

Short Communication

NEW RECORDS OF TWO EPITONIIDS *CYCLOSCALA CRENULATA* (PEASE, 1896), *FILISCALA RARICOSTA* (LAMARK, 1804) (GASTROPODA: EPITONIIDAE) FROM THE WEST COAST OF INDIA

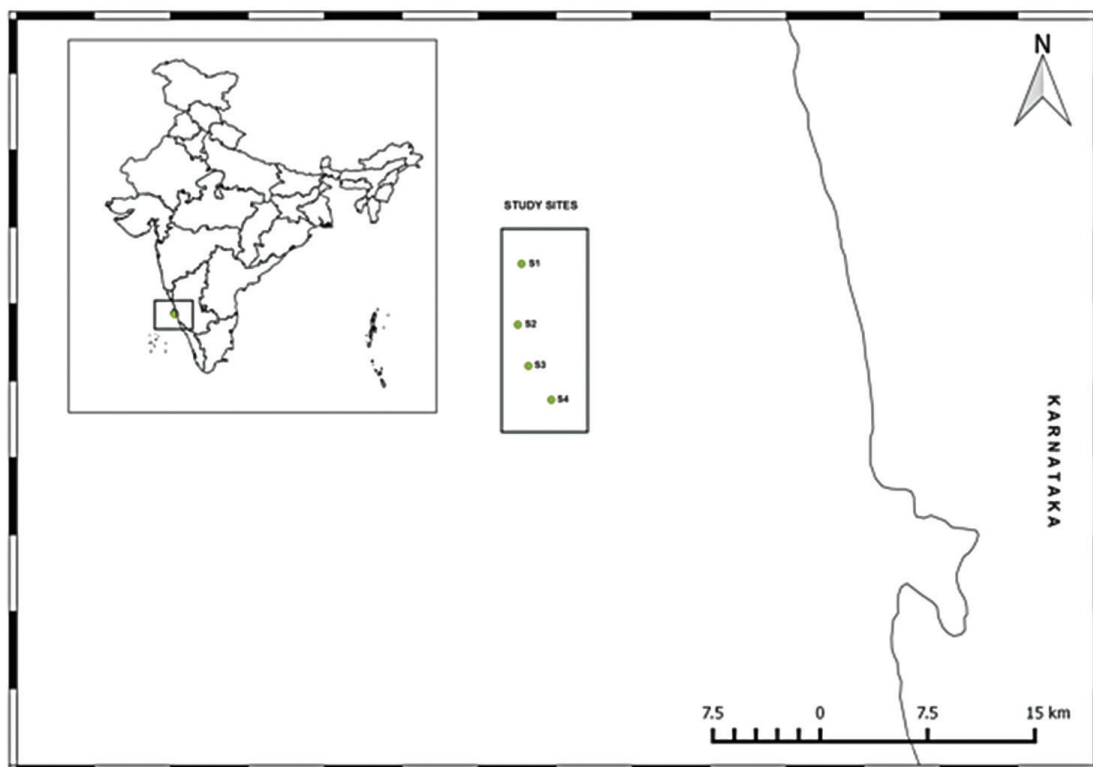
INTRODUCTION

Members of the family Epitonidae are small to medium in size, difficult to identify and most complicated among gastropods and occurring from the lower inter tidal zone to abyssal sea beds (Nakayama, 2003). The described shells are bold with minute sculptures, and most species recorded from the west coast of India, are known from empty shells. Their hosts being unknown, the differences between species are often slight,

so their identification is often a matter for the specialists. Morphological characters are reckoned for confirmation up to species level and The species which are documented here are all new records from India, being previously not known from literature.

During the identification of unnamed collections of the National Zoological Collections, the authors encountered with these minute shells which are dredged and collected from the coast

STUDY AREA



of Karnataka near Gongoli estuary, about 20 kms within the sea which were known to have been collected by bottom trawlers at an average depth of 100m off the sea coast (13° 37' N and 74° 28' E to 13° 39' N and 74° 28' E), of west coast of India. The material, were identified following the criteria of Bosch (1995), Nakayama (2003) and deposited at NZC of Kolkata.

