The Ovulidae: A Key to the Genera,

and other Pertinent Notes

(Mollusca: Gastropoda)

BY

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to provide keys to the generic units of the Ovulidae and to summarize the history of the ovulid taxonomy. The first major attempt at a classification was by Schilder (1927), who later modified this early scheme (Schilder, 1932, 1968, 1971). Further modifications were made by Cate (1973), and the present paper suggests a few other needed changes of taxonomic sequence (see Tables 1 and 2). A few supplemental notes on nomenclature and systematics, with some addenda, are also included.

KEY TO THE GENERA OF THE OVULIDAE

My previous paper (CATE, 1973) was an illustrated review of all the named species of Ovulidae. With this material at hand it is now possible to take a more comprehensive view of the family. Examining the morphology, one can recognize better ways to group the various units into a logical sequence. Especially critical is the need of drawing a dividing line between the two tribes, for there is a clinal or transitional change of shell form between Ovulini and Volvini (Simniini) which Schilder did not clearly define. It is my opinion that the straightening out of the shell aperture and the concomitant elongation of the terminal ends provide a good basis for separation into two tribes: the Ovulini are characterized by ovate to globular shells, whereas in Volvini there is a total, or nearly total, lack of a central broadening of the shell.

The key adopted for the Ovulidae is dichotomous and is based upon successive optional dual alternatives. In order to retrace a chosen alternative, the numbers of preceding choices have been added in parentheses at the start of each pair of dual options. As an example, option 1 leads to option 2 or option 3, while the number in parentheses adjacent to 2 or 3 shows that these options were arrived at from choice 1 [see Keen (1963: 1) for an added explanation of this type of key arrangement].

It should be pointed out that the key does not imply any special sequence of the generic arrangement but has been based upon morphological similarities in the species groups. Numbers in brackets following the genus name refer to plate figures in CATE (1973) which best illustrate the morphologic character of that unit.

During the preparation of this paper I have had the gracious assistance of Dr. Myra Keen of Stanford University, especially in the drafting of the key to the genera. I am deeply grateful to Dr. Keen for this and other guidance. I am also indebted to Jean Cate for constructive suggestions, and to all who have written me their criticisms and praise I wish to express my thanks.

