



Guido T. Poppe & Philippe Poppe - Since 1994

For Sale | Encyclopedia | Auction | Shell Topics

December 29, 2025



NEWSLETTER: MONDAY, 29 DECEMBER 2025 - MACTAN ISLAND, CEBU

Writing this email on December 29 is a pleasure: once more. A great year comes to an end. The least we can say is that we live during interesting times. For national and international happenings which have had a quite tremendous year, I refer to the world news: you will not get bored there. There was a lot of negative political entertainment that affected us all, but our little malacological community escaped big disasters, fortunately. More particularly in Cebu, being on Mactan Island, we escaped the huge destruction in the south of the mega-city - because of weather disasters - and the huge destructions in the north of the Island of Cebu, because of earthquakes mainly. So, for us, this ended all positive. The latter we escaped narrowly destruction, our houses got some very minor cracks in the outer layers only... and the company got nothing.

Traveling was very limited in 2025: in April, me and Sheila moved a week to Japan and we met with delight with our old friend Yoshihiro Goto. In summer we went to Europe for medical purposes, for the shell show in Belgium and for the burial of our close friend Christina Groh. The latter, definitely a big loss amongst the many shell relations we maintain. For me and Sheila personally, we lost a true friend, and true friends are rare in a human's life.

Throughout the year we maintained a great number of AUCTIONS, usually alternating regular and prestige auctions. It is a very beloved way of buying shells at present, and we were successful with that. Hundreds of buyers were satisfied in obtaining magnificent selected shells in this way.

I want to point out that we have a PRESTIGE AUCTION running at present and ending tonight. Another PRESTIGE AUCTION starts tomorrow and ends on January 1 CET time. ALL selected shells in this prestige auction with superior items, and I could not resist in demonstrating more than 3 pieces, so I've put 5 here below:



This 36 mm+ *bojadorensis asteriae* is a dream item: it's bicolored, an extremely rare condition in this species. Its quality is overwhelming, the beauty stunning.



On the left, a YELLOW tiger called *incana* with black dots, one only out of several thousand pieces viewed this year. And on the right a GIGANTIC *tigris*, from Madagascar, of 116 mm. The beauty of this shell is a cream background with the black dots all with a special blue shadow, the latter a rare color in cowries.... Both pieces museum level.



On the left, a rare superb *reesianus* of an amazing quality in different kinds of spines and on the right a *Lyria lyraeformis*, 124 mm+, surprisingly good quality. A rather rare East African Volute.

The Visaya

Our journal Visaya was a little bit slow in 2025: only 2 Volumes were published - definitely many conchologists were not very busy this year with writing affairs. Luckily the two numbers of Visaya that appeared were interesting:

Visaya Vol. 6 No 2 has a grand variety of articles and 7 new species.

Visaya Vol. 6 No 3 has an uppermost interesting article with the "Donggang shells" and 19 new species, all marine.

I here invite authors to submit manuscripts for 2026...

The Albums

Our series of Land Snail Albums, which is definitely amongst the most impressive achievements in the field of terrestrials, with many thousands of color photographs continued with one Volume only this year: The Album 19. As authors, myself, Sheila and Philippe finished the entire job, but the publishing was somewhat sluggish this year because our friend Carsten is very occupied indeed... he promised us to give more attention on the series this upcoming new year.

For newcomers: The "Albums" are a series of books that document a vast part of the known land snails on the planet. The Albums appear at an irregular rate, from one to several a year, and at present 19 Volumes have been released on the market, each of these with between 80 and 100 A4 color plates of great quality. The complete series consists of 31 albums, 9,762 species are shown, 1,049 subspecies and 302 forms. Usually, each specimen is shown with two or more photographs. There are 116 families documented on 2,620 plates in A4 format and there are about 6,200 pages in total. A must for any conchological library.

On the cover of the Album 19 we have put a *Zebrina fasciolata* of the "zebra" form from Cyprus on the cover. A sister species of the *Zebrina detrita*, one of the land snail species I was always happy to collect during my time of full enthusiasm for land snail hunting, mainly in Europe...

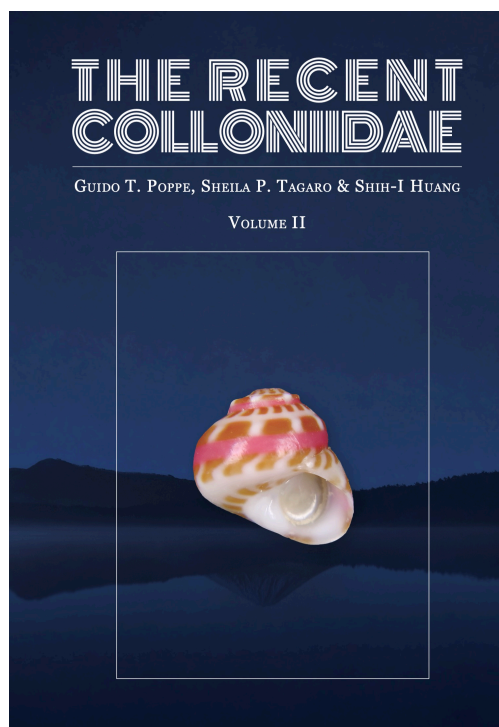


One of the plates in Vol. 19, now available. This Volume has many plates with the most wonderful and seldom seen land snails from our planet.



