

**A NEW SPECIES OF PSEUDOBBA (MOLLUSCA
GASTROPODA) FROM WESTERN NEW GUINEA**

by

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***Pseudobba boschmai* nov. spec.**

Description. — The shell is large, very globose, umbilicate, and more or less irregularly obliquely ribbed; it is peculiarly striate-pitted between the ribs. The apex is obtuse. The whorls number $6\frac{1}{2}$, the upper are slightly convex, the following soon become more convex, while the ultimate whorl is very large, convex, and descending in front; the sutures are impressed. The upper whorls are dark fawn-coloured, gradually becoming darker; the body whorl is of a beautiful chestnut colour, becoming blackish towards the aperture, this colour is visible as a vertical band of about 1 cm broad; it does not obstruct the reflexed peristome which is white and has a white lip. The aperture is dark and smooth. The peristome is nearly circular, its upper margin is narrow and straight, its basal margin is broader and passes abruptly into a large triangular to subquadrate plate, which is shining white and curves inwards, spirally encircling the axis of the shell. The two extremities of the peristome are united by a curved shallow impression; the base of the peristome is convex and descends regularly into the deep cylindrical umbilicus, which is about 3 mm wide, and which is not obstructed by the columellar plate. Laterally the peristome is provided with a characteristic funnel-shaped white spot, which more or less distinctly surrounds the umbilicus. The height of the holotype is 40.6 mm, its greatest diameter is 42.5 mm.

Material examined. — Six specimens were collected about halfway between the mouth of the Mamberamo River and Hollandia (now Kota Baroe), north of the Sidoearsi Mountains between the villages Abentie and Kondirdjan, Western New Guinea (17 June 1959, leg. F. A. W. Schram). They were found in a primary swamp forest at an altitude of 30 m. The holotype is preserved in the collection of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie at Leiden, the paratypes form part of the private collection Henrard.

Remarks. — Among the five paratypes there are some specimens that have the ultimate whorl damaged and afterwards repaired by the animal;

there is also a strongly damaged shell with holes in all the whorls. The latter specimen is very instructive as it clearly demonstrates the interior twisted shape of the columella.

Although the genus *Pseudobba* Möllendorff, 1891, was treated by Thiele (1931, p. 680) as a subgenus of the genus *Camaena* Albers, 1850, I prefer to accept it as a distinct genus on account of the many differences in the shells and for zoogeographic reasons. I agree with the opinion expressed by Van Benthem Jutting (1958, p. 333) who accepted *Pseudobba* as a distinct genus; in her paper that author listed all the hitherto known species of *Pseudobba*, and described a new species, *Pseudobba adiposa*, from Misool Is-

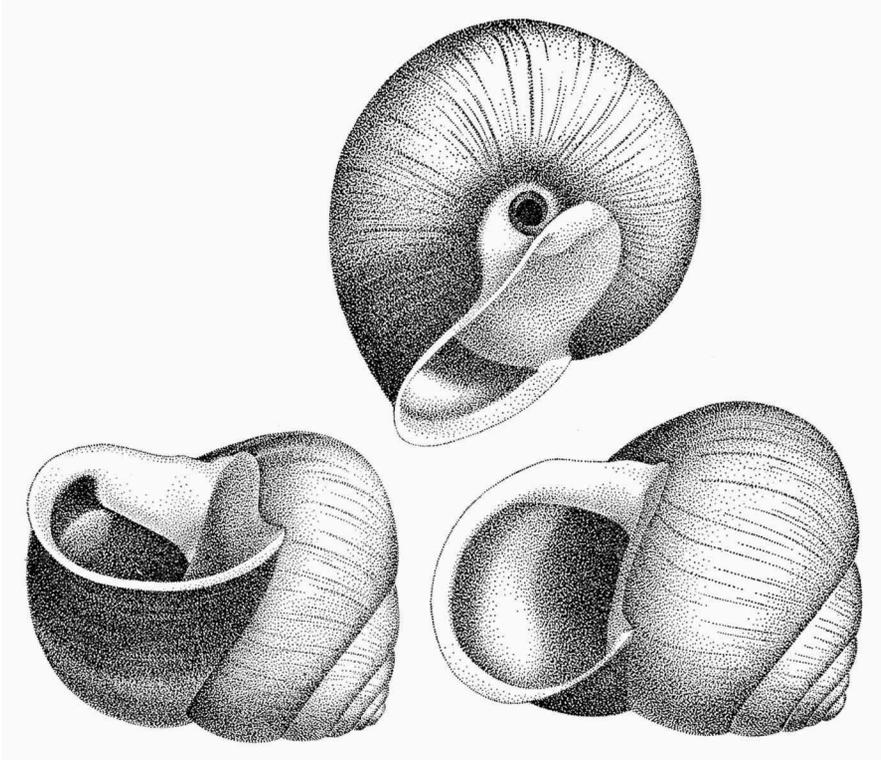


Fig. 1. *Pseudobba boschmai* nov. spec., holotype, $\times 1.4$. H. Heyn del.

land. The present new species from the New Guinea mainland differs considerably from *P. adiposa*, while furthermore its locality is separated from Misool by a distance of more than 1200 km measured in a direct line.

I take great pleasure in dedicating this handsome new species to Prof. Dr. H. Boschma, former Director of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie

and Professor of Systematic Zoology at the University of Leiden, as a token of my high esteem and great appreciation for his lessons which I had the great privilege to follow as one of his students.

LITERATURE CITED

- BENTHEM JUTTING, W. S. S. VAN, 1958. Non-marine Mollusca of the island of Misool. Nova Guinea, n. ser. vol. 9 pt. 2, pp. 293-338, figs. 1-18.
- THIELE, J., 1931. Handbuch der systematischen Weichtierkunde, vol. 1 pt. 2, pp. 377-778. figs. 471-783.