Key to the tribes and subfamilies of the Ovulidae

Key to the genera and subgenera of the Ovulidae	15.(13) With well developed terminal ridge abapically; outer lip with deeply incised teeth
1. Shell cypraeiform, both margins of aperture	Prionovolva [14, 16a
ribbed 2	Without (or having a weak) terminal ridge
Shell not cypraeiform; margins of aperture	abapically16
smooth to dentate 3	16.(15) Lip teeth weakly developed Testudovolva [8
2. (1) Sculpture of regular incised striae through-	Lip teeth well developed
out	17.(12) Spire area flattened; dorsal striation strong,
Sculpture of dorsum pustulate in adults	even
Jenneria [2]	Spire not flattened; striations weak or
3. (1) Shells relatively large (length over 60 mm) 4	uneven18
Shells small to medium sized (length under	18.(17) Shell pyriform in outline (greatest diameter
60 mm)	adapical to midline)19
4. (3) Ovate, canals short, twisted, especially ad-	Shell elongate
apically; outer lip crenulate	19.(18) Color present in bands, or color spots co-
Spindle-shaped, canals long and slender; out-	alesced
	Color, if present, not in bands
er lip smooth	20.(19) Color, if present, in spots
5. (3) With broadly truncate terminal ends; shell	Color not present or uniformly distributed 21
with medial angulation 6	
With ends rounded to pointed, especially ad-	21.(20) Abapical extremity elongate, recurved
apically; no angulation 10	Lacrima [35
6. (5) Ends of shell broad; aperture straight, cent-	Abapical extremity not elongate or recurved 22
ral	22.(21) Lip thin, never reflected
Ends of shell narrowed, aperture curved	Lip broad, reflected 24
7. (6) Terminals short; dorsum with a raised knob	23.(22) Outer lip edge thin
near ends	Outer lip edge corded
Terminals well developed; dorsum smooth to	24.(22) Terminals short, flattened; shell diameter
striate 8	about $\frac{2}{3}$ of length
8. (7) Outer lip ridged, but not truly dentate	Terminals moderately projecting; diameter
Crenavolva [101]	less than $\frac{2}{3}$ of length
Outer lip with projecting teeth, especially ad-	25.(24) Outer lip with sharp denticles
apically 9	Outer lip smooth or weakly dentate
9. (8) Angulation with spaced knobs Rotaovula [100]	26.(25) Terminals spatulate
Angulation smooth or evenly striate Dentiovula [19]	Terminals pointed
10.(5) Outline nearly globose	27.(25) Aperture broad, lip thin28
Outline ovate to elongate	Aperture narrow, lip moderate to thick
11.(10) Outer lip denticulate; dorsum striate	28.(27) Dorsum with low angulation Stohleroma [97
Galeravolva [3]	Dorsum evenly arcuate Aperiovula [71
Outer lip smooth to slightly crenulate: dor-	29.(27) Terminals projecting, looped Pseudosimnia [44]
sum smooth	Terminals roundly blunt 30
12.(10) Evenly ovate, i. e., greatest diameter about	30.(24) Terminals relatively wide; dorsum with a
midway between ends of shell	low angulation; aperture curved Adamantia [90]
Pyriform (greatest diameter posterior to mid-	Terminals narrow, evenly rounded <i>Primovula</i> [80
line) to elongate	31.(18) Adapical terminal squared at end
13.(12) Outer lip broad; shell weakly striate	Adapical terminal slot-like, not squared 33
throughout	32.(31) Aperture narrow, almost linear throughout
Outer lip narrow to moderate; striation, if	Kuroshiovolva [200
present, mainly at ends 15	Aperture not linear, wider abapically
14.(13) Aperture curved to left adapically	Hiatavolva [194
Procalpurnus [137]	33.(31) Ends attenuated, adapical end pointed, al-
Aperture curved to right adaptically	most needle-like
	Ends looped or rounded

34.(33) Terminals markedly long, tending to be re-
curved
Terminals only moderately long, not recurved 35
35.(34) Inner lip longer than outer lip
Inner lip not longer than outer lip
36.(35) Aperture relatively broad throughout
Aperture narrowed above mid-line
Pellasimnia [220]
37.(35) Terminals long at both ends; outer lip an-
gulate
Terminals only moderately long; outer lip thin,
not angulate
38.(33) Funicular ridge strongly spiral
Funicular ridge weak or wanting41
39.(38) Outer lip with a thickened or corded edge
Pseudocyphoma [156]
Outer lip no more than moderately thickened 40
40.(39) Aperture broad for its full length
Simnialena [165]
Aperture narrowed adaptically Dissona [186]
41.(38) Adapical canal broadly looped; columella
with a well developed ridge Cymbovula [181]
Adapical canal not broadly looped42
42.(41) Outer lip thin
Outer lip broad to reflected
43.(42) Outer lip strongly dentate; sculpture granose
Prosimnia [162]
Outer lip and shell smooth or nearly so
44.(43) Lanceolate, aperture narrow Aclyvolva [173]
Relatively short; aperture moderate to broad 45
45.(44) Aperture broad
Aperture of medium width Delonovolva [124]

History of the Genera of the Ovulidae

With the present expansion of the taxonomic structure of the Ovulidae it appears pertinent at this time to trace the usage of generic names in that group through the years, starting with Schilder's (1927) work as the beginning of modern study of the family. Schilder's specialization in the superfamily Cypraeacea, of which the family Ovulidae is an integral part, brought these shells under a more intensive scrutiny, perhaps, than ever before, although the Cypraeidae sensu stricto were always his primary interest.

