

Pupa affinis (A. Adams, 1855) (Gastropoda: Acteonidae) a newly recorded species from Iraq, with an updated checklist of the marine gastropods from the Iraqi coast

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Abstract

The present study is part of an ongoing project on the mollusc diversity of Iraq. Specimens of the gastropod *Pupa affinis* were collected live from the intertidal zone of the northwest of the Persian Gulf, Iraq, in the Fao region. The species was identified to species level using standard taxonomic literature. It is widely distributed in the Persian Gulf; however, this study provides the first record from the Iraqi coast. Also, a checklist of the marine gastropods from the Iraqi coast is provided and now comprises 32 species belonging to 30 genera within 24 families.

Received: 10 February 2021

Accepted: 29 April 2021

Published online: 30 June 2021

Key words: Fao region, Molluscs, Persian Gulf

Introduction

The class Gastropoda is part of the large phylum Mollusca. They include snails, slugs and their relatives and this class is very species rich. They can live in marine, brackish, freshwater and terrestrial systems (Bieler, 1992). In Iraq marine Mollusca are poorly studied and only a few species are reported from Iraqi waters (Ahmed, 1975; Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985). Ahmed listed 43 marine species of molluscs (25 gastropods), while Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani listed 24 species (10 gastropods). Interestingly, Glayzer et al. (1984) listed 62 families and 230 species of marine molluscs from the neighbouring Kuwaiti coastlines. A more recent list of Kuwaiti mollusc species is given by Al-Kandari et al. (2020). The length of the coast is much larger in Kuwait and the habitat variation is much larger in Kuwait, possibly explaining this difference.

An extensive treatment of the molluscan species from the Persian Gulf is provided by Bosch et al. (1995), but they do not give specific records for species from Iraq.

Fossil molluscs (Holocene) from the Hammar Formation from Iraq are recorded by Eames and Wilkins (1957) and Dance and Eames (1966). Some, or maybe all, of those species could be expected to still live in Iraqi coastal waters. More information on these young Quaternary deposits can be found in Plaziat and Younis (2005).

In the present paper, an updated checklist of the marine molluscs of the North-west coast of the Persian Gulf, Iraq, with the first record of the species *Pupa affinis* from the Iraqi coast is provided.

Material and Methods

Three specimens of *Pupa affinis* were collected by the first author from the Fao region Iraq, north-west of the Persian Gulf at 29°56'57.47"N, 48°34'7.38"E (Fig. 1), on 12 July 2012, on intertidal boulders. The specimens are preserved in 70% ethanol and deposited in the Marine Science Centre (MSC), with the collection voucher number (99), University of Basrah, Iraq. Identification of the species was done using Bosch et al. (1995). Measurements of the shells were taken with an electronic calliper and are given to the nearest mm.

