

<https://doi.org/10.24199/j.mmv.1951.17.05>

## LAND MOLLUSCA OF THE RUSSELL GRIMWADE EXPEDITION

*By J. Hope Maeperson, B.Sc., Conchologist,  
National Museum of Victoria*

On their coastal journey westward from Adelaide, the Grimwade Expedition passed through two of the main faunal areas of Australia. The eastern half of the Great Australian Bight lies within the Centralian area, whilst the remainder of the south-western coast bounds the Leeuwinian area. The species collected are typical of the areas and may be listed as follows:

### Phylum MOLLUSCA

#### Class GASTROPODA

#### Subclass PROSOBRANCHIA

#### Order PECTINIBRANCHIA

#### Family BOTHRIEMBRYONTIDAE

#### Genus BOTHRIEMBRYON Pilsbry, 1894

#### *Bothriembryon esperantia* Iredale

1939. *Bothriembryon esperantia* Iredale, Journ. Roy. Soc. W.A., 25, 1939, p. 21, Pl. 2, Fig. 8.

*Locality.* Esperance, W. Australia.

*Observations.* These specimens were collected on sand dunes.

#### *Bothriembryon balteolus* Iredale

1939. *Bothriembryon balteolus* Iredale, Journ. Roy. Soc. W.A., 25, 1939, p. 21, Pl. 2, Fig. 9.

*Locality.* Salmon Gums, W. Australia.

#### *Bothriembryon dur* (Pfeffer)

1861. *Bulimus dur* Pfeffer, Proc. Zool. Soc. (Lond.), 1861, p. 24.

1900. *Bothriembryon dur* Pilsbry, Man. Conch. (Tryon), Ser. 2, Vol. 13, p. 3, Pl. 3, Fig. 62, April 23.

*Localities.* Salmon Gums, W.A.; west of Madura, W.A.

*Observations.* In isolated areas there were large numbers of dead shells on the ground (Plate II, fig. 1).

#### *Bothriembryon distinctus* Iredale

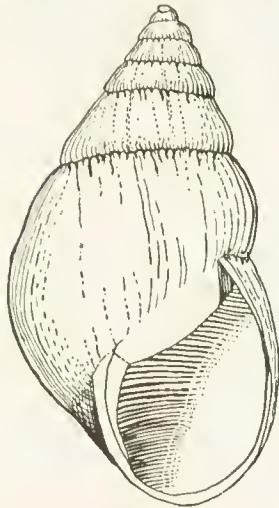
1939. *Bothriembryon distinctus* Iredale, Journ. Roy. Soc. W.A., 25, 1939, p. 36, Pl. 2, Fig. 43.

*Locality.* 17 miles west of Balladonia, W.A.

*Observations.* Two shells from the locality mentioned in Iredale's description agree perfectly with it. Numbers of dead shells were noted.

*Bothriembryon multispirus* sp. nov.

Shell perforate, acutely conical, white. Surface of live shells shining, irregularly striated, the striae stronger near the suture, and traversed by one or two spiral incised lines below the suture. Spire long, tapering to a comparatively acute point, nepionic whorls 2, pitted. Whorls  $6\frac{1}{2}$ -7, not markedly convex.



*Bothriembryon multispirus*, sp. nov.

Aperture slightly oblique, small, narrowly ovate, acute above; columella broadly dilated above; parietal callus indistinct.

*Type. — Dimensions.* Length 24 mm.; breadth 12 mm.; spire 14 mm.; longest axis of aperture 12 mm.

*Locality.* Twenty miles west of Cockle-biddy Waterhole, W. Australia.

Type in National Museum of Victoria, Reg. No. F.5716. Paratypes (4), F.3068 (4 shells), F.3073 (2 spirit specimens).

The Cockle-biddy shell is near Iredale's *distinctus* but differs from his description in the following—

- (1) it is longer and slimmer;
- (2) the spiral lines dissecting the growth lines are confined to the area near the sutures, are shallow and do not form square nodules.

