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A NEW SPECIES OF TUDICULA FROM NORTH AUSTRALIA.

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Tudicula (Tudicula) kurtzi sp. nov.

Adult shell approximately 60 mm. in length, white, spinose with a long anterior syphonal canal. Whorls rounded seven to eight including smooth, mammillate protoconch of $1\frac{1}{2}$ whorls; the first two post nuclear whorls are sculptured with radial growth lines crossed by nodulose encircling ribs giving a cancellate appearance. The nodules of the upper encircling rib elongate into spines at about the third whorl and become progressively longer as the rib is followed down the whorls. The body whorl has ten shoulder spines. The number of the additional ribs on each whorl increases as the whorls enlarge until there are eight to nine on the body whorl and they become spinose but the spines are short ($2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 mm. long) and set close together. The anterior canal also bears long encircling spines the size of which decrease towards the tapering anterior end of the canal.

Mouth elongate oval constricted and continuous with anterior canal. Outer lip not expanded and with the interior showing ribs which correspond to the lines of fine spines on the exterior.

Parietal shield well developed and free from the body whorl giving the aperture a tube-like appearance. Columella with three small distinct plaits towards the anterior end followed posteriorly by two or three indistinct ridges.

MEASUREMENTS.

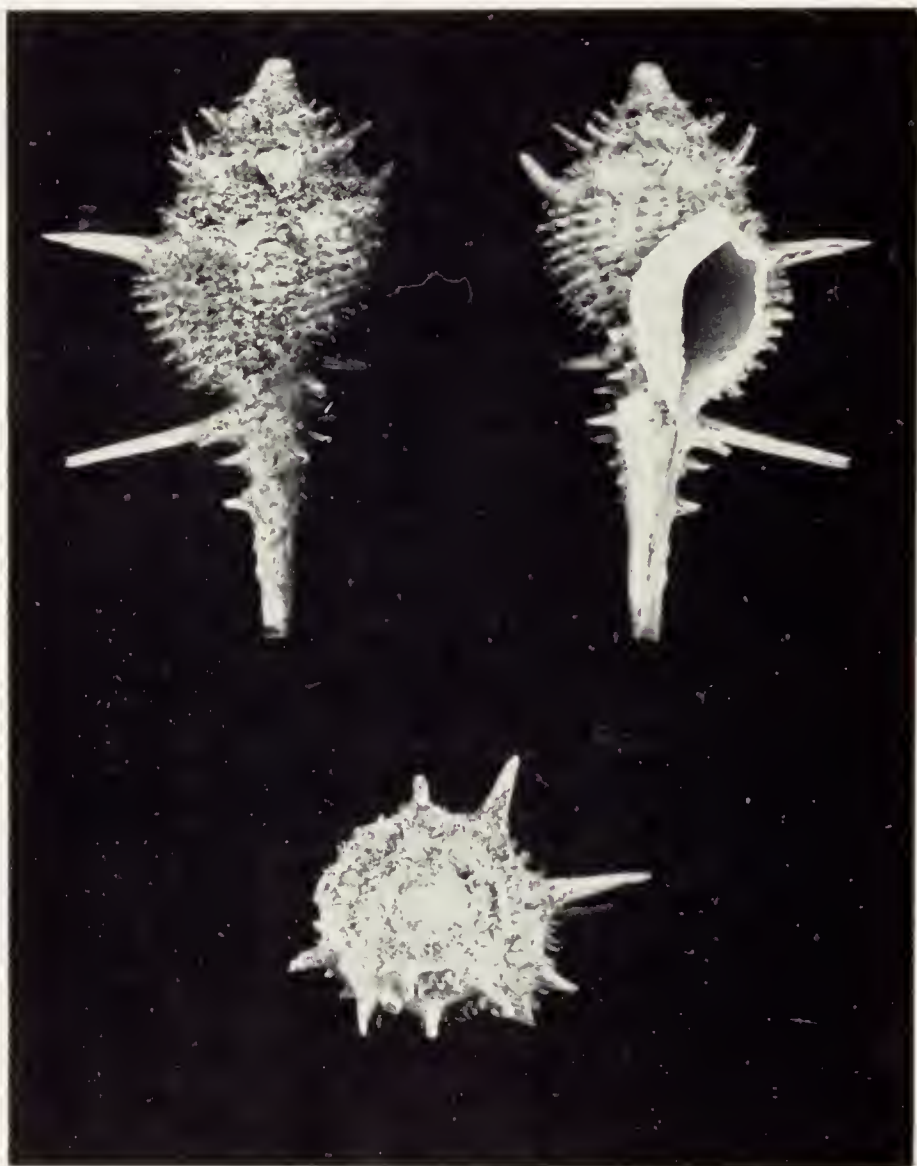
Holotype.—57 mm. long; 26 mms. wide.

Paratype.—63 mm. long; 32 mms. wide.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED. Holotype National Museum No. F 23320. Paratype C. F. Kurtze Collection; locality deep water Shoal Bay, Darwin, N. Territory.

REMARKS. These specimens were obtained by Mr. C. F. Kurtze of Portland during a collecting trip to Darwin and sent to the Museum for identification. Unfortunately, although fresh specimens, neither had an operculum and Mr. Kurtze has not been able to obtain further material.

It is close to *T. armigera* A. Adams but differs from that species in its lack of colour, more rounded whorls, more closely set and evenly spaced secondary ribs and spines.



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