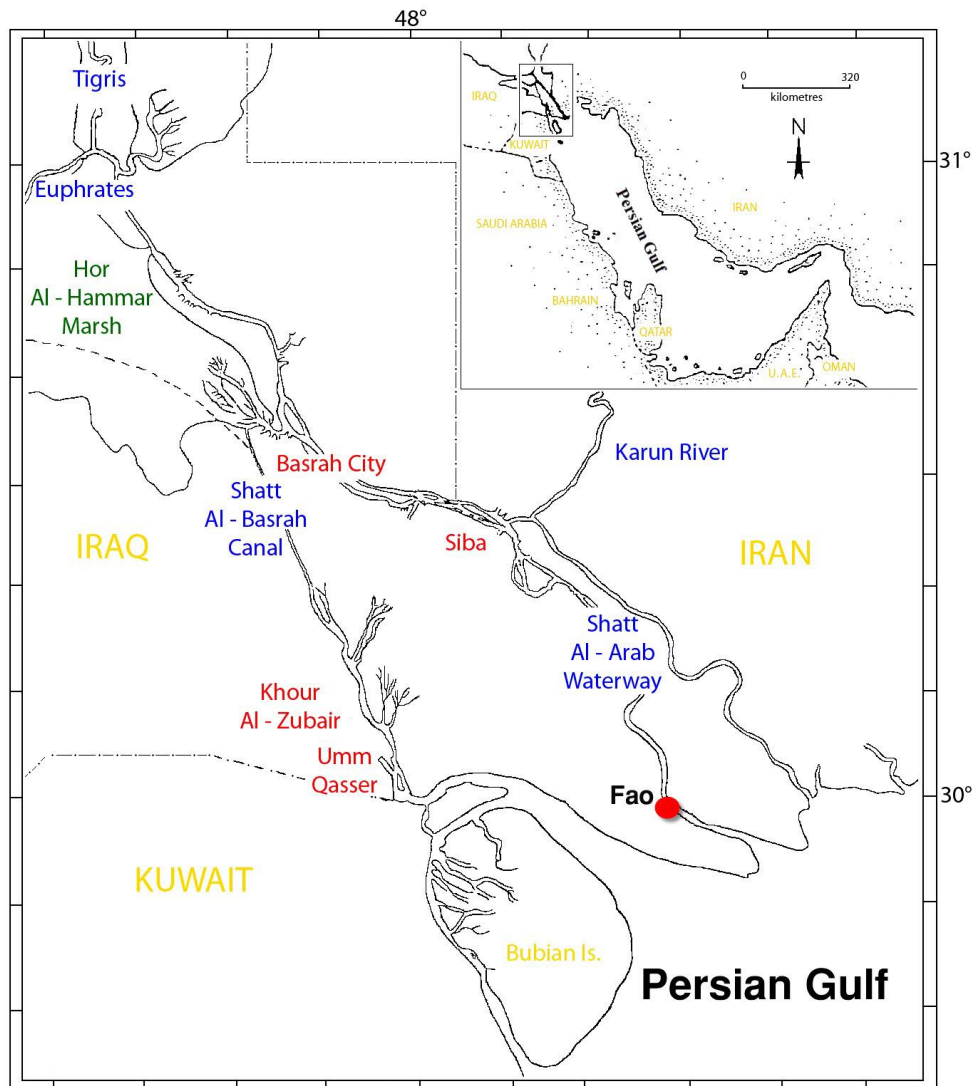


Figure 1: Collection site (red dot) for the gastropod mollusc specimens of *Pupa affinis*.

Results and Discussion

Superfamily: Acteonoidea d'Orbigny, 1842

Family: Acteonidae d'Orbigny, 1842

Genus: *Pupa* Röding, 1798

Pupa affinis (A. Adams, 1855) (Fig. 2A-B)

Shell description

Thin, glossy, elongate ovate shell, last whorl straight sided, sutures deep, base obliquely sloping below the double columellar fold. All whorls encircled by regular shallow pitted grooves. Two or three broad spiral bands of greyish-brown dashes per whorl?, which avoid the adjacent grooves. The aperture and columella are white. Light translucent orange periostracum (Fig. 2A-B) present. Maximum length was 20 mm with the other individuals at 18 and 17.5 mm. *Pupa affinis* lives in the intertidal zone, on muddy substrates or some can live on intertidal boulders.

The species is widely distributed in the Indo-West Pacific, and locally present in the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman and the south of Oman (Bosch et al., 1995). This is the first time it is recorded from the Iraqi coast.

Checklist of reported marine gastropods from the Iraqi coast

The most diverse families on the Iraqi coast are the Muricidae, Trochidae and Naticidae with 4, 3 and 2 species, respectively. In comparison, the Trochidae and Muricidae are represented by 7 and 6 species, respectively, from the Kuwaiti coast (Al-Kandari et al., 2020).

Family Fissurellidae Fleming, 1822

Genus *Diodora* Gray, 1821

Diodora funiculata (Reeve, 1850)

Ahmed (1975: 17, fig. 1)

Family Chilodontaidae

Genus *Euchelus* Philippi, 1847

Euchelus persicus (Martens, 1874)

Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani (1985: 20, as *Euchelus asper*).

