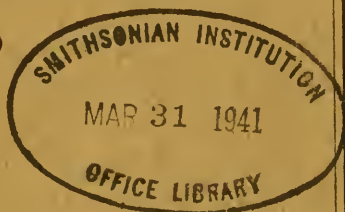


SMITHSONIAN MISCELLANEOUS COLLECTIONS
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A NEW SHIPWORM FROM PANAMA

(WITH ONE PLATE)



BY

PAUL BARTSCH

Curator, Divisions of Mollusks and Cenozoic Invertebrates
U. S. National Museum



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A NEW SHIPWORM FROM PANAMA

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In a sending of mollusks received from Dr. James Zetek for determination, there is a remarkable new shipworm, second in size of the American shipworms only to *Bankia (Nausitoria) dryas* Dall.

I take pleasure in bestowing the name of the discoverer upon this species.

BANKIA (NAUSITORIA) JAMESI, new species

Plate I

Shell very large, subglobular, color of the anterior and anterior median exterior parts pale rose, where not stained with rust color; the rest rust-colored. The anterior part is provided with the usual sinus and reflected callus; the latter is separated from the denticle-bearing part by an impressed groove. The anterior part bears 47 finely denticulated dental ridges, which are much more distantly spaced on the early part than on the later. The individual denticles are separated by deep grooves on each side of the dental ridges. The dental ridges of the anterior median part join those of the anterior part almost at right angles; they are separated by a mere impressed line, and bear large and broad denticles. There are 36 of these dental ridges in the line continuing the basal margins of the anterior part. The middle portion of the median part is comparatively narrow and slightly concave and rather rough, while the posterior portion of the median part is broad, convex, and marked by incremental lines. The posterior part forms a semioval auricle. The interior is white. The umbones, though badly eroded, bear a strong knob from which a slender, thin, narrow blade extends almost to the basal knob. The suture, joining the anterior and median part, is thickened and somewhat rough. The middle of the median part is impressed, rough, and bears at its basal extremity a strong rounded knob. The posterior part extends over the median as a shelf and is transversely fluted on its outer half. The pallets are very large; the stalk is very long and cylindrical; the

blade is plumelike, wider on one side than the other, covered on the outside by a strong periostracum. Where the outer layer is broken away, the elements composing the blade become apparent. These might be said to be pygostyled fused joints.

The type, U.S.N.M. No. 513762, was collected by James Zetek at Balboa near the drydock in waters of the Bay of Panama. It measures: Height, 12.2 mm.; length, 12.0 mm.; diameter, 13.6 mm. The pallets measure: Length, 36.0 mm., of which 21 mm. belong to the stalk; greatest diameter, 5.0 mm.

The species is most nearly related to *Bankia* (*Nausitoria*) *dryas* Dall. It is readily differentiated from that by its smaller size, larger auricle, and, comparatively speaking, larger pallets.



SHELLS AND PALLETS OF JAMES' SHIPWORM