*Observations.* Members of the expedition said that dead shells of this species were numerous at the type locality. The series is uniform in appearance but varies in size, the largest being 27 mm. by 14 mm.

*Bothriembryon barretti* Iredale

1930. *Bothriembryon barretti* Iredale, Vict. Naturalist, Vol. 47, p. 119, fig. in text.

*Localities.* Head of the Bight, S.A.; Murrawijinic Cave, S.A.; Colona, S.A.; 42 miles west of Colona, S.A.

Family DIPNELICIDAE

Genus ANNOSELEX Iredale, 1939

*Annoselix dolosa* Iredale

1939. *Annoselix dolosa* Iredale, Journ. Roy. Soc. W.A., 25, 1939, p. 39, Pl. 1, Figs. 24, 27.





Fig. 1

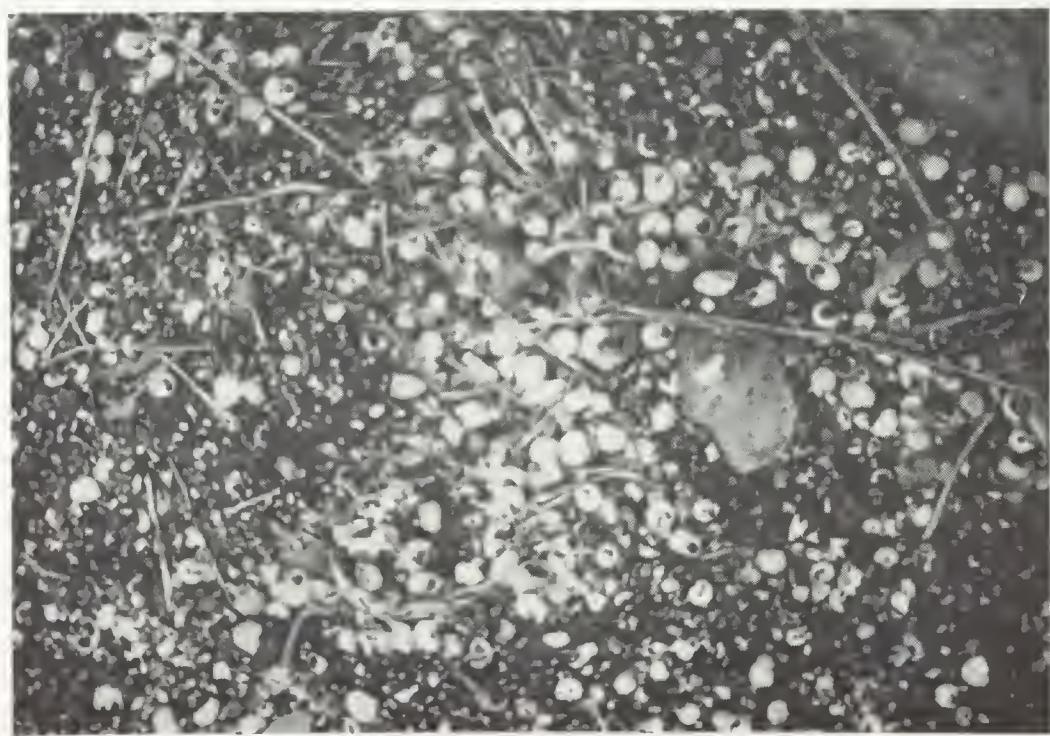


Fig. 2

*Locality.* Pimelea, West Australia.

*Observations.* Found in very damp conditions under the bark of a Jarrah tree, 12 inches above the ground.

Family XANTHOMELONTIDAE

Genus SINUMELON Iredale, 1930

*Sinumelon nullarboricum* Tate

1879. *Helix nullarborica* Tate, Trans. Proc. Phil. Soc. S.A., 1878-9, p. 133, Pl. 6, Fig. 1 a-b.

1930. *Sinumelon nullarboricum* Iredale, Vict. Naturalist, Vol. 47, p. 120.

*Locality.* Head of Bight, S.A.; 42 miles west of Colona, S.A.; 6 miles north of Koonalda, W.A.

