

Short communications

Latiaxis (Babelomurex) naskensis, a new species of Coralliophilidae (Gastropoda) from South-Eastern Pacific

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Latiaxis (Babelomurex) naskensis, новый вид Coralliophilidae (Gastropoda) из юго-восточной части Тихого океана

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During searching through the collection of the Institute of Oceanology of Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow), our attention was attracted to a species of *Latiaxis*. The species appeared to be new for science and is described below. The species lacks radular apparatus and seems to possess typical for Coralliophilidae anatomy. The latter will be described in detail in a separate paper.

Type specimens of the new species are stored in the collections of the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University (ZMMU).

Latiaxis (Babelomurex) naskensis Kantor et Sysoev, sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Material. Holotype (ZMMU № 19773) — R/V "Professor Shtokman", 18-th cruise, sta. 1901, Nazca Ridge, 25°19' S, 85°07' W, 310-350 m, Galathea trawl, 25.04.1987; paratypes (No. 1, 2) (ZMMU № 19774) — sta. 2028, Sala-y-Gomez Ridge, 25°04' S, 97°30' W, 284-275 m, trawl, 09.05.1987 (1 specimen, 1 shell); (No. 3) (ZMMU № 20123), sta. 1992, Sala-y-Gomez Ridge, 25°04' S, 97°26' W, 290-400 m, trawl, 04.05.1987 (1 shell).

Description of holotype. Shell of medium size for the genus, with moderately high spire. Color grayish-white. Preserved whorls 6, upper 2.5 eroded. Whorls carinated, with well pronounced shoulder, positioned slightly above the middle of the whorl height. The whorls are slightly convex below the suture, then they are slightly concave in the part adjacent to the shoulder. The body whorl is high, comprises 77 % of the shell height, gradually narrows to the siphonal canal. Sutures shallow, inconspicuous.

Spiral sculpture is formed by distinct strong cords divided by narrow interspaces and covered with tall rounded concave scales. At the subsutural slope, the cords are rather low and weaken towards the shoulder. On the shoulder, there are tall, elongate-triangular when seen from above, flattened and slightly curved spines, pointed sideward and upwards. There are 8 spines on the body whorl. The spines are partly broken off on the spire whorls; judging from their remnants, there are 7 spines on the penultimate whorl. At the subsutural area of the body whorl, the spiral cords are intersected by rough growth lines corresponding to the stops of growth of the spines. The continuations of the cords do not coincide spatially with previous cords. The cords on the subsutural area are similar in width —

0.5-0.6 mm (by the width of the cord is meant the width of the scales, which cover the cord). There are 18-19 cords on the body whorl below the suture: 5-6 rather weak and narrow (0.4-0.7 mm in width), then 3 more raised cords (0.9-1.3 mm in width) divided by wider interspaces. Upper and lower of raised cords may form small spines, similar in shape to those on the shoulder. Below there are closely spaced cords covering the shell base and almost entire surface of the siphon.

Distinct axial sculpture absent. As the spines on the shoulder are formed periodically, there are inconspicuous varices on the shell. Aperture high, comprises together with the siphon about 0.6 of the shell height, elongate-oval. The inner lip forms a rather thick, narrow, glossy white callus. In its upper part, the continuation of a spiral cord is distinctly seen. Outer lip partly broken, acute. Canal is well differentiated from the aperture, narrow and shallow, curved to the right. The formation of the canal is periodical and therefore the remnants of 3 previous canals are seen on the siphon.

Dimensions. Shell height — 28.6 mm, body whorl height — 22 mm, aperture height (including the siphon) — 17.5 mm, shell width (including the spines) — 21.7 mm.

Paratypes. In overall the paratypes are similar to holotype. Paratype No. 1 possesses a less eroded protoconch, which is not differentiated from the teleoconch. The whorls of protoconch are angulated and bear 2 spiral cords, covered with small tubercles. The body whorl of this paratype bears 10 spines. Paratypes No. 2 and 3 differs from the holotype in having a narrow umbilicus.

The shell height of paratypes 27.0 (No. 1), 36.3 (No. 2), and 32.0 (No. 3) mm.

[Диагноз. Раковина средних для рода размеров (27-36 мм), широко веретеновидная, с умеренно высоким завитком, серовато-белая.

Обороты завитка угловатые, с хорошо выраженным плечом. На плече оборота располагаются высокие, удлиненно-треугольные при виде сверху, уплотненные шипы, направленные в сторону и вверх. На последнем обороте имеется 7-10 шипов.

Спиральная скульптура образована отчетливыми сильными ребрами, покрытыми высокими закругленными вогнутыми чешуйками. Ребра на пришовной площадке имеют примерно равную ширину. Ниже плеча на последнем обороте имеется 18-19 ребер, из которых 3 более