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## Clathrotellina tessellata in the Gulf of Aqaba

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**Keywords:** MOLLUSCA, BIVALVIA, TELLINIDAE, Gulf of Aqaba, *Clathrotellina tessellata* 

**Abstract:** Two specimens of *Clathrotellina tessellata* (Deshayes, 1855) have lately been found in Elat, which brings the number of Tellinid species occurring in the Gulf of Aqaba to 24.

**Introduction:** An illustrated list of 23 species belonging to the family **Tellinidae** and found in the Gulf of Aqaba was published by Heiman et al. (2006). Another species is added to the list in the present article.

**New information:** Two specimens of *Clathrotellina tessellata* (Deshayes, 1855) were found by the author at as many different locations in Elat, Gulf of Aqaba, the north-eastern tip of the Red Sea, in 2011.

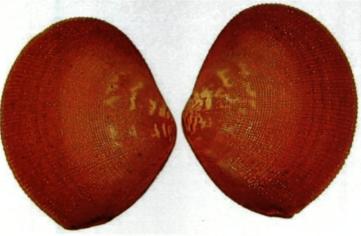
This relatively tiny species is not only characterised by a very fine sculpture consisting of axial ridges crossed by concentric growth lines, but also by its beautiful orange colour with some irregular white flecks in the upper region.

A junior synonym of Clathrotellina tessellata is Tellina tenuistriata Sowerby, 1867.

This species was already known from Jeddah in the Red Sea proper and had been illustrated as *Angulus corbis* Sowerby, 1867 by Sharabati (1984), while on Jacob Dafni's website of the molluscs from the Gulf of Aqaba it was listed as *Semele cordiformis* (Holten, 1802).

In the National Mollusc Collection of the Hebrew University another fine specimen (HUJ 36817) was found, which had been collected by Mike Fainzilber in shallow water at 1-5 m deep, near Dahab, East-Sinai, Egypt in April 1984.

The find of two additional specimens at two different locations in Elat, confirms the presence of this species in the Gulf of Aqaba.



Clathrotellina tessellata 19 x 14 mm

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