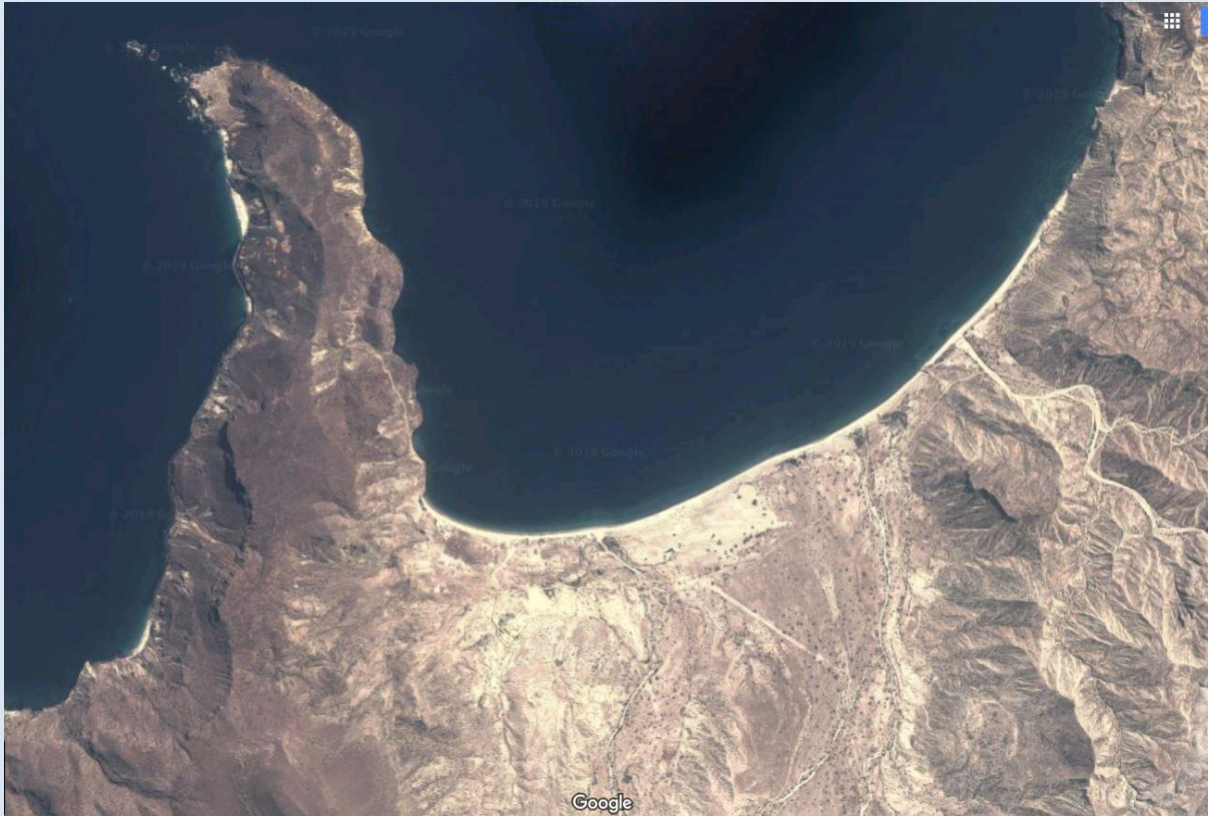




Collecting at Baia dos Elefantes

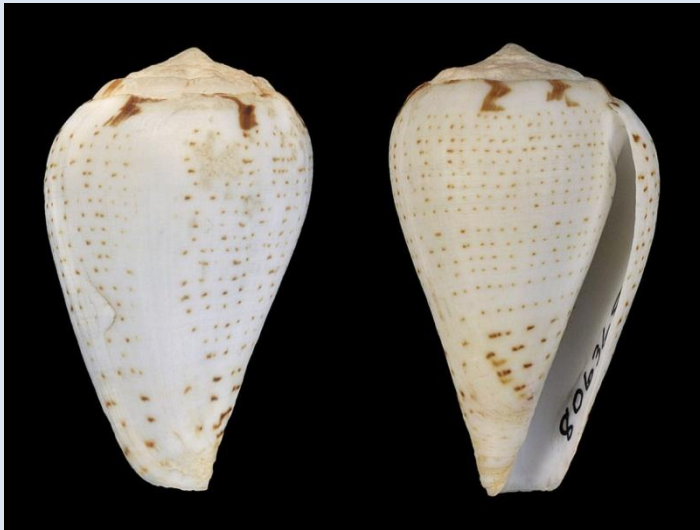


Baia dos Elefantes is situated 20km south of Equimina. In 2017, much of the land was bought by a development corporation whose plans will transform the locality into a large tourist resort.

