

***Tractolira delli*, a new Volutidae (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Neogastropoda) from the abyssal plains off Antarctica**

JOSÉ H. LEAL¹ & M.G. HARASEWYCH²

¹The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum, P.O. Box 1580, Sanibel, FL 33957 USA
jleal@shellmuseum.org

²Department of Invertebrate Zoology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 37012, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
Harasewych@si.edu

Abstract

A new deep-sea species of Volutidae in the genus *Tractolira* is named from material collected by the United States Antarctic Program in and around the Ross Sea, eastern Antarctica, and from one locality in the Subantarctic region. *Tractolira delli* new species is most similar to *T. sparta* Dall, 1896, from which it differs in having a relatively wider shell, less prominent spiral sculpture, with narrower threads, and by the absence of strong axial ribs at least on the first three teleoconch whorls. The other Antarctic congener, *Tractolira germonae*, has a thicker, dark-brown periostracum (instead of a thin, light-yellow one), a proportionally smaller inductura, and lacks surface sculpture.

Key words: Antarctica, Antarctic, sub-Antarctic, Odontocymbiolinae

Introduction

The originally monotypic genus *Tractolira* was erected by Dall (1896) to include *Tractolira sparta* Dall, 1896, a species occurring in abyssal depths of the tropical eastern Pacific Ocean. Harasewych (1987) named a second species of the genus, *T. germonae*, from the subantarctic South Sandwich Islands. Two years later, Leal and Bouchet (1989) named *T. tenebrosa*, a species collected off Brazil in 2370–3270 m.

As a result of the efforts of the United States Antarctic Program (USAP), a large number of species of shallow- and deep-sea mollusks was collected by the USNS ELTANIN during the 1960s and 1970s. A large part of this material, now stored at the Smithsonian Museum Support Center in Suitland, Maryland, was studied and described by Dell (1990). In his landmark work on Antarctic Mollusca Dell treated, but left unnamed, a novel