One of the plates in Vol. 20, which will be released in the beginning of next year. This Volume has many amazing plates. Here we show one with all shells from Madeira except the two lower rows that come from Morocco.

The Books



The Recent Colloniidae, Vol. II.

The Recent Colloniidae II, completes that amazing family with a second book that documents 32 more species. There are 33 genera bringing the total number of species to 288 Colloniids.

This second batch was thanks to the dredging expeditions of the MNHN, Paris, under the leadership of our friend Prof. Philippe Bouchet, who send me one more batch with

freshly collected and sorted out material, mainly from the Indo-Pacific. For which our thanks.

Ted Baer



Ted Baer in 2010.

Studying his MITRIDAE collection, Mitra were his second love in shells after Cone shells.



After the shell work, a relax on the superb terrace of the Baer family: Christine and Ted. The photo was taken by Sheila, and behind my back is a mirror image of the view on our right side over the lake Lemán and the mountains on the other side on French territory.

One year before the above photos, Ted and Christine visited us and stayed a few days. I remember we went to a sauna together, while Sheila and Christine were waiting happily drinking coffee and chatting. We got a great time together, and Ted

asked if he could dive together: he was just over 80 years young. We fulfilled his wish and he got a great time. He was also a perfect guest.

Ted left this world on December 23, 2025. Few persons played such an important role in our small conchological/malacological community. Ted was the first person in Europe to organize "a real shell show", as we know shell shows today. I missed the very first shell show which he organized in his home village Lutry, on the north shore of magnificent lake Lemán in Switzerland. But I was there on his second show, which he usually organized in May.

I remember that I was young and pretty penny-less, just enough money in the pockets for a hotel room and a few shells. My friends Daniel Baise and Jan Elsen went with me: in fact, it was Jan driving the easy highway 750 km down to Lutry. Jan and Daniel stayed on a camping, in Switzerland almost as luxury as a hotel indeed.

That shell show was an eye opener, and I almost never missed a Lutry shell show in my decades as a shell lover in Europe. Later, I copied the experience by organizing with the late André Delsaerdt in 1991 the first Belgian Shell Show, which took over the leading role as number one shell show in Europe from the start until now.

I suffered quite a lot from asthma in Europe, so whenever I could I escaped a week to the Diablerets, Switzerland, high in the mountains where bed-mites cannot live - they hardly survive above 1500 m. And these bed bugs were the cause of my asthma. So, often, when drinking a coffee in Lutry, or during later shell shows from Ted, I visited him and we became quite close. He was an advanced CONIDAE collector, but he also loved beautiful land snails: he even kept living *Amphidromus* from Bali in a specially build greenhouse for that purpose, behind his house.

Later, the style of shell shows as invented by Ted, copied by me, went as a norm, and we have them at present all over the planet, for the pleasure of all of us.

Sheila, Philippe, myself and all the team in Conchology, Inc. wish much strength to Christine, Ted's loving wife during his long life, in these difficult moments.

Christmas 2025

The Philippines is a deep catholic country, definitely a heritage from the long Spanish occupation, so Christmas is celebrated here "in extenso". Our company is not an exception on the rule, so we participate with pleasure. Usually we start with "exchanging gifts" one afternoon shortly before Christmas, in the company. It goes in pair with much happiness and indeed a lot of gifts... Later, in the evening, the ladies embellish and then we all move to the Radisson Blu in Cebu city.



Exchange gifts in the afternoon... goes in pair with much games and happiness.



In the Radisson Blu they have a famous gigantic Christmas tree in one of the many corners of the entrance hall and also special stairs, suitable for "picture picture", one of the great pleasures for Philippine people in particular.



Here all of us on one table. The family of Sheila joined for the pleasure of all of us. In the left corner, our "guard" Jack who keeps our premises on Mactan safe since more than 10 years. It became a great evening.

In the not so far future, a next email with more news-bits. In the name of the people busy in Conchology, Inc, Philippe, Sheila and your author take the opportunity to wish you a lot of happiness, success and many malacological pleasures in the year to come.

Wishing you all a splendid start of 2026!

Sincerely yours,

Guido T. Poppe
For Conchology, Inc.

You can contact us: philippe@conchology.be
guido@conchology.be
sheila@conchology.be

<https://www.conchology.be/>
<https://www.poppe-stamps.com/>
<https://auction.conchology.be/>

You are receiving this e-mail because you asked us to notify you about any updates from Conchology, Inc.
If you no longer wish to receive any e-mails: [Unsubscribe here](#)

© 1994-2025 Guido T. Poppe & Philippe Poppe - Conchology, Inc.