

NOTE ON SOME HELICOIDS FROM NEW GUINEA.

By G. K. GUDE, F.Z.S.

Read 14th June, 1912.

A SMALL collection of Helicoids recently acquired by the British Museum was entrusted to me for examination by Mr. E. A. Smith, Assistant Keeper of Zoology. These shells were collected by Mr. A. S. Meek near the Setikwa River in Dutch New Guinea, and, although few in number, are of interest from the fact that none of the species represented have previously been recorded from the mainland of New Guinea, while the habitat of *Papuina rhombostoma* has hitherto remained unknown.

PLANISPIRA (CRISTIGIBBA) LEPTOCHEILA, Tapp.-Canefri.

Helix leptocheila, Tapparone-Canefri, Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova, vol. xx, p. 150, pl. i, figs. 14-16, 1883.

Three specimens. Typically this species is white with one broad deep chestnut band above the periphery, and a rosy peristome; one of the specimens has this band, but it is pale brown in colour, while the shell itself is pale fawn; the second shell has in addition two very narrow bands, one above and one below the broad band, while the third specimen is similarly banded, but the median one is much reduced in width, and the peristome is blackish-brown, this colour being suffused beyond the gibbous portion. It was originally taken in the Moluccas. I possess specimens collected by Mr. Pratt in the Aru Islands.

PAPUINA RHOMBOSTOMA, Pfeiffer.

Helix rhombostoma, Pfeiffer, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1845, p. 72; Reeve, Conch. Icon. Helix, 1854, pl. ccvi, fig. 1456.

Helix (Papuina) rhombostoma, Pilsbry, Man. Conch., ser. II, vol. vii, p. 60, pl. xvi, figs. 14-15, 1891.

The single specimen received agrees fairly with the figure given by Reeve of *Helix rhombostoma*, a form which appears not to have been collected since it was described by Pfeiffer. It is intermediate between *P. Tayloriana*, Ad. & Reeve, and *P. Trobriandensis*, Hedley, having more flattened whorls than the latter, and a less developed beak at the aperture than the former. Its habitat was unknown, but Pilsbry shrewdly guessed that the species should be looked for in Southern New Guinea and its neighbouring islands.

PAPUINA WALLACEANA, Sykes.

Journ. Malac., vol. x, p. 65, pl. vi, fig. 14, 1903.

This species was originally brought home from Waigiou. The type has six bands: one at the periphery, two above, and three below it. The three specimens collected are somewhat more elevated in the spire; one has only one faint band peripherally, the second has one

above and two below the peripheral band, the third and fourth being fused in places; the third specimen has eight bands: four above and three below the peripheral band.

The species is related to *P. pseudolabium*, Pfeiffer, and *P. Kapaurensis*, Smith, but has a more depressed spire than the former, and is less solid than either.

CHLORITIS SULCOSA, var. MEEKI, n. var.

Helix sulcosa, Pfeiffer, Malak. Blatt., vol. i, p. 65, 1854; Novit. Conch., vol. i, p. 1, pl. i, figs. 1-3, 1854.

Hitherto only recorded from the Aru Islands. The new variety differs from the type in being darker—blackish-brown—and in having the peristome purplish-brown; it is also larger, and has a relatively higher axis.

Major diam. 53, minor 42.5 mm.; alt. 35 mm.



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