In the past, information about the Ovulidae has been rather obscure for the most part, with almost no radular studies recorded; this has led to much synonymy and to erratic generic assignments. The number of known species has now grown, however, where the terms "splitting" and "lumping" will no longer explain the intra-family relationships in the Ovulidae.

The generic history of the Ovulidae began, in a sense, with Linnaeus (1758), who used a single genus, Bulla, naming 23 species. Only 5 of these, ovum, volva, spelta, verrucosa, and gibbosa belong to the group we now consider ovulids; the name Bulla itself has, through taxonomic processes, been restricted to a group of shelled opisthobranchs.

Next, Gronovius (1781) separated the ovulids from the broader Linnaean group under the name Amphiperas. However, in ICZN Opinions 260 and 261 (10 August 1954) the Commission "rejected for nomenclatural purposes the work of Meuschen issued in 1778 under the title Museum Gronovianum" (Opinion 260) and "rejected for nomenclatural purposes the Index to the Zoophylacium Gronovianum of Gronovius prepared by Meuschen and published in 1781" (Opinion 261).

Gronow did not publish *Amphiperas* and the publication of it by Meuschen was in a non-binomial work. Meuschen's work was accepted for a time; this explains why Schilder used the name in 1927 and 1932 but abandoned it in 1968. Herrmannsen (1846) validated *Amphiperas* but only as a synonym of the earlier *Ovula* of Bruguière (1789).

Sowerby 1st (1828) published a review recognizing this group, listing 24 ovulid species, 13 of which were new to science, under the variant spelling Ovulum. Kiener (1843) gave a more formal monographic treatment. Sowerby 2nd (1848) and Reeve (1865) used the spelling Ovulum, in each case expanding the number of species as discovery at that time warranted. They also began broadening the generic concept by listing limited synonymies, incorporating generic names used by prior authors: Amphiperas, Calpurnus, Radius, and a part of the Linnaean Bulla. Roberts (1869-1870) compiled a catalog but did not attempt special or new generic treatment.

Weinkauff (1882) continued the use of the single genus Ovula, and like Sowerby and Reeve, he listed limited synonymies of the early authors. Tryon (1885) cited the genus Ovula without synonymy, though he did use 4 subgenera: Cyphoma, Volva, Neosimnia, Calpurnus, and, in error, a subgenus Crithe Gould, 1860. Crithe is not ovulid in nature and has later been assigned to another molluscan family, the Marginellidae.

Schilder (1927), in his work with the Cypraeacea (Cypraeidae, Ovulidae, Triviidae, Eratoidae) began what has since been a slow, steady, systematic structuring of the

ovulid species-groups by grouping together those species having similar shell morphology into a number of generic units with a significantly divergent common shell form; and by further recognizing the importance of locality and distribution details. Also the significance of their racial history (the dimension of time) began to emerge, and using fossil specimens Schilder attempted to establish and list the species in a phylogenetically related sequence (Schilder, personal communication).

Although Schilder's work was primarily with the Cypraeidae, he did concern himself with the Ovulidae to the extent of proposing several new tribal and subgeneric names. IREDALE (1930, 1931) contributed 4 new generic names: Prionovolva, Diminovula, Phenacovolva, and Pellasimnia to accommodate further the expanding concept of the species groups. The following 2 Tables illustrate this development, thus making possible a better visual picture and understanding of the Ovulidae.

Table 1

Schilder, 1927	Schilder, 1932	
Amphiperasidae	Amphiperatidae	
Eocypraeinae		
Cyproglobina (Cyproglobina)		
Cyproglobina (Pseudocypraea)		
Cypropterina (Cypropterina)		
Cypropterina (Jenneria)		
Amphiperasinae	Amphiperatinae	
Amphiperasini	Amphiperatini	
Sulcocypraea		
Primovula (Primovula)	Primovula (Primovula)	
	Primovula (Diminovula)	
Primovula (Pseudosimnia)	Primovula (Pseudosimnia)	
	Primovula (Prosimnia)	
	Prionovolva	
Calpurnus	Calpurnus (Calpurnus)	
	Calpurnus (Procalpurnus)	
Amphiperas	Amphiperas	
Simniini	Volvini	
Simnia (Simnia)	Simnia	
Simnia (Prosimnia)		
Simnia (Neosimnia)	Neosimnia	
Cyphoma	Cyphoma	
Radius	Volva	

