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***Short Communication***

**REPORT OF *PTERYNOTUS PINNATUS* SWAINSON  
(MOLLUSCA : GASTROPODA : MURICIDAE) FROM  
SHANKARPUR MOHONA, DIGHA, WEST BENGAL**

During the course of our faunistic survey at Shankarpur Mohana, a single shell of *Pterynotus pinnatus* (Swainson, 1822) was collected.

Though moderately common in Tropical Indo-Pacific, *Pterynotus pinnatus* was hitherto recorded in India from the coast of Tamil Nadu (Porto Novo & Chennai), Andamans (Subba Rao, N.V. & Surya Rao, K.V., 1993; Subba Rao, N.V., 2003). Thus, this species has been for the first time collected from the West Bengal area.

**SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT**

Phylum MOLLUSCA

Class GASTROPODA

Order NEOGASTROPODA

Family MURICIDAE

Subfamily MURICINAE

***Pterynotus pinnatus* (Swainson)**

1822. *Murex pinnatus* Swainson, A catalogue of the shells which formed the collection of *Mrs. Bligh*, with an appendix containing descriptions of many new species : 17.
1942. *Murex pinnatus* : Gravely, *Bull. Madras Govt. Mus. new ser.*, **5**(2) : 98, fig. 8d.
1967. *Pterynotus pinnatus* : Cernohorsky, *Marine Shells of the Pacific*, **1** : 124, pl. 26, fig. 158.
1974. *Pterynotus alatus* : Cernohorsky, *Rec. Auckland Inst. Mus.*, **11** : 173, fig. 46 (for synonyms).
1976. *Pterynotus alatus* : Radwin and D' Attilio, *Murex Shells of the world* : 98, pl. 26, fig. 158.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Shankarpur Mohana (21°38'249" N & 87°33'386" E); Date of Collection : 3.9.2004.

*Description* : Shell moderately large, fusiform, spire high with eight whorls; body whorl large, suture shallow; aperture broad and ovate; anal sulcus not distinct; outer lip finely crenulate and interiorly liriate; inner lip smooth; siphonal canal moderate in size. Body whorl with three varices expanded into thin flanges continuing along the body and canal, ventrally scaly in appearance, a single low, knob-like axial ridge prominently on the shoulder in between the varices; spiral sculpture consists of numerous cords, in between with minor threads, a spine-like projection on the siphonal canal. Colour almost white to light fawn with brown patches on the wing. Aperture white.

*Measurements* :

Specimen	Length (L)	Width (W)	Length of aperture		Width of aperture
			With canal	W/O canal	
1.	57.4 mm	28.35 mm	31.45 mm	12.52 mm	7.1 mm

### SUMMARY

The dry shell was collected from the exposed sandy-mudflat at Shankarpur-Mohona during low tide. The shell though a dry one, was in a fresh state with spines intact. Perhaps this indicates the availability of live specimens in this zone.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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### REFERENCES

- Subba Rao, N.V. and Surya Rao, K.V. 1993. Contribution to the knowledge of Indian Marine Molluscs-Pt. 3, Family-Muricidae. *Rec. zool. Surv. India, Occ. Paper No. 153*. pp. 53-54, pl. 7, figs. 7 & 8.
- Subba Rao N.V. 2003. Indian Seashells (Part-I), Polyplacophora and Gastropoda. *Rec. zool. Surv. India, Occ. Paper No. 192*. pp. 232, pl. 54, fig. 12.

GHOSH, A., BARUA, S., DEY, A.,  
MUKHERJEE, A.K. AND RAMAKRISHNA  
*Zoological Survey of India,*  
*M-Block, New Alipore,*  
*Kolkata-700 053*