the aperture facing upwards only the body whorl, and part of the whorl above it are visible; when lying with the aperture facing downwards every whorl is visible. Apex very obtuse. Whorls 6, the body whorl, together with half the whorl above, occupying over half the shell and forming a marked angle with the upper depressed helicoid portion

<sup>1</sup>) I take this opportunity to correct some errors in my key to the East African species of *Gulella* (VERDCOURT 1962) which went uncorrected in the proofs, mainly the omission of brackets around the names of authorities.

p. 8 *aenigmatica* (SMITH); p. 11 *inconspicua* (THIELE); p. 13 *ovalis* (THIELE), *tomlini* (PRESTON), *radius* (PRESTON); p. 14 *minutissima* (THIELE), *percivali* (PRESTON); p. 16 *strictilabris* (ANCEY); p. 18 *noltei* (BOETTGER); p. 23 *hector* (PRESTON); p. 24 *sellae* (POLLONERA), *subringens* (CROSSE) (*E. ringens* CROSSE non H. ADAMS = *bourguignatiana* ANCEY, 1886); p. 30 *princei* (PRESTON); p. 32 HAAS, F. (1929); p. 39 *sexdentata* MARTENS, 1869, *subhyalina* var. *addita* MARTENS, 1897.

(juvenile shells will be depressed helicoid and quite undistorted); body whorl considerably flattened above the aperture, the next whorl very convex at the point where the helicoid apical part of the shell is tilted over the lower whorl. Apical  $2\frac{1}{2}$  whorls smooth save for some sutural crenellations in some areas and some vague spiral marks; next half whorl with marked, spaced, but not crisp ribs; all the succeeding whorls are closely, crisply costulate varying from about 18/mm. near the apex to 6-8/mm. on the body whorl, the area above the aperture being as strongly costate as the rest of the shell; suture simple, well-defined. Aperture narrow, polished within, oblique,  $\frac{3}{4}$ -elliptic, truncate above; peristome thick, markedly reflexed, receding to the base, microscopically granular; callus so thin as to be almost non-existent, micropunctate. Dentition none.

**Dimensions** (in mm.): The unique holotype measures: height (measured along the shell) 11, height held tilted 9, breadth (measured across the shell) 7 (max.), 5.5 (min.), breadth held tilted 9, aperture, height 5.5, breadth 3.8.

**Distribution:** Kenya, Northern Frontier Province, Melka Murri, J. G. WILLIAMS (holotype SMF 181612).

This species is closely allied to *G. percivali* (PRESTON) [said to equal *G. woodhousei* (PRESTON)], *G. cavallii* (POLLONERA) and to *G. nsendweensis* (PUTZEYS). It differs from all in its even more distorted shape, very narrow aperture, and smooth apical whorls. Since the type locality is very remote and not likely to be revisited by a collector for many years, this distinctive species, which will be readily recognised when refound, has been described from a single specimen.

### ***Gonaxis (Macrogonaxis) ulugurensis* n. sp.**

**Fig. 3.**

1961 *Gonaxis* sp., — VERDCOURT, Coryndon Memor. Mus. Occas. Pap., 8: 15, 20, fig. 8.

Shell rather small, oblong-subrhomboid, imperforate save when young, but with a depression in the umbilical area, very pale horn-coloured with a milky tinge, very shining. Spire distorted, apex very blunt, about  $120^\circ$ , inclined so far back that it is not visible when the shell is lying level with the aperture facing upwards; with the aperture facing downwards, the apex is visible as in a normal shell and little distortion is visible. Whorls  $6\frac{1}{4}$ , the body whorl flattened above the aperture, the next whorl quite convex at the point where the helicoid apical part of the shell is tilted over the lower whorls; rest of whorls slightly convex. Apical  $2\frac{1}{2}$  whorls smooth, with suture not well defined, next  $2\frac{3}{4}$  whorls with the well defined suture crenellate but the striae scarcely extending below the crenellations; rest of shell surface polished but with some obscure growth lines. Body whorl with only traces of sutural crenellations. Aperture subquadrate, smoothly rounded below; peristome whitish, somewhat thickened and reflected, particularly in the upper columellar region. There is no dentition.

