

A NEW ASHMUNELLA FROM NEW MEXICO

By PAUL BARTSCH

Some time ago the United States National Museum received two specimens of *Ashmunnella* which represent an undescribed species. The shells were collected by Mr. C. H. T. Townsend on the slopes of the ridge on the south fork of Ruidoso river, about five miles above the town of Ruidoso, at an altitude of 8,500 feet. Ruidoso is in the Sierra Blanca, Mescalero Apache Indian reservation, Lincoln county, New Mexico.

ASHMUNELLA TOWNSENDI new species

Shell moderately elevated, rather thin, axially strongly ribbed, and closely spirally incised, pale brown to bluish-white.

The shell examined under a compound microscope shows three distinct developmental stages. The first or nepionic consists of one and three-quarter well-rounded volutions, the earliest portion of which shows faint traces of obscure axial lirations which are gradually replaced by rather distant, interrupted, feebly papillose axial liræ, the liræ and papillæ becoming stronger and more crowded as the shell advances in age. Near the terminus of the nepionic stage several strong, very oblique, posteriorly slanting folds make their appearance and the finer sculpture becomes again enfeebled. The second or neanic stage consists of about one and one-fourth well-rounded turns, and is marked by many closely placed axial lirations which are somewhat stronger and a little more distantly placed in the beginning than in the latter portion of this stage. There are faint papillæ present which are irregularly scattered and appear indifferently on the liræ or interliral spaces. The entire neanic portion is also marked by very fine, closely-placed, wavy spiral lines. The third or ephebic stage consists of two and one-third volutions, the last one of which shows a tendency toward peripheral keeling. The whorls are marked by many strong, sublamellar, axial ribs which have their posterior slopes much shorter than the anterior. These ribs pass undiminished from the summit of the whorls over the periphery into the moderately wide umbilicus. The entire ephebic portion is marked by many subequally spaced, strongly incised, spiral lines, which

appear somewhat more closely spaced on the base than between the sutures. The last whorl is deflected near the aperture and is decidedly constricted behind the strong peristome. Aperture rather small, decidedly oblique, subcircular, slightly taller than wide; outer lip with a broad, thickened, strongly reflected, white peristome which bears a low, moderately broad tubercle on the inner border of the basal wall; parietal wall covered by a thin transparent callus bearing a weak elongated tubercle on its middle, the attenuated end of which points downward to the junction of the columella and the parietal wall.

The specimens are numbered 152,953, U. S. N. M. The type measures: Height, 8.2 mm.; long diameter, 15 mm.; short diameter, 13.3 mm. Aperture: Outside measurements: width 7 mm.; height, 7.3 mm.; Inside measurements: width, 5.3 mm.; height, 5 mm., width of umbilicus, 2.3 mm.

The second specimen agrees in every way with the type. It is a dead specimen and appears uniformly bluish-white.

Ashmunella townsendi is most nearly related to *A. rhyssa* DALL, but is much smaller than that form and is uniformly more strongly sculptured.