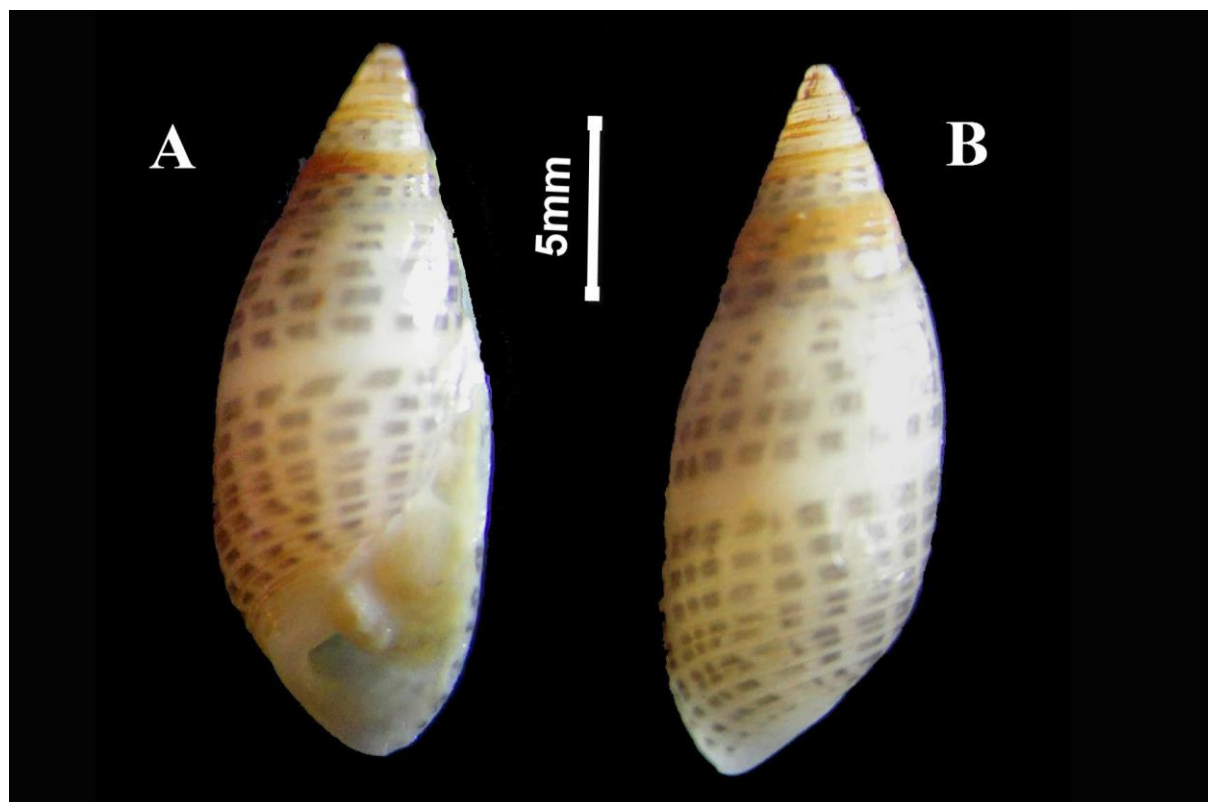


Figure 2: *Pupa affinis*, A, ventral and B, dorsal views, length 20 mm.

Family Trochidae

Genus Priotrochus P. Fischer, 1879

Priotrochus kotschyi (Philippi, 1849)

Ahmed, 1975: 17, fig. 2a-b

Pseudominolia Herbert, 1992

Pseudominolia biangulosa (A. Adams, 1855)

Ahmed, 1975: 18, fig. 3 (as *Minolia caifasii*)

Umbonium Link, 1807

Umbonium vestiarium (Linnaeus, 1758)

Ahmed, 1975: 18, fig. 4a-c

Family Turritellidae

Genus Turritella Lamarck, 1799

Turritella fultoni Melvill, 1898

Ahmed, 1975: 20–21, figs. 10a-band 11 (as *Turritella*

nivea and *Turritella fultoni*); Al-Hassan and Al-

Hasani, 1985: 20 (as *Turritella terebra*)

Family Cerithiidae

Genus Cerithium Bruguière, 1789

Cerithium scabridum Philippi, 1848

Ahmed, 1975: 22, fig. 13 (as *Cerithium pfeifferi*)

Family Potamididae

Genus Pirenella Gray, 1847

Pirenella arabica Reid in Reid and Ozawa, 2016

Ahmed, 1975: 21–22, figs. 12 and 14 (as *Cerithidea*

fluviatilis and *Cerithium morus*)

Family Epitoniidae

Genus Acrilla H. Adams, 1860

Acrilla acuminata (G. B. Sowerby II, 1844)

Ahmed, 1975: 22, fig. 15

Family Strombidae

Genus Conomurex Bayle, 1884

Conomurex persicus (Swainson, 1821)

Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985: 20

Family Rostellariidae

Genus Tibia Röding, 1798

Tibia curta (G. B. Sowerby II, 1842)

Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985: 20 (as *Tibia*

insulaechorab)

