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NOTES ON TWO *AMPHIDROMUS* FROM THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

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Notes On Two *Amphidromus* From The Philippine Islands

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Collectors from Basilan Island brought to Conchology, Inc. a considerable number (over 1000 specimen) of *Amphidromus*, all collected in Basilan Island. Determination of these shells was extremely difficult with the literature we have at hand. One of the main causes is the confusion in locality data which have led to an immense confusion and guessing about which shell is what and from where. As Bartsch (1917) already pointed out, in old collections one can find specimen labeled as “Manila” while it is well known that not a single *Amphidromus* has ever been collected in Luzon. The same is true with shells labeled “Cebu”. Most *Amphidromus* collected in the Philippines have been and are still handled by dealers from Cebu and Mactan Island. We do not know of a single *Amphidromus* collected in Cebu Island.

The species which lives closest to Cebu Island is *Amphidromus boholensis* Bartsch, 1917, described as a subspecies of *A. maculiferus* (Sowerby, 1838) but which we consider a valid species with a small range around Sevilla, Bohol Island. The first author collected at two occasions dead specimens in forests near Sevilla, but it took more than ten years before living animals were obtained in a very small number (less than 20 pieces). *A. boholensis* lives in the top of huge trees, over 30 m high, and descends near the ground only after many days of heavy rains. We photographed the living animal in our office, and because as yet unpublished, we take the opportunity to show some of these images here.



Fig. 1 : *Amphidromus boholensis*. Bohol. Sevilla. Alive. Photos Conchology, Inc.

The Basilan shells that we received all belong to one species: *Amphidromus chloris* (Reeve, 1848)

The color varies from almost pure white to very dark brown, the shape from broad to slender. Specimen are easily divided in different color groups:

- White shells with a tinge of yellow
- Yellow shells, from lemon yellow to orange yellow
- Dark brown shells
- Pale brown shells
- Pale brown shells with a mixture of yellow

In all of these color groups, we find:

- . top whorls not patterned
- . top whorls with brown pattern of flecks and/or lines

Bartsch (1917) mentions from Basilan Island three *Amphidromus*:

1. *Amphidromus basilanensis* Bartsch, 1917

This species has a pattern, which is not found in a single shell of the lot brought to Conchology, Inc.



Fig. 2: *Amphidromus basilanensis*, after Bartsch, 1917.

2. *Amphidromus maculiferus cosmius* Bartsch, 1917

The figure, description and size all match the pale form of the shells brought to conchology. We cannot detect any difference between his *A. maculiferus cosmius* and his *A. chloris* shown on plate 1.



Fig. 3: *Amphidromus maculiferus cosmius*, after Bartsch, 1917.

3. *Amphidromus calista* Pilsbry, 1900

These are the shells determined by Pilsbry as *A. chloris* from Basilan. The type locality of *A. chloris* is Zamboanga and Bartsch (1917) thinks that the shells from the J. B. Steere collection (Figured first by Pilsbry (1900) are not from Basilan, but a mix-up of shells from Basilan and Zamboanga. He confirms two of the shells figured by Pilsbry as true *A. chloris* from Zamboanga and refers the three other figures from Pilsbry to *A. calista* Pilsbry.



Fig 4: *Amphidromus chloris* var. *calista* Pilsbry, 1900, after Bartsch, 1917

Pilsbry (1900) mentions 6 color variants of the Basilan *A. chloris*, and describes 3 of them:

“They are identical in form with Samboanga shells, but vary in color as follows:

- a. Color of the typical yellow tint, but rapidly fading to white on the spire

- b. Pale citron or greenish-yellow, the spire white
- c. Similar to color-var. *pallidulus*, but with a slightly darker sutural border and no white band.
- d. Pure white throughout, color-var. *purissimus*
- e. Pale yellow or rufous, with oblique reddish-brown streaks on the spire or throughout, the suture narrowly marked with the same color-var. *calista*
- f. Brilliant rose-pink, with white subsutural band and darker sutural line to the apex, color-var. *rosa*"

Specimen from our Basilan *A. chloris* also fit perfectly as what is shown by Abbott (1989) as *Amphidromus entobaptus* (Dohrn, 1889). Real *A. entobaptus* have however a thicker shell with straighter whorls.

They are very close to the *Amphidromus maculiferus* as shown by Springsteen & Leobrera (1986) and perfectly fit the *Amphidromus quadrasi* Hidalgo, 1887 from the same authors.

CONCLUSION

We confirm the presence of *A. chloris* in Basilan Island, as stated and well documented by Pilsbry (1900). The color range of the shells we received fits well with the shells described by Pilsbry, but we also got many specimen with a brown base color.

A. calista Pilsbry, 1900 and *A. maculiferus cosmius* Bartsch, 1917 are most probably synonyms of *A. chloris* (Reeve, 1848), but examination of the types is advised before confirming this.

Late 20th century popular literature is almost useless in the determination of Philippine *Amphidromus*.

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**Plate 1:*****Amphidromus chloris* Reeve, 1848**

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

1. 41.2 mm.	2. 47.3 mm.	3. 45.7 mm.	4. 44.9 mm.
5. 37.1 mm.	6. 44.6 mm.	7. 42 mm.	8. 41.4 mm.



Plate 2:

Amphidromus chloris Reeve, 1848

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. 43.9 mm. | 2. 41.8 mm. | 3. 42.6 mm. | 4. 42.2 mm. |
| 5. 39.5 mm. | 6. 41.2 mm. | 7. 38.6 mm. | 8. 32.7 mm. |



Plate 3:

Amphidromus chloris Reeve, 1848

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

1. 41.1 mm. 2. 43.7 mm. 3. 43.1 mm. 4. 50.9 mm.



Plate 4:

Amphidromus chloris Reeve, 1848

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

1. 40.1 mm. 2. 39 mm. 3. 43 mm.



Plate 5:

Amphidromus chloris Reeve, 1848

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

1. 43 mm. 2. 40.5 mm. 3. 45.1 mm. 4. 45.8 mm. 5. 49 mm.

**Plate 6:*****Amphidromus chloris* Reeve, 1848**

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

1. 41.9 mm. 2. 43.4 mm. 3. 42 mm. 4. 45 mm.
5. 41.2 mm. 6. 42.6 mm. 7. 46 mm. 8. 45.9 mm.



Plate 7:

Amphidromus chloris Reeve, 1848

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

1. 38.2 mm. 2. 41.8 mm. 3. 42.2 mm. 4. 47.3 mm.

**Plate 8:*****Amphidromus chloris* Reeve, 1848**

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

1. 41.1 mm. 2. 41.6 mm. 3. 41 mm. 4. 45.2 mm.
5. 46.8 mm. 6. 49 mm. 7. 48.4 mm. 8. 48.1 mm.



Plate 9:

Amphidromus chloris Reeve, 1848

Philippines. Basilan Island. On trees in native forest. 2006.

1. 42.6 mm. 2. 40.2 mm. 3. 40.8 mm. 4. 49.5 mm.

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