

Baja part 10
Mollusks of Baja, Mexico
by
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This is part 10 of a series of issues that will describe a number of trips taken by myself and my wife, Betty to visit a number of Pacific areas to photograph shells of the Pacific.



17-2 Phos (Metaphos) *laevigatus* (A. Adams, 1851)

On aquarium floor. The foot crawling surface is white. The siphon is translucent grey with white spots as are the tentacles. The foot posterior has three interesting filaments very much like tentacles. 910724AS

17-3 *P. laevigatus*

On dorsum, it is reaching out with its foot to right itself. The horny operculum is seen on the foot posterior. 910724AS



17-4 *P. laevigatus*

Anterior view of specimen showing siphon and foot with filaments on the foot posterior. These filaments are translucent grey with white spots and are finely tapered. 910724A.S



17-4 *P. laevigatus*

Enlargement of foot posterior filaments. 910724AS

17-5 *Lima (Lima) tetrica* Gould, 1851

Still firmly attached to the rock on which it was found. The height of the photo is about 35 mm. Keen (Pg. 98) describes the genus *Lima* as able to swim but less active than *Pectens*. This is not a juvenile shell but obviously doesn't swim. In Hawaii and the western Pacific, *Lima* consistently live under coral or rock during the day and when disturbed are very active swimmers. The shell is all white and the sculpture consists of curved radials with tapering scales. (*L.* species of photo 7-23 is temporarily on this rock as well 910724AS)



17-6 *Lima (Lima) tetrica* Gould, 1851

Apertural view of shell 17-5. 910724AS



17-7 *Lima (Lima) tetrica*

Enlargement of photo 17-6 showing shape of spines.
910724AS

17 -8 *Acanthaster*

Specimen is a very juvenile animal with some rays that may have suffered damage. 910724AS



**17-9 *Acanthaster ?*
species**

Closer view. The tips of rays are tan and fringed with spines and are upturned in side views. 910724AS

Station descriptions

STATION DESCRIPTIONS

910714 2130 arrive Loretto airport via Aero Calif. from Los Angeles with Bob Purtymun comming from S.F. & Betty & Wes Thorsson from Honolulu. Met by George Metz who arrived by minivan driven from S. F •. Stayed in Hotel Presidente Stouffer overnight.

910715 Start charter of Pelican, 1200. Charterer's briefing in AM. Photos of Moorings base and boat. Arrange for scuba tank pickup at Hotel Presidente but dive shop had none for rent. Hotel desk arranged meeting with private owner for rental of tanks. Negotiated for rental of 4 tanks for 10 days and for delivery of tanks for exchange with spent tanks at Moorings base at time/date arranged by radio to Moorings base.

910715AS Little Candeleros. South of Candeleros Pt. Snorkle in 2 - 5 ft. for 65 min. Rocks and Sand. Scenery photos only which also apply to 910716AS. Water temp. 85F. 25 43N 111 13.75W

910716AS Same anchorage as above. Dive from boat 20 to 48 ft along shore. 95 min. Temp. 85 F. Silty sand. *Terebra* & *Oliva*. *Terebra* in about half of all worm hills. Yacht Tangent offered to (and did) refill 2 tanks. Underwater and aquarium photos. Water temp. 85 F. 25 43N 111 13.75W

910716BS Yellowstone beach, North shore of Monserrate Island. Dive along rock, then in sand to return to Pelican. 12 to 23 ft, 94 min. Shell sand over clay base with many clay rocks. Similar to striae ashore. Underwater photos of soft corals, starfish, Murex and *Conus princeps*. A number of *Conus princeps* and *Muricanthus princeps* on rock. Many fish in caves. Silty sand at anchorage. Water temp. 82F. 25 42.2N 111 03.7W

910717AS La Galeras coralline algae balls on sand. Fasciolaria islands. Anchor between two islands. Bottom had large many large starfish and urchins. Photo *Strombus galeatus* in group *princeps*. Dive 35 to 38 ft. 65 min. 25 44.3N 111 14.0W

910717AH Sand sample near boat anchorage. 910717 Return Puerto Escondido for 4 fresh air tanks. Enroute Marquer Bay saw whale shark and came alongside it for 5 minutes. Photos by George Metz.

910717BS Marguer Bay. Anchor in bay. Snorkle only. 2 to 6 ft. looking for starfish with shells (*Thyca callista*) on lower side of arms. Found one shell on 45 starfish examined. Found up to 20% of starfish with this shell in two other stations. Primarily anchored for night. No photos. 25 52.8N 111 14.0W

910718AS Carmen Island, Ballandra Bay. inland, shell sand deeper. Photos mostly Photos of two nudibranch from snorkelers. Dive 20 to 39 ft. 79 min. Fine sand fish & Purtymun under water. Aquarium Anchor over night. 25 59.2N 111 10.7W

910719AS Chola Island. Dive 20 to 40 ft. 69 min. Rock and shell sand. Many *terebra* (10+), 3 *Olivella dama*. U/W photos of *Terebra*. 25 27.6N 111 11.5W

Station descriptions

190719 Return Puerto Escondido for 4 fresh tanks.

910719BS Anchor Danzante Island, cove south of Honeymoon Cove. Bob Purtymun (only) night dive at anchorage using small tank. Visit with fish research station personnel. 25 47.7N 111 15.7W

910720AS Anchor large Candeleros Bay West of Candeleros Point. Dive from boat anchorage to north, 10 to 32 feet for 90 minutes. Water temp. 82F. Silty sand with many *Terebra* and *Oliva spicata*. Photos of these shells. 25 43.75N 111 14.8W