Rolán & Röckel did not publish a separate list of Cone species from the Bay choosing to integrate in their listing, specimens from the bays of Equimina, Elefantes and Piambo. There is no record of any specimens from Elefantes in their 2000 paper.

Conus lineopunctatus Kaicher, 1977

Conus lineopunctatus Kaicher, 1977. The lectotype is labelled Baia dos Elefantes and it does match specimens found today at Elefantes.



Lectotype 38mm *C. lineopunctatus* USNM Elefantes



Lectotype figure *C. neoguttatus*.

C. lineopunctatus of Kaicher is a broad white shell with white aperture; well spaced solid brown marks on the shoulder and a pattern of spiral rows of well spaced brown dots. *C. neoguttatus* Da Motta, 1991 is now considered a synonym. It differs in pattern by having fewer large dots or chevrons and isolated patches of brown.

The holotype of *C. micropunctatus* has a similar pattern but is a narrower shell with many closely positioned rows of spiral dots and axial brown hairlines on the shoulder.



Elefantes 32mm CS



Elefantes 28mm CS



Elefantes 32mm GM

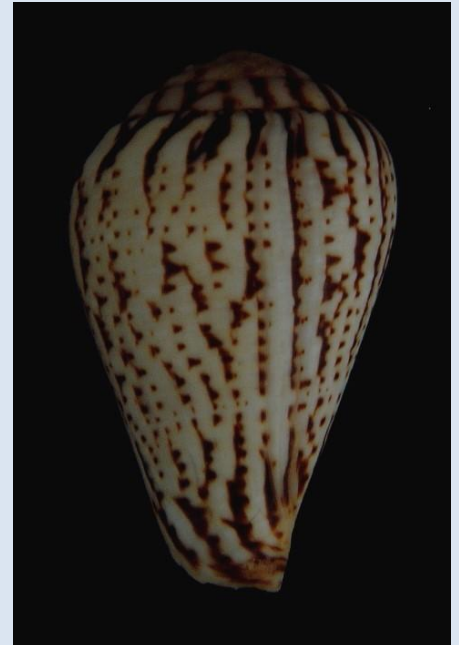
The two specimens on the left are very similar to the lectotype of *C. lineopunctatus* with a slight difference in the hairline pattern on the shoulder. The specimen on the right may be better interpreted as *C. micropunctatus*; it has the wide shoulder of *C. lineopunctatus* but the number of spiral rows of closely spaced dots plus the pattern of thin hairlines on the shoulder favour *C. micropunctatus*.



Elefantas 36mm CS



Elefantas 27mm CS



Elefantas 30mm CS

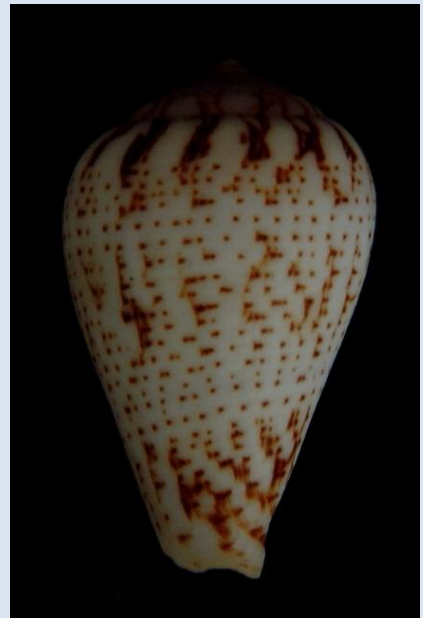
In many specimens of *C. lineopunctatus*, the pattern evolves into larger dots and chevrons which join to form axial markings.



Elefantas www.atollseashells.com



Elefantas 28mm



Elefantas 27mm GM

Other patterns with a spiral orientation of bands are common.



Elefantas 29mm GM



Elefantas 28mm GM



Elefantas 30mm GM

While most specimens have a very broad shoulder, other adults have a narrower shape. The specimen on the right is a shell found at several localities and has been interpreted by authors as *C. lineopunctatus*; perhaps *species aff. lineopunctatus* would be a more appropriate label until further specimens are tested.



