

**Short Communication**

**REPORT OF LIVING PEN SHELL, *PINNA (ATRINA) PECTINATA PECTINATA* LINNAEUS (MOLLUSCA : BIVALVIA : PINNIDAE) FROM SHANKARPUR, WEST BENGAL**

**INTRODUCTION**

During the faunistic survey at Digha-Shankarpur area, the authors noticed a number of living pen shells : *Pinna (Atrina) pectinata pectinata* Linnaeus from Shankarpur fishing harbour, which are harvested in trawl-nets along with other fish and nonfish materials.

Only the shells of *Pinna (Atrina) pectinata pectinata* Linnaeus is hitherto reported only from Sandhead (District : South 24 Parganas) in 1928 (Subba Rao *et al.*, 1992). This is the second report of the living species from the West Bengal coast.

A brief description of this species is given below.

**MATERIAL AND METHOD**

The living specimens were collected from the bycatch, dumped near Shankarpur fishing harbour. The soft parts were removed, washed in 70% alcohol and finally kept in dried condition.

**SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT**

Phylum	MOLLUSCA
Class	BIVALVIA
Order	MYTILOIDA
Family	PINNIDAE

*Pinna (Atrina) pectinata pectinata* Linnaeus.

1767. *Pinna pectinata* Linnaeus, *Syst. nat.*, ed. 12 : 1160.

1891. *Pinna serra* Smith, *Proc. Zool. Soc.* London : 233.

*Materials examined* : 2 exs. Loc. Shankarpur fishing harbour. Coll. S. Mitra. Regd. no. 2090. Dated 13.xii.99.

*Diagnosis* : Shell wedge shaped, triangular, outline inflated; heavy; sculptured with radiating ribs, bears short upright spines which open posteriorly; sculpture consists of 5–30 radiating ribs on the posterior slope. Nacreous layer in both valves iridescent, occupying two-third of the valve, posterior adductor scar large, subcircular, located within the posterior border of the nacreous area; anterior adductor scar small, located at the tip of the nacreous area (Subba Rao *et al.*, 1992).

*Measurements* (in mm) :

Specimens	Length	Height	Width
1	265	63	17
2	250	48	11

*Distribution* : India : West Bengal : South 24 Parganas, Shankarpur coast, District Midnapore (Present record) and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Elsewhere : Srilanka, Thailand, Malaya, Korea, Japan, Philippines and Australia.

**SUMMARY**

This is the second report of the species from West Bengal after 1928. The occurrence of live specimens indicate that further search may reveal more specimens. Since it is collected in fishing trawler (trawlers are operated beyond 50 km from the shore), the species may be occurring offshore at a greater depth.

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**REFERENCES**

Subba Rao, N. V., Dey, A., and Barua, S., 1992. Estuarine and Marine Molluscs. State Fauna Series 3. Fauna of West Bengal. *Zoological Survey of India* pt. 9 : 129–268, 3 pls.

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