

A brief note on the distribution of the Drupa clathrata complex
in Indonesia (Gastropoda, Muricidae)

by

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In the excellent monograph on the genus Drupa (Gastropoda, Muricidae) in the Indo-Pacific, Emerson & Cernohorsky (1973: 31-34) recognized two subspecies of Drupa (Ricinella) clathrata (Lamarck, 1816). Typical D. clathrata s.s. is living in the Pacific Ocean: from Japan and the Philippines to the Marquesas and Pitcairn Islands, while the subspecies miticula (Lamarck, 1822) is confined to the Indian Ocean: from Madagascar to the Isle of Timor in Indonesia.

The two subspecies may be easily differentiated by the presence of a brown colouration on the columella and the inner lip (clathrata) and the absence of it (miticula).

From Indonesia, which is exactly situated between the distribution areas of D. clathrata miticula in the West and D. clathrata clathrata in the North-East, Emerson & Cernohorsky (1973: 34) recorded only miticula from Timor.

During a short visit in 1974 to the Zoological Museum in Amsterdam (ZMA) and the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie in Leiden (RNHL) a few additional records from Indonesian waters could be registered.

Drupa (Ricinella) clathrata clathrata (Lamarck, 1816)

SUMATRA: Lingga Arch., Sebang (RNHL); JAVA (ZMA); MOLUCCAS (various samples, ZMA); Ambon (various samples, RNHL).

Drupa (Ricinella) clathrata miticula (Lamarck, 1822)

JAVA, South coast, Tjilaoet Eureum (RNHL); JAVA, South coast, Tjilatjap (RNHL).

Although our knowledge of the distribution of the Drupa clathrata complex in Indonesia is still far from sufficient, it is obvious from the presented data that Drupa clathrata miticula seems to be restricted indeed to the Indian Ocean. Its occurrence in Indonesia is confined to the South coast of Java and to Timor, both situated at the southern edge of the Indonesian Archipelago. Drupa clathrata

clathrata remains restricted to the Pacific Ocean and the waters between the islands forming the Indonesian Archipelago.

This pattern of distribution is very similar to that of the Strombus gibberulus complex in Indonesia as described by Coomans & van Amsterdam (1970).

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References

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