*Observations.* At Koonalda there were isolated areas with large numbers of dead shells on the ground. (Plate II, Fig. 2.)

Genus PLEUROXIA Aucey, 1887

*Pleuroxia polypleura* Tate

1899. *Angasella polypleura* Tate, Trans. Roy. Soc. S.A., Vol. 23, p. 246, Pl. 6, Figs. 2 a-c.

1938. *Pleuroxia polypleura* Iredale, The South Aust. Naturalist, Vol. 18, 1937, p. 48.

*Localities.* Murrawidjinie Cave, S.A.; 20 miles west of Cockle-biddy Waterhole, W.A.; 6 miles north of Koonalda, W.A.

*Observations.* These shells were found buried under shrubs, often at the bottom of depressions. (Plate III.)

Family HELICIDAE

Genus EUPARYPHA Hartmann, 1844

*Euparypha pisana* (Muller)

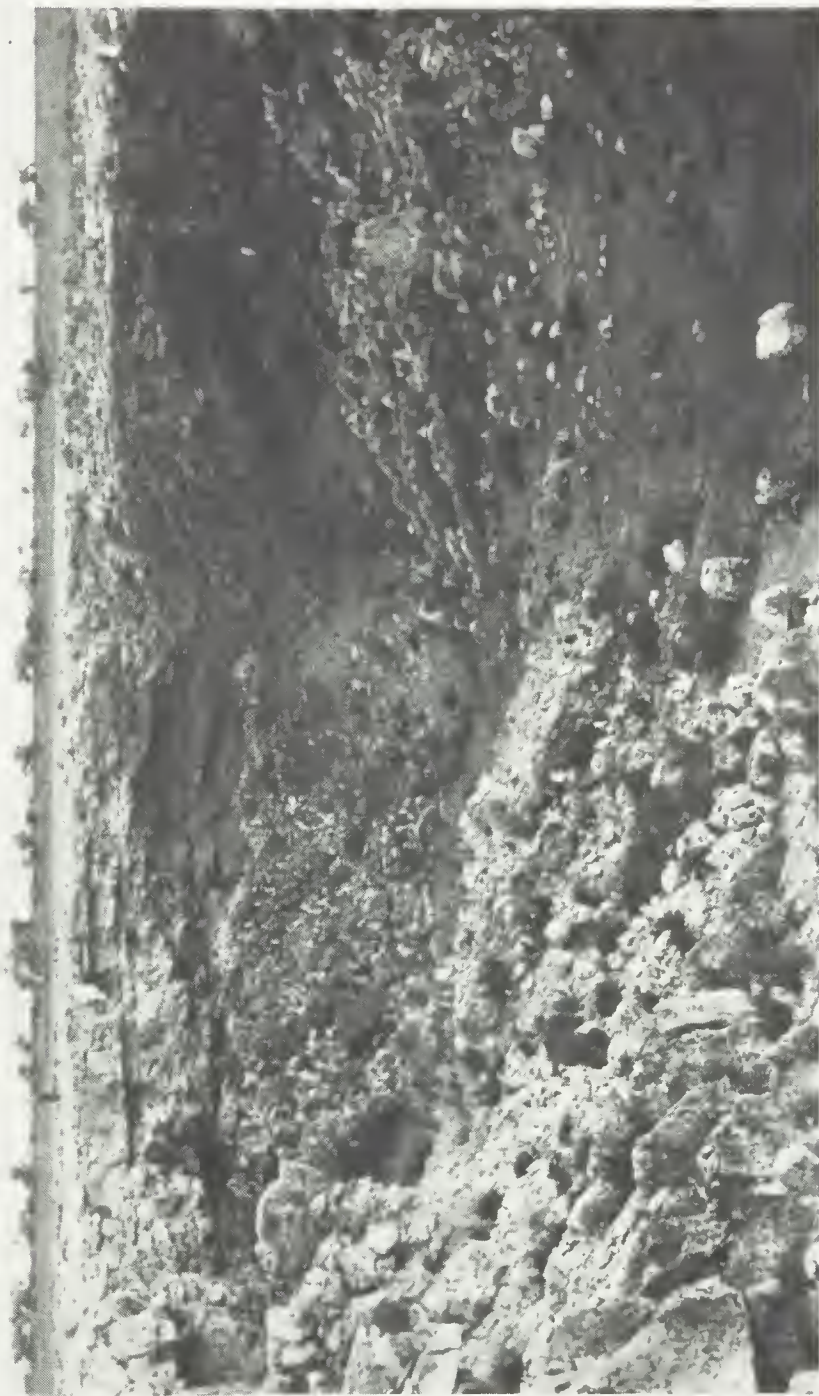
1774. *Helix pisana* Muller, Verm. Hist., 2, 1774, p. 60.