Family Xenophoridae

Genus Stellaria Schmidt, 1832

Stellaria paucispinosa Kosuge and Nomoto, 1972

Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985: 20 (as *Stellaria*

solaris)

Family Naticidae

Genus Neverita Risso, 1826

Neverita didyma (Röding, 1798)

Ahmed, 1975: 23, fig. 15 (as *Polynices ampla*); Al-

Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985: 20

Sigatica Meyer and Aldrich, 1886

Sigatica pomatiella (Melvill, 1893)

Ahmed, 1975: 23, fig. 16 (as *Polynices mamilla*)

Family Ficidae

Genus Ficus Röding, 1798

Ficus gracilis (G. B. Sowerby I, 1825)

Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985: 20

Family Muricidae

Genus Hexaplex Perry, 1810

Hexaplex rileyi D'Attilio and Myers, 1984

Ahmed, 1975: 24, fig. 19a-b (as *Murex anguliferus*)
Indothais Claremont, Vermeij, S. T. Williams and D. Reid, 2013
Indothais scalaris (Schubert and Wagner, 1829)
 Ahmed, 1975: 24, fig. 20a-b (as *Thais carinifera*)
Murex Linnaeus, 1758
Murex echinodes Houart, 2011
 Ahmed, 1975: 23, fig. 18a-b (as *Murex tribulus*)
Rapana Schumacher, 1817
Rapana rapiformis (Born, 1778)
 Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985: 20

Family Columbellidae

Genus *Mitrella* Risso, 1826

Mitrella blanda (G. B. Sowerby I, 1844)
 Ahmed, 1975: 24, fig. 21a-b

Family Nassariidae

Genus *Nassarius* Duméril, 1805

Nassarius jactabundus (Melvill, 1906)
 Ahmed, 1975: 25, fig. 21a-b (as *Niotha clathrata*)
Nassarius frederici (Melvill and Standen, 1901)
 Ahmed, 1975: 38, fig. 52a-b (as *Aciculina* sp.)

Family Ancillariidae

Genus *Ancilla* Lamarck, 1799

Ancilla farsiana Kilburn, 1981
 Ahmed, 1975: 25, fig. 23a-b (as *Ancilla ampla*);
 Kilburn, 1981: 399

Family Cystiscidae

Genus *Gibberula* Swainson, 1840

Gibberula cf. *mazagonica* (Melvill, 1892)
 Ahmed, 1975: 26, fig. 24a-b (as *Gibberula granum*)

Family Mangeliidae

Genus *Mangelia* Risso, 1826

Mangelia fulvocincta G. Nevill & H. Nevill, 1875
 Ahmed, 1975: 26, fig. 26a-b

Family Clathurellidae

Genus *Etrema* Hedley, 1918

Etrema spurca (Hinds, 1843)
 Ahmed, 1975: 26, fig. 25a-b

Family Acteocinidae

Genus *Acteocina* Gray, 1847

Acteocina involuta (G. Nevill and H. Nevill, 1871)
 Ahmed, 1975: 28, fig. 29a-b (as *Retusa canaliculata*)

Family Pyramidellidae

Agatha laevis (Angas, 1867)

Ahmed, 1975: 27, fig. 27 (as *Odostomia laevis* Angas, 1867)
Turbonilla Risso, 1826
Turbonilla umbrina Melvill, 1918
 Ahmed, 1975: 27, fig. 28

Family Acteonidae

Genus *Pupa* Röding, 1798

Pupa affinis (A. Adams, 1855)
 First record in this study.

Family Siphonariidae

Genus *Siphonaria* G. B. Sowerby I, 1823

Siphonaria cf. *crenata* Blainville, 1827
 Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985: 20 (as *Siphonaria basseinensis*)

Family Assimineidae

Genus *Assimineia* J. Fleming, 1828

Assimineia zubairensis (Glöer and Naser, 2013)

The current record of *Pupa affinis* from the Iraqi coast raises the number of recorded gastropods from this region from 31 to 32 species. More studies are required to investigate the gastropod fauna of the Iraqi coast to increase our knowledge about the diversity of these gastropods in this region. Special attention should be paid to micro-molluscs as hardly any are recorded here and there should be quite a number of species present.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Dr. Henk Dekker, Department of Medical Oncology, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, for reading the first draft of our paper and his valuable comments and suggestions. We thank the anonymous reviewers for their valuable comments on our manuscript.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicting issues related to this research article.

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