

SOME FORAMINIFERA FROM THE PALK BAY*

ABSTRACT

Four species of Foraminifera, namely *Fissurina ventricosa* (Wiesner), *Nonion grateloupi* (d'Orbigny), *Nonionella arlicula* Heron-Allen and Earland and *Bolivina variabilis* were found in the stomach contents of the prawn, *Penaeus semisulcatus*. These appear to be new records from the Palk Bay. All the four species have been described and figured.

THE present records of four species of Foraminifera are based on samples of the stomach contents of *Penaeus semisulcatus* de Haan collected from the Palk Bay in May 1968. All the four species have been newly recorded from the Indian region for the first time.

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Since 1884 many works have been published on the occurrence of Foraminifera in the Indo-Pacific region (Albani, 1968), but only a few papers have dealt with the Foraminifera of Indian waters (Carter, 1880; Dakin, 1906; Stubbings, 1939; Gnanamuthu, 1943; Amma, 1958; Bhatia and Bhalla, 1959; Bhalla, 1967). The present forms, not hitherto recorded from the Indian region are in close agreement with those reported from Arctic (Loeblich Jr. and Tappan, 1953), Pacific (Cushman, 1933) and Atlantic (Buzas, 1965) regions.

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Family LAGENIDAE

Genus *Fissurina* Reuss, 1850*Fissurina ventricosa* (Wiesner) 1931 (Fig. 1 a)

Lagena (*Entosolenia*) *marginata* var. *ventricosa* Wiesner, 1931, Deutsche Stüdpolar—Exped. 1901-1903, 20 (Zoology, 12): 120, pl. 19, fig. 222. Loeblich, A. R. (Jr.) and H. Tappan, 1953, *Smith. Misc. Coll.*, 121 (7): p. 79, pl. 14, fig. 15.

Test small, free, ovate in outline and unilocular, wall calcareous, hyaline, surface smooth, aperture ovate, terminal with an entosolenian tube curving downward and slightly above the wall of the lower end.

This species is one of the most nearly globular in the genus, and differs from *Fissurina marginata* (Montagu) in the following two aspects (1) smoothed surface wall, (no perforation) and (2) lacks the marginal keel.

Distribution: Off Point Barrow, northern Alaska.

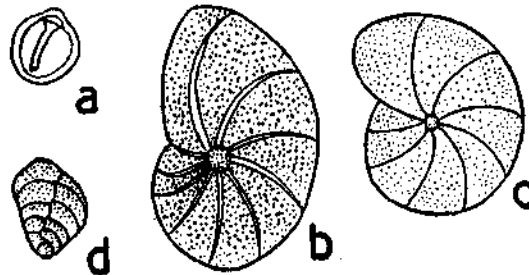


Fig. 1 a. *Fissurina ventricosa* (Wiesner), b. *Nonion grateloupi* (d'Orbigny) (?), c. *Nonionella auricula* Heron-Allen and Earland and d. *Bolivina variabilis* (Williamson) (x 120).

Family NONIONIDAE

Genus *Nonion* Montfort, 1808*Nonion grateloupi* (d'Orbigny) ? (Fig. 1 b)

Nonion grateloupi (d'Orbigny) (?)—Cushman, 1933, *U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull.*, 161 (2): 43, pl. 10, figs. 8a-c.

Test free, planispiral, more or less involute and bilaterally symmetrical, wall calcareous, coarsely perforate, last whorl consisting of ten chambers, only the chambers of last whorl visible externally, sutures depressed and curved.

Distribution: Shallow waters of the Pacific and West Indian region.

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Genus *Nonionella* Cushman, 1926*Nonionella auricula* Heron-Allen and Earland (Fig. 1 c)

Nonionella auricula Heron-Allen and Earland. Cushman, 1939, *U.S. Geol. Surv. Professional*, pap. 191, p. 33, pl. 9., figs. 7-9, Loeblich, A. R. (Jr.) and H. Tappan, 1953, *Smith. Misc. Coll.*, 121 (7) : 92, pl. 16, figs. 6-10.

Test free, ovate in outline and compressed, coiled, periphery rounded ; chambers slightly inflated, increasing in size as added, nine chambers of the final whorl visible ventrally ; sutures distinct, moderately depressed, wall calcareous, hyaline, finely perforate and smooth.

Distribution : Off Point Barrow, northern Alaska, Off Akpatok Island, Ungava Bay.

Family BULIMINIDAE

Genus *Bolivina* d' Orbigny, 1839*Bolivina variabilis* (Williamson) (Fig. 1 d)

Bolivina variabilis (Williamson) Parker, *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, 106 (10) : 445, pl. 4, fig. 12, 1952. Buzas, 1965, *Smith. Misc. Coll.*, 149 (1) : 61, pl. 3, fig. 6.

Test short and broad with few chambers, Chambers typically biserial, sutures distinct, test wall calcareous and finely perforate—Recent.

Distribution : Antarctic and Long Island Sound.

Central Marine Fisheries
Research Institute,
Cochin-682 018.

K. M. S. AMBER HANSA

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