910720BS Isla Sud, rock isle north of large Candeleros Bay. Used dinghy to Isla Sud, south coast, rock shingle beach with steep slope to main channel. Dive 10 to 47 ft. for 66 min. *Conus brunneus* with eggs under rock. Other *C. brunneus* under other rocks. Water temp. 84F. 25 43.9N 111 13.8W

910721 Return Puerto Escondido for 4 fresh tanks. Aquarium photos made.

910721AS Anchor Coronados Island north of long SW spit. Dinghy to north of point in center of west coast. Dive 10 to 50 ft. for 60 minutes. Water temp 82F at surface but 75F below 20 feet. Large rocks with seaweed. Shells under sea weed on rock. In shallow water semi-fossile shells about 3 ft. deep. *Spondylus princeps* found flush with rubble at 30 - 40 ft. Photo above and 3 opihi by George Metz snorkeling in same area shallower. 26 07.2N 111 17.85W

910721AH Hand sand sample at 30 - 40 feet.

910722AS Same anchorage. Bob Purtymun snorkeled obtaining several light color *Olive sticata* near anchorage.

910722 George Metz caught dorado by trolling.

910722BS Anchor Chuenque Bay. Dinghy to north side of rock at head of bay. Dive 20 to 40 ft to middle west side of rock. Rapid current on north side. No current on inside of rock. Water temp. 75F at 30 ft and below. Nikonos photos by avail. light (out of batteries) 1-3 Chuenque Bay scenery. 4-10 underwater photos. 25 50.6N 111 20.8W

910723 Return Puerto Escondido for 4 fresh air tanks. Trolling & catching dorado en route Punta Baja. Photos of fishing.

910723AS Punta Baja, south point of Isla Carmen. Anchor and dive toward channel from **Pelican**. Coralline algae and coralline hydroids, red coated when live, bleached white when dead. Botom has very large coralline algae balls up to 7 inch diameter. Dive 17 to 28 ft for 70 min. *Strombus granulatus*, some under coralline algae drift rows. Many *Olivella*. *Strombina maculosa*. Bob Purtymun & Thorsson both found 3 each *Mitra sulcata*. A goodly number of very juvenile shells of this species in sand sample. Nikonos photos scenery - fishing. No underwater photos due to lack of battery. Aquarium photos of most shells. 25 48.5N 111 13.2W

Station descriptions

910723 Anchor Honeymoon Cove, Danzante Is.

910724AS Dive from Pelican at above anchorage. 20 to 52 ft for 60 min. Water temp. 80F at bottom. Silty sand with very many terebra at 30 to 52 ft. Shore quite steep with large boulders. Nudibranch at 20 ft under rock. Other small shells under rocks. Sand sample for George Metz at 30 to 35 feet below rock slope. Nikonos photos of bay. Aquarium photos of most shells found. 25 47.7N **111** 15.75W

910724 Remainder of day· trolling for Dorado. Bob purtymun caught **1**, George Netz hooked 3 with 1 into boat. Return Puerto Escondido to end charter. Dinner ashore. 910725 Charter completed. Depart Loreto airport 0900 via Aero California.

NOTE: Station code consists of:

1st 2 digits = last two digits of year

digits 3 & 4 = month

digits 5 & 6 = day of month

digit 7 = station number in date (A to Z)

digit 8 = type of collection

S = scuba or snorkle

H = sand sample call. by hand

D = sand sample by dredging

B = beach sand sample

Station descriptions

Keen Number
for

BIVALVES

133	<i>Gregariella coartaca</i> ??	28
162	<i>Pinctada mazatlanica</i>	43
181	<i>Pecten vogdesi</i>	65, 86, 87
201	<i>Lyropecten magnificus</i>	106, 107
211	<i>Spondylus princeps</i>	129
214	<i>Lima (Lima) tetrica</i>	124
279	<i>Codakia disgtinguenda</i> ??	29
362	<i>Trachicardium (Dallocardia) senticosum</i>	102, 103
36-	<i>Trachicardium</i> species	
380	<i>Periglypta multicostata</i>	80
394	<i>Transennella modesta</i> ??	
425	<i>Megapitaria squalida</i>	19, 20, 81, 82
440	<i>Chione (Chione) californiensis</i>	83
444	<i>Chione tumens</i>	
455	<i>Chione (Chionopsis) pulicaria</i>	102

Gastropoda

23	<i>Diodora saturnalis</i> ??	59,60, 103, 104
2?	<i>Diodora</i> species	64, 65
39	<i>Fissurella (Cremides) obscura</i>	90, 91, 92
445	<i>Fissurella</i> species	90, 91
50	<i>Collisella acutapex</i> ??	88, 89
54	<i>Collisella atrata</i> ??	89,90
108	<i>Collisella turveri</i>	110
165	<i>Trochid</i> ??	20, 21, 35
510	<i>Nerita (Ritena) scabricosta</i>	47, 48
516	<i>Cerithium maculosum</i>	94, 95, 96
608	<i>Cerithium uncinatum</i>	117, 118
609	<i>Strombus (Lentigo) granulatus</i>	119, 120, 121
612	<i>Epitonium (Asperiscala) billeeaanum</i>	43, 44
835	<i>Thyca (Bessomia) callista</i>	53
873	<i>Polinices bifasciatus</i>	38, 100, 101, 116
8—	<i>Polinices</i> species	101, 102
907	<i>Trivia (Pusula) myrae</i> ?	104, 105, 106
908	<i>Trivia (Pusula) solandri</i> ?	48, 49
933	<i>Cypraea annettae</i>	56, 57
1002	<i>Muricanthus princeps</i>	24,25, 85, 86, 93
1064	<i>Coralliophila (Pseudomurex) nux</i>	22
	<i>Thais (Mancinella)V. speciosa</i>	64
	<i>Cypraea annettae</i>	