**Dimensions** (in mm.): The holotype measures: height (measured along shell) 13.5, height held tilted 13, breadth measured across shell 9.5 (max.), 8 (min.), breadth held tilted 11; aperture, height 6, breadth 5.5. Another paratype measured  $12.5 \times 9$ . A helicoid juvenile with no trace of distortion measured 8 in height and 9.5 in breadth.

Distribution: Tanganyika, Morogoro District, Uluguru Mts., Bunduki, J. BOND (Holotype SMF 181613, paratype juvenile SMF 181614, paratype and paratype juvenile in British Museum (Nat. Hist.)).

Some account has already been given of the anatomy of the species. The vas deferens and penial retractor muscle are inserted well below the apex of the penial complex; vas deferens rather short and thick. Radula with central tooth absent from each row; teeth narrowly aculeate; marginal pleurae present bearing small teeth but not so marked als in *Gonaxis craveni* (SMITH); there is a gradual decrease in size from the largest (7th.) tooth outwards and not a sudden change; formula 14 : 13 : 0 : 13 : 14.

Three other species have been described from the Uluguru Mts. This new species differs from *G. bloyeti* BOURGUIGNAT in its much smaller size and from *G. ukamicus* (THIELE) by lacking a parietal tooth. *G. enneoides* (MARTENS) is similar but much more striate; *G. loveridgei* BEQUAERT & CLENCH has a larger shell with a distinct fine sculpture. *G. welwitschii* (MORELET) has a similar shell but clearly differs in its larger umbilical area and sculpture.

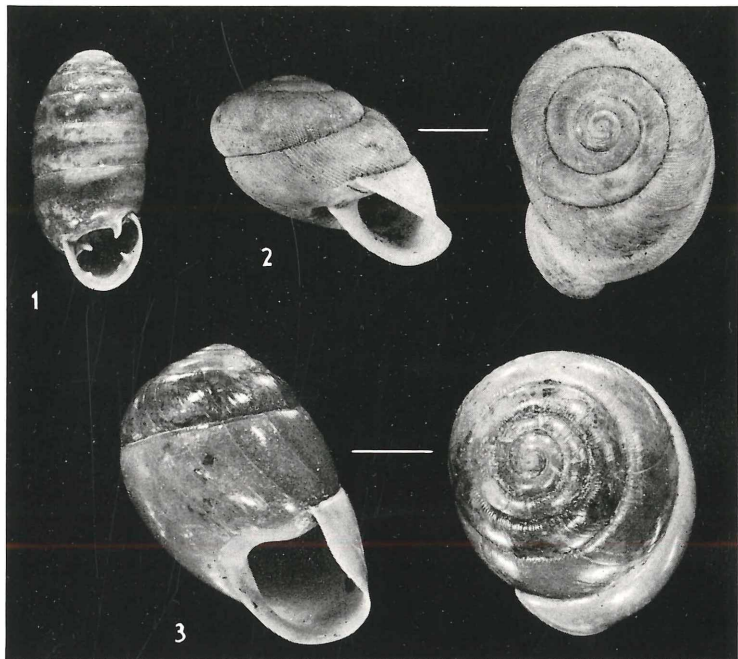


Fig. 1. *Gulella planidens reductidentata* n. subsp.,  $\times 3$ . Holotype SMF 181611.

Fig. 2. *Gonaxis* (*Pseudogonaxis*) *stenostoma* n. sp.,  $\times 3$ . Holotype SMF 181612.

Fig. 3. *Gonaxis* (*Macrogonaxis*) *ulugurensis* n. sp.,  $\times 3$ . Holotype SMF 181613.

# ZOBODAT - [www.zobodat.at](http://www.zobodat.at)

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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

Jahr/Year: 1965

Band/Volume: [94](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Verdcourt Bernard

Artikel/Article: [New Streptaxidae from East Africa. 165-167](#)