

# **A new species of the genus *Falsilatirus* Emerson & Moffitt, 1988 (Gastropoda: Fasciolaridae) from the Philippine Islands.**

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**KEYWORDS:** Gastropoda, Fasciolaridae, *Falsilatirus suduirauti* n.sp., Philippines.

**ABSTRACT.** A new species belonging to the genus *Falsilatirus* is described from deep water off Central Philippines. This is the second species recorded for the genus introduced by Emerson & Moffitt and tentatively placed in the family Fasciolaridae.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In recent years deep water shell fishing traps operating in the Philippine Islands have been a very important source of material for study. The new taxon here described is of special interest, being the second known species belonging to a genus of questionable position: *Falsilatirus*. EMERSON & MOFFITT (1988) introduced this name attempting to place taxonomically a previously unknown species of prosobranch gastropod found in traps, operating in deep waters off the Mariana Islands. This placement has been made considering mainly the presence of a prominent spiral columellar fold, but other shell characters do not support this attribution. Soft parts must be available for a definitive placement of the genus.

## **SYSTEMATICS**

### **Genus: *Falsilatirus***

Emerson & Moffitt, 1988

Type species: *Falsilatirus pacificus* Emerson & Moffitt, 1988 (by original designation)

### ***Falsilatirus suduirauti* sp.n.**

Figs 1-4.

**Description.** Shell solid, high spired, protoconch papillose, paucispiral, consisting of 1.5 smooth whorls. Teleoconch of 7 convex, subangulate whorls, separated by deeply impressed, wavy suture. Spiral sculpture of primary cords extending just from over shoulder to lower sutural line on spire, to siphonal canal on body whorl: 18 cords on body whorl, 8 on penultimate, decreasing in number on previous whorls; presence of minor cordlets in interspaces between primary cords. Axial sculpture of 7 strong elongate nodules per whorl and of fine microcostulation on entire shell surface. Aperture irregularly outlined; outer

edge raised, sharp, with 8 submarginal fold-like denticles: posterior denticle isolated, others partially fused, decreasing in strength anteriorly, columella with 2 central denticles. Shell surface evenly stained of pale yellow, peristome white, inside of aperture yellow.



Fig. 1. *Falsilatirus suduirauti* sp.n., holotype MNHN, 32.85 mm.

**Type Material.** Holotype: 32.85 x 17.3 mm, MNHN, paratype: 32.05 x 16.8 mm, author's collection. Holotype live taken, paratype crabbed.

**Type Locality.** Balut, Mindanao Island, Central Philippines; 140-180 m.

**Discussion.** *Falsilatirus suduirauti* is similar to *F. pacificus* Emerson & Moffitt, 1988 in the general characters. It differs in the uniform staining, in the more numerous axial nodules (7 versus 5), spiral primary cords (6-8 versus 3-4 on spire whorls, 18 versus 12 on body whorl) and labrum denticles (8 versus 6) and in the more developed siphonal canal.

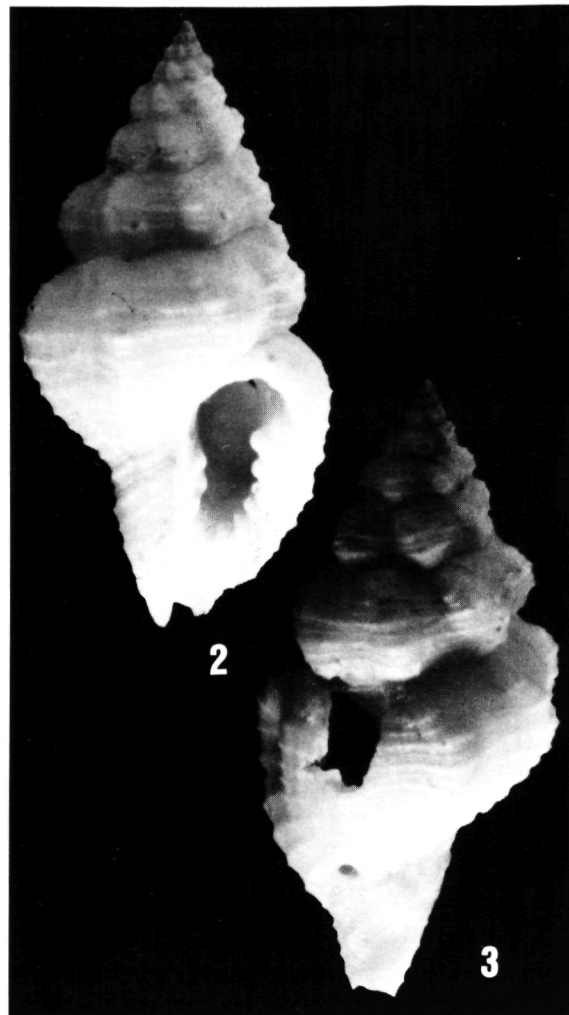
**Etymology.** This species is named after Mr Emmanuel Guillot de Suduiraut who personally fished the specimens and generously donated them for study purposes.

**Acknowledgments.**

I am greatly indebted to Roland Houart for the cooperation.

**REFERENCE**

EMERSON, W.K. & R.B. MOFFITT, 1988. A New Genus and Species of Prosobranch Gastropod (?Fasciolaridae) from the Mariana Islands. *Veliger* 31(1/2): 43-45.



Figs. 2-3. *Falsilatirus suduirauti* sp.n., paratype coll. Bozzetti, 32.05 mm.