APPENDED NOTES

The saying goes that the plans for a battleship become obsolete long before the ship's keel has been laid down. The work on the Ovulidae seems analogous in its own development pattern. An example of this is the apparent need to improve the placement of the genus *Dentiovula* by shifting it from near *Prionovolva*, where it was cited in CATE (1973: 13) to the vicinity of *Aperiovula*. One species, cited as *Delonovolva serrula* (*ibid.*, p. 59), seems rather to belong in the genus *Cuspivolva*.

I am retaining the separation of the genera *Phenaco-volva* Iredale, 1930 and *Pellasimnia* Iredale, 1931, although it seems difficult to recognize a clear-cut morphological division between them. However, tentative acceptance of the separation is based upon differences in shell characters, as defined in the Key to the Genera above.

Habe (1961: 41) proposed a new genus name, Dentiovula, for a markedly dentate group of species, with Ovulum dorsuosa Hinds, 1844 as type species; the name was repeated correctly as originally spelled, in the index (p. 151); in the Appendix (p. 14) the name is spelled in a different way, Dentivolva. Authors have cited both spellings, but no one seems to have pointed out their equivalence. Therefore, acting as "first reviser" under ICZ N Code Art. 32-b I here propose to retain Habe's original spelling, Dentiovula, as the correct and valid one, with Dentivolva as an objective synonym.

SCHILDER (1927: 70, 80) misspelled the subfamily and tribus names of the genus *Amphiperas*: in SCHILDER (1932: 50, 51) he emended Amphiperasidae to Amphiperatidae, and Amphiperasini to Amphiperatini.

Table 2

Schilder, 1968	Schilder, 1971	Сате, 1973	CATE, herein
DVULIDAE	OVULIDAE	Ovulidae	Ovulidae
Eocypraeinae	Eocypraeinae	Eocypraeinae	Eocypraeinae
Eocypraeini	Eocypraeini	Eocypraeini	Eocypraeini
Pseudocypraea	Pseudocypraea	Pseudocypraea	Pseudocypraea
Cyproglobini	Cyproglobini	Cyproglobini	Jenneriini
Jenneria .	Jenneria		Ienneria
Ovulinae	Ovulinae	Jenneria	
		Ovulinae	Ovulinae
Ovulini	Ovulini	Ovulini	Ovulini
			Ovula
		Galera	Galeravolva
		Testudovolva	Testudovolva
Prionovolva	Prionovolva	Prionovolva	Prionovolva
		Dentiovula	
		Margovula	Margovula
		Lacrima	Lacrima
		Globovula	Globovula
Pseudosimnia	Pseudosimnia (Pseudosimnia)	Pseudosimnia (Pseudosimnia)	Pseudosimnia (Pseudosimni
	Pseudosimnia (Diminovula)	Pseudosimnia (Diminovula)	Pseudosimnia (Diminovula)
		Pseudosimnia (Inflatovula)	Pseudosimnia (Inflatovula)
		Pseudosimnia (Labiovolva)	Pseudosimnia (Labiovolva)
		Xandarovula	Xandarovula
			Dentiovula
		Aperiovula	Aperiovula
Primovula (Primovula)	Primovula (Primovula)	Primovula (Primovula)	Primovula (Primovula)
Primovula (Diminovula)			
Primovula (Prosimnia)	Primovula (Prosimnia)		
(2.000000)	(1700,000)	Primovula (Adamantia)	Primovula (Adamantia)
			Stohleroma
		Stohleroma	
		Rotaovula	Rotaovula
		Crenavolva (Crenavolva)	Crenavolva
		Crenavolva (Serratovolva)	Serratovolva
		Crenavolva (Cuspivolva)	Cuspivolva
		Delonovolva	Delonovolva
		Carpiscula	Carpiscula
Procalpurnus			
Calpurnus	Calpurnus (Calpurnus)	Calpurnus (Calpurnus)	Calpurnus (Calpurnus)
	Calpurnus (Procelpurnus)	Calpurnus (Procalpurnus)	Calpurnus (Procalpurnus)
Ovula	Ovula	Ovula	
		Cyphoma	
		Pseudocyphoma	
		rsewdocypnoma	Simnia
			Subsimnia
			Simnialena
			Spiculata
			Sandalia
			Neosimnia
			Pellasimnia
			Turbovula
			Cyphoma
			Pseudocyphoma
Simniini	Simniini	Simniini	Volvini
Simnia	Simnia	Simnia	
Cyphoma	Cyphoma	Subsimnia	
		Prosimnia	Prosimnia
		Simnialena	
		Aclyvolva	Aclyvolva
		Cymbula	Cymbovula
		Spiculata	Cymrosonia.
			D.
		Dissona	Dissona
		Sandalia	
		Hiata	Hiatavolva
		Kuroshiovolva	Kuroshiovolva
		Neosimnia	
	Phenacovolva (Phenacovolva)		Phenacovolva
Pallacimmia			1 1101111000000
Pellasimnia	Phenacovolva (Pellasimnia)	Phenacovolva (Pellasimnia)	6.1
		Phenacovolva (Calcaria)	Calcarovula
Volva	Volva	Volva	Volva
Volva (Phenacovolva)			

