Note on a Xenophorid (Gastropoda: Xenophoridae) Record from the Nasca Ridge, Southeast Pacific

KENT D. TREGO

ABSTRACT: Three shells of a *Xenophora* species similar to *X. peroniana kondoi* Ponder are reported from the Nasca Ridge, Southeast Pacific.

RECENTLY, I examined three shells of an unidentified *Xenophora* species in the Benthic Invertebrate Collection of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography of the University of California, San Diego. The three shells were collected dead on 26 January 1958 on the downwind expedition of the ship *Horizon* of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography fleet. The shells were dredged from a depth of 210 to 221 m on the Nasca Ridge west of the Islas Deventuradas off the northern coast of Chile (25°44' S, 85°25' W). It is the first record of a Recent xenophorid collected in the southeastern Pacific.

Two of the shells have broken spires and are worn, but one is in good condition. Descriptions of the three shells (lot no. SIOBIC M1436) are as follows:

1. Color yellowish white, aperture white, with several dorsal attachments, peripheral flange present, ventral surface concave, umbilicus nearly closed, growth lines present on ventral surface, base diameter 39 mm, shell height 26 mm (Figures 1–2).
2. Color worn white, general description similar to no. 1, base diameter 36 mm.
3. Color worn white, general description similar to no. 2, base diameter 42 mm.

The shells resemble *Xenophora peroniana kondoi* Ponder, 1983, in color, morphology, and size. *Xenophora peroniana peroniana* Iredale, 1929, is found off the east coast of Australia (Ponder 1983); *X. peroniana kondoi* is restricted to the Hawaiian Island chain (Ponder 1983). The eastern Pacific *X. conchyliophora* Born, 1780, occurs to the north as far south as Ecuador (Skoglund 1990); however, the shell of *X. conchyliophora* is larger than that of the Nasca Ridge shells and the aperture color is brown.

If the Nasca Ridge shells are *X. peroniana kondoi*, they may represent a transient population. Of the malacofauna assemblage of Easter Island, which lies to the west of the Nasca Ridge area, 20% is in common only with that of the Hawaiian Islands (Rehder 1980). Virtually nothing is known about the malacofauna of the Nasca Ridge and its relation to that of other biogeographical regions.

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LITERATURE CITED


1 Manuscript accepted 1 February 1997.
2 Nautilus Malacology Institute, 441 Ravina Street, #3, La Jolla, California 92037.
Figures 1–2. (1) Dorsal and (2) ventral views of *Xenophora* sp. from the Nasca Ridge.