1902. *Euparypha pisana* Westerlund, Rad. Jugoslav. Akad., 151, 1902, p. 100.

*Localities.* Esperance, W.A.; Bunbury, W.A.

*Observations.* This introduced species of European origin is colonizing the whole southern coast of Australia.

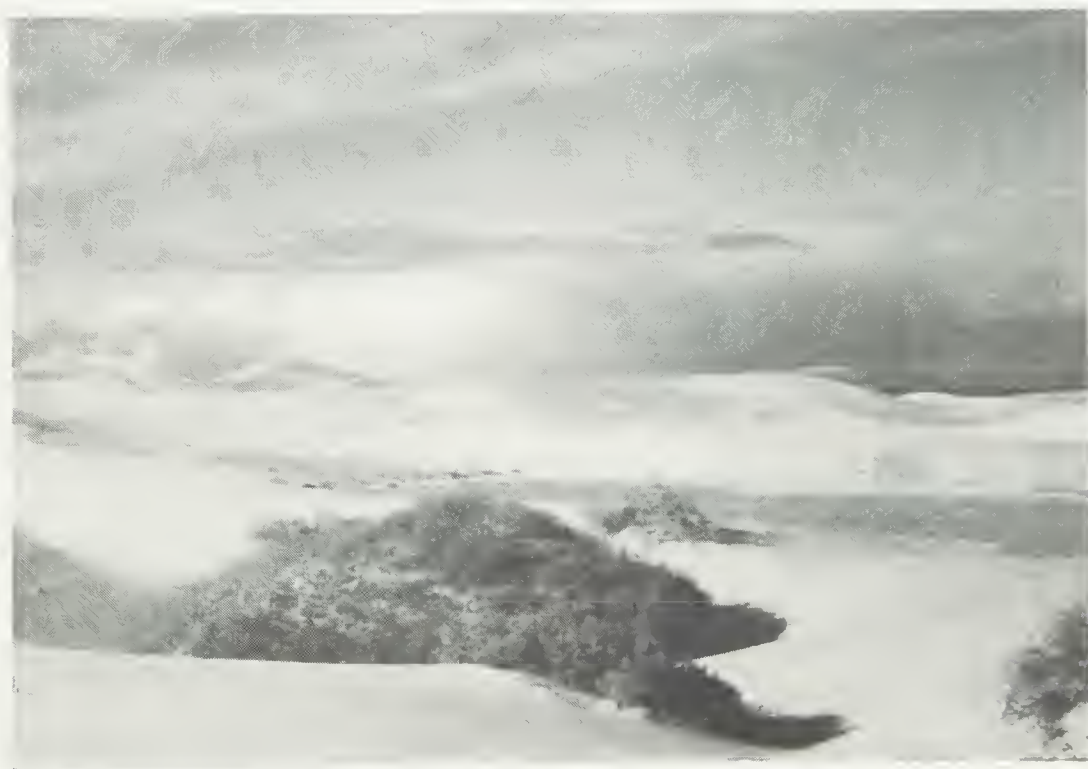




Typical depression in Nullabor Plain, near Koonalda.



Head of the Great Australian Bight, near White Wells, South Australia. The limestone cliffs are 300 feet high at this point. Note the whitish band, mentioned by John Eyre in his diary, about two-thirds of the distance down the cliffs.



Sand-dunes at Eucla, Western Australia.