Schilder regarded Jenneria Jousseaume, 1884, as a subgenus of Cypropterina Gregorio, 1880, and therefore relegated the tribus name Jenneriini Thiele, 1929, to the synonymy under his later Cyproglobini. However, recent authors accept Jenneria as a full and separate genus, a ranking with which I concur. There remains, then, no reason for continuing to disregard Jenneriini, which has 3 years' priority over Cyproglobini Schilder, 1932, and I have recommended that it be reinstated.

In Schilder (1968: 272) the generic name Volva Röding, 1798, seems to have been inadvertently omitted. It should appear as line 14 of column 1, page 272, and the present line 14 should move to line 16, the present line 16 then being superfluous. It would also seem that the genus Primovula Thiele, 1925 (Schilder, op. cit.: 271), should be moved up and inserted just above Diminovula Iredale, 1930, for Diminovula is indicated as a subgenus of Primovula.

ADDENDA TO CATE, 1973

Included here are errors and omissions discovered after the printing of this work was completed: on page IV, add: NM – Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa; on page 1, in the 4th paragraph of the introduction, the citation Schilder & Schilder (1971) refers to: A catalogue of living and fossil cowries - taxonomy and bibliography of Triviacea and Cypraeacea (Gastropoda Prosobranchia). Mém. Inst. Roy. Sci. Nat. Belg. (2) 85; and Wilson & Gillett (1972:62; plt. 44, fig. 8) refers to: Australian Shells. Charles E. Tuttle Co., Vermont & Tokyo, Japan; pp. 1 - 168; plts. 1 - 106; 34 text figs.

On p. 3, column 2, line 7, read: Binder, MHN;

p. 4, column 1, line 2, read: BUMO (not BUMC)

p. 4, column 1, lines 3 & 4, read Habe, NSMT and Kosuge, NSMT

ibid., line 11, read: James H. McLean

p. 10, column 1, line 6 from bottom, correct name to:

[cf. Primovula (Primovula) dautzenbergi]

ibid., line 12, read: Primovula (Adamantia) concinna p. 11, column 1, line 17: correct Prionovolva frutica

frutica (Reeve, 1865) to Prionovolva pudica pudica ca (A. Adams, 1854)

p. 11, column 2, line 10, correct Prionovolva caledonica to Pseudosimnia (Diminovula) caledonica

ibid., line 21 read: (see listing of *P. pudica pudica*

p. 23, column 1, line 12, correct genus name from Globovula to Prionovolva (bulla)

p. 24, column 1, line 11, read: Ovulum umbilicatum Sowerby ^{2nd}, 1848

p. 24, column 2, line 13, correct date 1800 to 1900

p. 24, species 42, line 2 of synonymy should read:

Ovula dentata Fischer (von Waldheim)

p. 29, column 2, species 53, add parentheses to (Duclos, 1831)

p. 30, column 2, line 15, add to the discussion: I am naming this new species in honor of the late Archer Whitworth, of Geraldton, West Australia, who contributed much to our knowledge of the Cypraeacea of that area.

p. 40, column 1, species 76, correct date in synonymy, beckeri Schilder, from 1841 to 1941

p. 43, column 2, line 20, correct *Pellasimnia* to *Prosimnia verconis* . . .

p. 46, column 2, line 2, correct P. (A.) fulguris to Pseudosimnia (Diminovula) fulguris Azuma & Cate, 1971

p. 46, column 1, line 8 from bottom, read: NSMT

p. 52, column 1, line 2, the author's name should read Fischer (von Waldheim)

p. 79, column 2, line 3 from the bottom, read: Aclyvolva clara Cate, 1973;

p. 82, column 1, line 25, correct Simnialena to Cymbula acicularis

p. 87, column 1, line 13, correct praenominate to praenominata

p. 87, column 2, line 12: instead of 22 (4): ... read 11 (4): ...

pp. 92 and 93, correct date on *Phenacovolva* Iredale from 1939 to 1930

p. 94, species 184, correct name to *Phenacovolva* (*Phenacovolva*) rosea lahainaensis

p. 96, column 2, line 14 correct date from 1843 to 1848

on pp. 96, 99, 108, remove parentheses from the authors' names and date [Azuma & Cate, 1971]

p. 105, column 1, line 4 from bottom read: 8 March, 1933

p. 111, column 2, line 2 from bottom, read: NSMT

p. 112, column 1, bottom line, correct: (striatus) to (semistriatus)

In the Index the following corrections are needed:

p. 115, column 2, line 32, correct author's name to Fischer (von Waldheim)

p. 115, column 3: formosa (Verco), correct page reference from 52 to 42

p. 115, column 3: formosa (A. Adams & Reeve), delete page reference 52

p. 116, column 1, line 16, correct nigeria to nigerina ibid.: after nigerina add: nigerrima [Tryon, err.] 49

p. 116, column 1, ovum, add page reference 36 (species 66: line 2 of Discussion)

Synonymic Reassignments

p. 60, species 122, add to synonymy:

1969 Simnia aequalis vidleri. Cate, The Veliger 12 (1):100

p. 76, species 150, add, after line 23:

1971 Primovula inflexa. Cate, The Veliger 13 (4):

p. 85, column 1, after line 7, add:

1969 Volva maccoyi. Cate, The Veliger 11 (4): 365 1969 Volva (Phenacovolva) exsul. Cate, The Veliger 11 (4): 365

p. 87, species 170, after line 17, add:

1971 Primovula depressa. Cate, The Veliger 13 (4):

p. 96, species 187, add:

1971 Phenacovolva recurva. Cate, The Veliger 13 (4): 363

p. 97, species 189, add:

1971 Phenacovolva angasi. Cate, The Veliger 13(4): 363

p. 98, species 190, add:

1971 Phenacovolva subreflexa. Cate, The Veliger **13** (4): 363

p. 107, species 210, add:

1971 Phenacovolva piragua. Cate, The Veliger 13 (4):363

p. 108, species 211, add, after line 21:

1969 Volva (Phenacovolva) birostris. Cate, The Veliger 11 (4): 364; fig. 3

{Note: the figures in the cited paper were mislabeled in the preparation for reproduction.}

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