

## A NEW SPECIES OF *VOLUTOCORBIS* (VOLUTIDAE) FROM SOMALIA

Harald A. Rehder

National Museum of Natural History  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D.C. 20560

Through the kindness of Dr. Harry G. Lee of Jacksonville, Florida, I received for examination a small series of a species of *Volutocorbis* from Somalia. I recognized immediately that the specimens were unlike any described species of the genus.

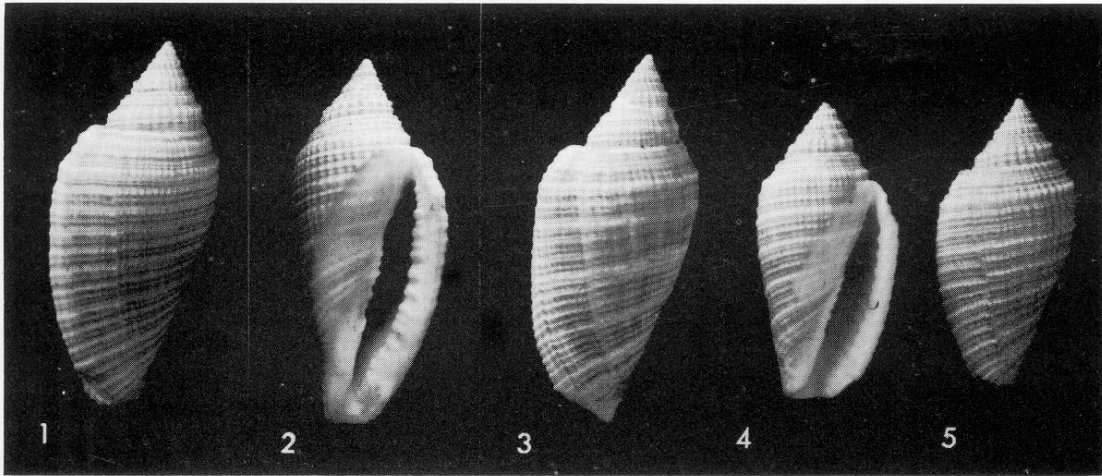
With Dr. Lee's permission I am describing this species as new and am pleased to name it in honor of Mrs. Rosavittoria Todaro, from whom Dr. Lee received the specimens. They were collected by Abdulkadir Ma'allin "Javane", from whom Mrs. Todaro obtained the specimens.

*Volutocorbis rosavittoriae* new species

(Figs. 1-5)

*Description:* Shell of medium size for genus,

heavy, biconic, with the spire sharply conical, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  total length or slightly more. Protoconch mamillate, consisting of about  $1\frac{1}{3}$  smooth, rounded whorls, the top sometimes obliquely flattened. Postnuclear whorls  $5\frac{1}{4}$ -6, first one with axial ribs that become nodulose below suture after first  $\frac{1}{4}$  whorl, with a second spiral row of nodules, separated from the first by a rounded groove; the subsutural row of nodules in later whorls margins a channeled subsutural shelf and may divide and form an upper flattened, less nodulose cord; in later whorls the number of spiral rows of nodules increases with the addition of finer spiral cords, the number of such spiral elements numbering about 45 in paratype #3; the number of axial ribs and riblets



FIGS. 1-5. *Volutocorbis rosavittoriae* n. sp.  $\times 1$ . 1, Holotype, dorsal view. 2, Holotype, apertural view. 3, Paratype no. 1. 4, Paratype no. 2. 5, Paratype no. 3.

also increases so that in the same paratype there are 16 riblets in the first postnuclear whorl and about 50 in the last whorl. The last whorl is usually slightly angled at the shoulder by a strong row of pointed nodules, and the entire surface is rendered rough and filelike by the numerous spiral cords and threads made finely nodulose by the crowded axial riblets. The color is pale tan or dark straw-color with white spiral lines or bands. Aperture narrow; pointed at both ends, outer lip broadly thickened inside with 16-22 teeth of various sizes that extend as spiral ridges into the aperture; parietal callus thin, margined above and on lower half, with 7-10 spiral folds on thickened internal lower half, the lowest fold usually strongest; lower part of outer lip flattened near broad, open siphonal canal.

*Range:* South coast of Somalia from off Kisimayu (Chisimaio) to Brava.

*Type locality:* Off Kisimayu, southern Somalia.

*Measurements* (in mm):

	Height	Width	No. of Whorls
Holotype USNM 784653	50.75	22.9	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Paratype #1 USNM 784654	50.45	22.9	6
Paratype #2 Colln. H. G. Lee	40.25	20.2	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Paratype #3 USNM 784654	39.15	19.4	5 $\frac{1}{4}$

*Remarks:* This species is distinct from other known species of *Volutocorbis* in possessing a stout, thick shell with strong, fine spiral and axial sculpture. In size, general shape, and in the thickness of the outer lip it is closest to *V. semirugata* Rehder and Weaver, 1974, but that species is much smoother, with more strongly shouldered whorls.

Since receiving the four specimens that form the basis of this description, Dr. Lee has learned that this species has been collected in some numbers off Brava on a species of *Xenophora*, probably *pallidula* (Reeve). Of 100 specimens of the latter species 29 had specimens of *Volutocorbis rosavittoriae* affixed to them.