Three new species of Tellina (Bivalvia, Tellinidae) from the Panamic Province

EUGENE V. COAN1 & PAUL VALENTICH-SCOTT2
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta del Sol Road, Santa Barbara, California 93105, USA.
E-mail: ‘genecoan@gmail.com; ’prescott@sbnature2.org

In preparing a manual on the marine bivalves of the Panamic Province, we have found three species of the Tellinidae that lack names. The purpose of this paper is to describe a new species of Tellina (Hertellina), a new species of Tellina (Merisca), and a new species of Tellina (Acorylus). The subgenus Acorylus is reported for the first time from the eastern Pacific Ocean.

Abbreviations: BMNH—The Natural History Museum, London; CAS—California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California; LACM—Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California; SBMNH—Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California; UMML—University of Miami Marine Laboratory, Miami, Florida; USNM—United States National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.

Genus Tellina Linnaeus, 1758

Tellina Linnaeus, 1758. Type species (subsequent designation of Children, 1823): Tellina radiata Linnaeus, 1758. Recent, Caribbean.

Shell elongate, compressed; hinge plate with two cardinal teeth in each valve and lateral teeth in one or both valves, sometimes overgrown in adults; often brightly colored and elegantly sculptured.

Subgenus Hertellina Olsson, 1961

Hertellina Olsson, 1961. Type species (original designation): Tellina nicoyana Hertlein & Strong, 1949

Shell ovate elongate, thin shelled; sculpture of commarginal striae that become oblique toward posterior end; lateral teeth prominent in right valve; pallial sinuses not approaching anterior adductor muscle scars.

Tellina (Hertellina) sadeghianae Coan & Valentich-Scott, new species

Figures 1 A–E, 2 A

Shell ovate-elongate, moderately inflated; subequilateral; exterior color light to dark pink; periostracum adherent, thin, shiny, slightly iridescent; umbonal region smooth; sculpture of commarginal striae that become slightly oblique near posterior end; posterior slope smooth, with only fine commarginal striae; right valve anterior lateral tooth short, thin, moderately close to cardinals; posterior lateral tooth thin, very distant from cardinals; pallial sinuses long, not reaching anterior adductor scars, mostly confluent with pallial line.

Type material. SBMNH 352864, holotype; length, 24.5 mm; height, 14.3 mm. SBMNH 352864, 3 paratypes, paired valves; USNM 1146209, 1 paratype, paired valves.

Type locality. Bahía Parita, Coclé, Panamá; 81°5'47"N, 80°16'35"W; 11–17 m, in sandy mud.

Distribution. Bahía Ballena, Puntarenas, Costa Rica (9.7°N) [CAS], to Esmeraldas, Esmeraldas, Ecuador (1.0°N) [UMML, SBMNH]; 11–17 m [SBMNH]; sandy mud.

Etymology. This species is named after Patricia Sadeghian of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, who has taken thousands of bivalve images for our research projects and monographs.

Comparisons. The only other Recent species in the subgenus, Tellina (Hertellina) nicoyana Hertlein & Strong, 1949, differs from T. (H.) sadeghianae in having a posterior dorsal flange, widely spaced comm marginal ribs on the umbalon region, being lighter in color, and in being more compressed (Figures 1 F–H). Sanguinolaria (Sanguinolaria) azulensis Olsson, 1942 (p. 194, pl. 18, fig. 8), described from the Pliocene Charco Azul Formation of the Burica Peninsula on the Costa Rica and Panama border, seems to be a synonym of T. nicoyana. “Sanguinolaria panamensis Dall ms” was listed by Bernard (1983: 43) as a synonym of T. nicoyana, presumably having been spotted on a label in the USNM. The new species differs from the Late Pliocene of Trinidad T. (H.) oligoscuissulata Jung, 1969 (pp. 386–387, pl. 33, figs. 1–4), in being slightly more elongate, less high, and with a deeper pallial sinus that is more dorsally directed.