Superfamily EPITONOIDA

Family EPITONIDAE

Genus *Cycloscala* Dall, 1889

1. *Cycloscala crenulata* (Pease, 1867)

1867. *Seallaria crenulata* Pease, *Amer. J. Conch.*, 3: 290, pl. 24, fig.13.
 2003. *Cycloscala crenulata*: Nakayama, A Review of Northwest Pacific Epitoniids (Gastropoda: Epitoniidae): *Monographs of Marine Mollusca* No. 6, Pl. 19, figs. 14-17, 18-19.



Fig. 1. *Cycloscala crenulata* (Pease, 1867)

Material Examined: 2 examples, Karnataka: Gangoli Estuary: Station S3 (13° 34' 12.90" N and 74° 28' 57.36" E) and S4 (13° 39' 41.17" N and 74° 24' 51.22" E) about 20km inside the sea; Date Of collection: 25.02.2007; Name of Collector: A. K. Mukhopadhyay and Party, Regd. No. M-28780/6.

Measurements (in mm):

Length	Width
10.00	7.00
9.70	6.0

Description: Shell 10 mm in height, scalariform, colour white; uncoiled from the first teleconch,

whorls five, protoconch mostly defected; whole body sculptured with axial costae; erect and slightly recurved; prominent six axial costae on the body whorl, weakly fluted and blunts coronation on the shoulder without any spiral sculpture; aperture ovate, peristome complete, outer lip reflexed; basal cord present.

Habitat: Offshore, within sponges.

Distribution: India: Karnataka: Gangoli Estuary, *Elsewhere:* Tahiti; Hawaii; off Kii Peninsula to Okinawa, Japan.

Remarks: In 1867, Pease described this species collected from Tahiti Island. Indian specimen (about 10mm in height) rather bigger than Tahitian species (about 5 mm), However, this difference in size should be recognized as a local variation.

Genus *Filiscala* De Boury, 1911

2. *Filiscala raricosta* (Lamarck, 1804)

1804. *Scalaria raricosta* Lamarck, *Anim. sans vert.*, vol. vi. Part 2. p. 228, pt. CCX. Fig. 4.
 1995. *Amaea martini*: Bosch, *et al.*, *Sea shell of Eastern Arabia*, 106, pl. 401.



Fig. 2. *Filiscala raricosta* (Lamarck, 1804)

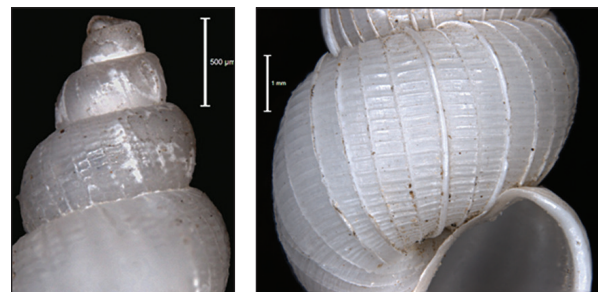


Fig. 3. *Filiscala raricosta* (Lamarck, 1804), Protoconch and sculpture of the body whorl

Material Examined: 1 example, Karnataka: Gangoli Estuary, Station S3 (13° 34' 12.90" N and 74° 28' 57.36" E) and S4 (13° 39' 41.17" N and 74° 24' 51.22" E) about 20km inside the

sea, Date of collection: 25.02.2007; Name of Collector: A.K. Mukhopadhyay and party, Regd. No. M28781/6.

Measurements (in mm):

Length	Width
10.00	7.00

Description: Shell thin, small about 16 mm in height, white in colour; narrowly, high spired and glossy; spire with 8 whorls, protoconch of 3 whorls and not acuminate, suture deep; spire whorls have irregularly spaced, low rounded ribs with occasional thicker varices; surface with low axial costae which are about 24 in number on the body whorls, intercostal space with 20

distinct spiral striae on centre of whorls; aperture oblong; umbilicus narrowly perforated; peristome thickened and incomplete.

Habitat: offshore

Distribution: India: Karnataka: Gangoli Estuary, *Elsewhere*: Gulf of Oman

Remarks: This species is very close to *Filiscala immaculata* (Sowerby, 1844) and the later is different by more number of axial striae and spiral striae.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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REFERENCES

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- Nakayama, T. 2003. A Review of Northwest Pacific Epitoniids (Gastropoda: Epitoniidae). *Monographs of Marine Mollusca* No. 6. Backhuys, Leiden, Netherlands, VIII+143 pp.

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