

Short Note

**First Record of the Genus *Schistoloma* Kobelt, 1902
(Prosobranchia: Pupinidae) in Thailand**

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The genus *Schistoloma* is comprised of land (terrestrial) operculate snails within the family Pupinidae and are recorded from Himalaya, Assam, Myanmar, peninsular Malaysia (Pulau Pinang (=Penang) and Perak), Sumatra, Borneo, Philippines and Vietnam¹. According to the one checklist of mollusks², the two checklists of land snails of Thailand^{3,4} and the mollusk additions⁵, the genus *Schistoloma* has never been recorded from Thailand making an interesting but odd omission in its reported range, which if correct suggests a recent loss of range (local extinction) in Thailand.

However, during the study of land operculate snails of Thailand, snails of this genus were collected from Kaeng Krachan National Park, Phetchaburi Province. The collectors informed to the first author their field observation that all snails were found on decayed logs in evergreen forest at Kaeng Krachan National Park, Phetchaburi Province. These specimens were catalogued in the operculate land mollusk collection of Chulalongkorn University Museum of Zoology (CUMZ) as OLM-0030 and OLM-0111 (Fig.1A, B).

After comparative study with 64 sets of 12 species of *Schistoloma* including the specimens of H.F. Blandford Collection from Tavoy, Myanmar (Fig.1C) at the Natural History Museum (BMNH), London,

these Thai specimens were identified as *Schistoloma sectilabrum* (Gould, 1844) on the basis of shell morphology and the distribution range. The shells have a dark brown periostracum, but the color changes to a pale yellowish-orange after storage in 75 % (v/v) ethyl alcohol (preservative). The animal has a black or dark brown colored head, and gradually changes to red-brown or orange-brown at the ventral and posterior part of foot. The tentacles are short and pointed, scarlet or bright orange, with dark brown coloration at the tip. Very small black eyes are located at the base of the lateral side of each tentacle.

S. sectilabrum seems to be limited to Malay Peninsula. Thus including this report *S. sectilabrum* has been recorded to occur in Myanmar (Tavoy and Tenassarim), Thailand (Kaeng Krachan) and peninsular Malaysia (Gunung Benom and Pulau Pinang) (Fig.1D).

The difference in shell color between that reported here for *S. sectilabrum* and that from the original description⁶ may be caused by color variation within the species but the genetic (or perhaps environmental) basis for this remains unknown at present. Recent field observations revealed that *S. sectilabrum* is a decayed log dweller and that it probably feeds on decayed wood or fungi. According to the distribution of the

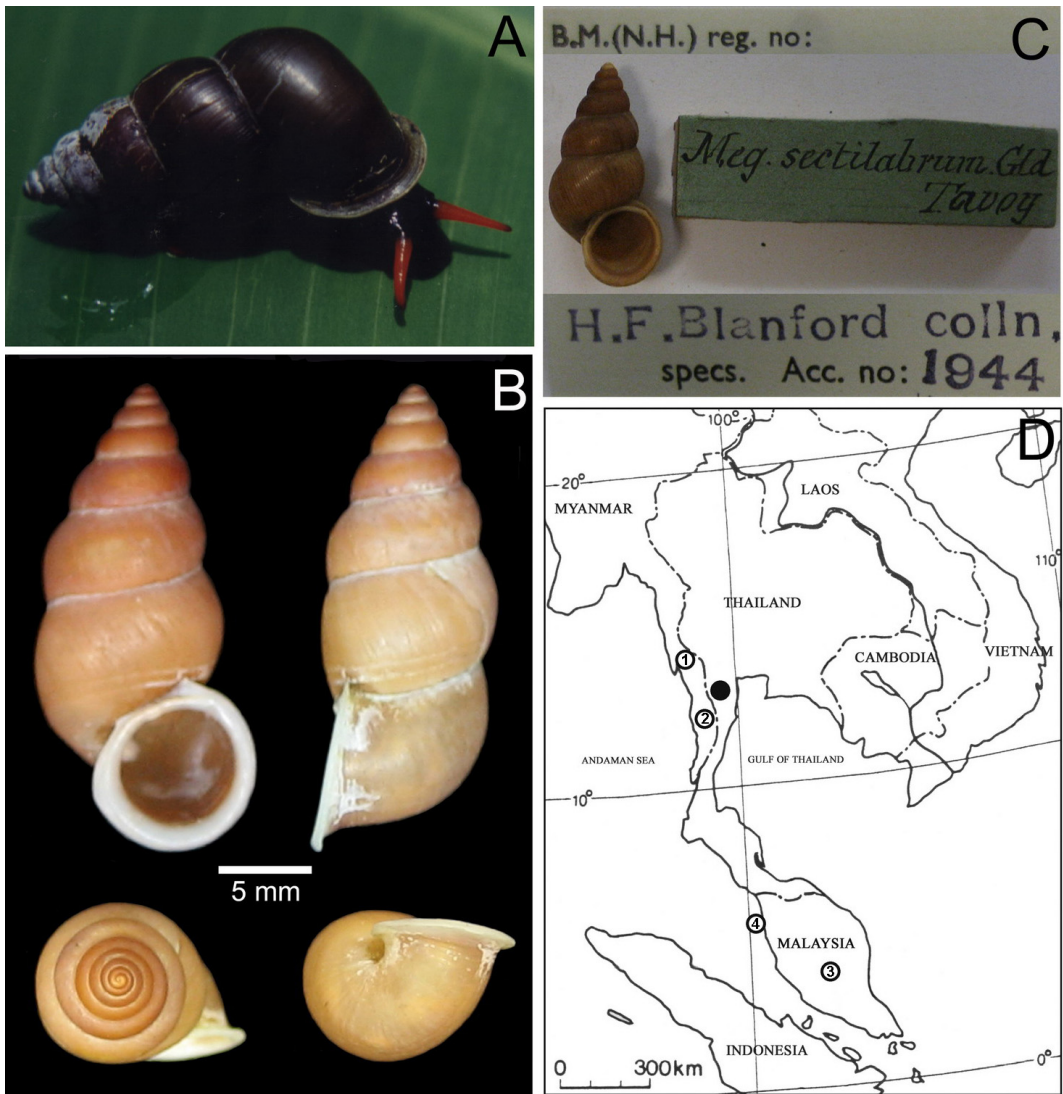


FIGURE 1. A. Photograph of live *Schistoloma sectilabrum*. B. Shell of *S. sectilabrum* from Kaeng Krachan, Phetchaburi Province, Thailand (CUMZ-OLM-111). C. Shell of *S. sectilabrum* from Tavoy, Myanmar (BMNH-H.F. Blandford colln. specs. Acc.no: 1944). D. Distribution map of *S. sectilabrum*. 1 = Type locality in Tavoy; 2 = Tenassarim; 3 = Gunung Benom; 4 = Pulau Pinang; Black circle = Kaeng Krachan.

genus, they occur in the mountainous areas of the Indo-Himalayan region¹.

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