

The first new species of the genus *Euthria* (Mollusca, Buccinidae) from Angola

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Abstract: A new species belonging to the genus *Euthria* (Gray, 1850) is described for Angola. It is compared with other known species living in the Atlantic area.

Introduction: In the Mediterranean, the genus *Euthria* (Gray, 1850) is represented by a single species: *Euthria cornea* (Linnaeus, 1758), which is rather variable. One more species was described from West Africa (Dautzenberg & Fischer, 1906) in the early previous century. Yet, during the past few decades, several endemic species from the Cape Verde archipelago were described (See: Cosel, 1982; Cosel & Burnay, 1983; Rolán, 1985, 1987; Rolán, Monteiro & Fraussen, 2003; Fraussen & Rolán, 2003). Curiously, all them were collected in relatively deep water off the Cape Verde Archipelago as a result of insular speciation.

Few other species belonging to this genus were described from the Pacific (Shuto, 1978; Fraussen, 2002).

During a recent collecting trip by the first author, a new species of *Euthria* was found at the Angolan coast. It is different from all the known ones and therefore described in the present work.

Material and methods: The material was collected by the first author through dredging from a boat at a depth between 90 and 110 m.

Abbreviations:

MFNB: Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin
MNHNL: Museo Nacional de Historia Natural, Luanda

MNHN: Museum National d'Histoire naturelle, Paris

MNCN: Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid

CCS: collection of Christfried Schoenherr, Luanda, Angola

CPR: collection of Peter Ryall, Maria Rain, Austria

SYSTEMATICS

Family BUCCINIDAE Rafinesque, 1815

Genus *Euthria* E.Gray, 1850

Type species: *Buccinum corneum* Linné, 1758. Recent, Mediterranean. Original designation: "*Fusus lignarius* Chiaje" (this is *Fusus lignarius* Lamarck, 1816, a junior synonym of *Murex corneus* Linnaeus, 1758).

Description type species: See Rolán, Monteiro & Fraussen (2003) about the morphology of the shell, radula and differences with other similar species in closely related genera.

Remarks: In the same work the geographic distribution and the areas where species of this genus are found are discussed.

Euthria annegretae sp. nov.

Figs 1A-J

Type material: **Holotype** (Figs 1A-C) in MNHNL.

Paratypes: MNHN (1, Fig. 1D-E), MNCN (15.05/46582, 1 s) (Fig. 1F), CCS (4 s) and CPR (1).

Other material examined: The total number of shells collected was of 64 specimens or empty shells. All material originates from the type locality.

Type locality: North of Soyo, Angola. 95 m deep.

Description: Shell (Figs 1A-C) ovoid-fusiform and very solid. The protoconch (Fig. 1I) is light brown, about 2½ whorls, of 1½ mm in diameter in the first whorl and 1.8 mm in the second whorl, which has an clear convex angulation in the middle. Teleoconch with about 8 rapidly increasing whorls. The first one with axial ribs and microsulcus. Later whorls smooth. These whorls are almost flat adapically, but the last ones are slightly convex, the suture scarcely depressed. The last whorl is very large; occupying about 2/5 of the total height. Aperture ovoid, white, with about 15 elongate lirae which do not reach up to the peristome and disappear deeply inside the aperture; the siphonal canal is open and narrow, very curved towards the dorsal part of the last whorl. The peristome is sharp and a little curved in the adapical part of the upper angle.

The apertural colour is whitish to slightly cream-coloured. The colour of the shell is creamy yellowish with numerous interrupted axial brown lines, which occasionally form elongate, rectangular, darker axial blotches with a paler central line.

The holotype is 47.5 mm in height x 13.2 mm in diameter. The last whorl has a height of 29.8 mm. The paratypes are similar in size.

The soft parts could be examined with the animal fixed and the animal has a uniformly yellowish colour.

The operculum is very hard, ovoid, dark brown in colour with a non-appreciable but apical nucleus, and a strong insertion area.

The radula (Fig. 1J) is similar to other species of the genus with a rachidian tooth in the base and with three cusps in a narrow, cut area; the lateral ones are larger, with three curved and large cusp, the external one more prominent. The entire radula is very extended with about 140 rows of teeth.

Distribution: The species is only known from the material collected by the first author.

Habitat: The bottoms from which the species was collected consisted of sand with hard flat substrate areas with some small stones.

Comparison: The new species clearly belongs to the genus *Euthria*, but it is very different from the known species. Those which can show some similarities are:

E. cornea is a very variable species and sometimes has a brown colour with axial lines, but it is usually larger, the subsutural depression is constant and deep and the siphonal canal is not that curved. *E. cornea* is restricted to the Mediterranean.

Euthria soniae Rolán, Monteiro & Fraussen, 2003 is a very large species with a subsutural depression and a spiral line of nodules in the middle of the last whorl. Its siphonal canal is shorter.

Deep-water shells of *Euthria marianae* Rolán, Monteiro & Fraussen, 2003 (described as *Euthria cecilea* Fraussen & Rolán, 2003, but now considered a synonym; see Fraussen & Swinnen, 2016) and *E. bernardi* Fraussen & Rolán, 2003 can have a brown colour, but the drawings are usually in a more spiral direction, the colour is darker and the siphonal canal shorter.

Furthermore, all the mentioned species are endemic to Cape Verde Islands, whereas *E. annegretae* is confined to the Angolan coast.

Etymology: This species is named after Annegret, wife of the first author.

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Plate

1A-J: *Euthria annegretae* sp. nov.

A-C: holotype, 47.3 mm (MNHNL)

D-E: paratype, 38.4 mm (MNHN)

F: paratype, 42.1 mm (MNCN)

G-H: operculum

I: apex and protoconch

J: radula