Elefantas 27mm CS



Elefantas 25mm CS

Specimens with a green or blue ground colour are found with a purple aperture. The left specimen has the shape and pattern of typical *C. lineopunctatus* but is greenish with a white band at shoulder and below the middle ; traits associated with *C. trovaii*.



Elefantas 21mm



Elefantas 22mm CA



Elefantas 27mm GM

Other specimens from Elefantas with a blue or green ground colour and purple aperture have pattern elements of *C. lineopunctatus* such as the 21mm and 27mm specimens. The 22mm specimen is most difficult to interpret.



Elefantas 26mm CS



Elefantas 20mm GM

Specimens of *C. lineopunctatus* show a wide variation in shape

***Conus micropunctatus*. Rolan & Rockel, 2000**



C. micropunctatus
Elefantes 31mm CS



Elefantes 23mm CS



Elefantes 32mm GM

Specimens with the typical pattern and shape of *C. micropunctatus* are found at Elefantes(31mm specimen). The 32mm specimen has closely packed rows of dots and hairlines on the shoulder but has a broad shape. The middle specimen at 23mm has a pattern of more widely spaced rows of dots and widely spaced marks on the shoulder. (possibly *C. lineopunctatus*)



Species Blue CS
Elefantes 26mm



Species Blue CS
Elefantes 31mm

Specimens with a greyish blue ground colour(26mm) have a pattern of dots and also a purple aperture . These specimens with a pattern of well spaced dots probably have a greater affinity to *C. lineopunctatus*.

***Conus trovai* Rolan & Rockel, 2000**



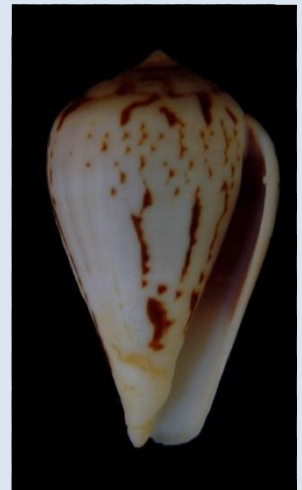
Elefantes_26mm_CS



Elefantes 20mm CS



Elefantes 28mm

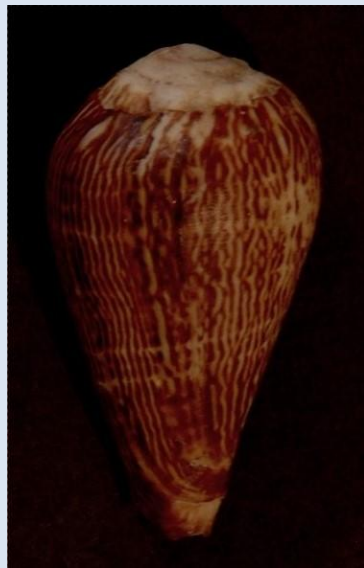


Specimens of typical form of *C. trovai* are found at Elefantes(26/20mm) whereas the right specimen(28mm) has a greyish blue ground colour and white band below the middle but has axial streaks of dark brown. However, in limited areas of the whorl a pattern of spiral dots is found. Such specimens share traits of *C. trovai* and *C. lineopunctatus*.

***Conus tenuilineatus* Rolán & Röckel, 2001**



Elefantes 23mm GM



Elefantes 28mm GM



Orig Desc f4.

Rolán & Röckel do not cite specimens from Elefantes as paratypes but include the area around Elefantes in their distribution spreadsheet. Specimens are difficult to separate from *C. naranjus* which is found in bays nearby to Elefantes. The shell, fig 4 in the original description, on the right above, has the same pattern and shape including thin spiral lines in its upper half and a spiral band below middle.

Conus variegatus Kiener, 1845.



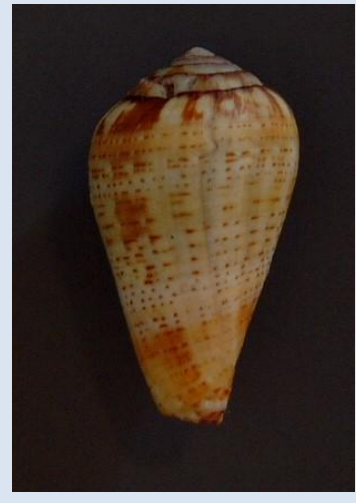
Lectotype fig



Elefantes 19mm CS



Elefantes 22mm CS



Elefantes 24mm CS

Although not recorded in the Rolán & Röckel distribution list from the Elefantes area, based on the representative figure of the type of *C. variegatus*, we can conclude that typical forms of *C. variegatus* are found at Elefantes



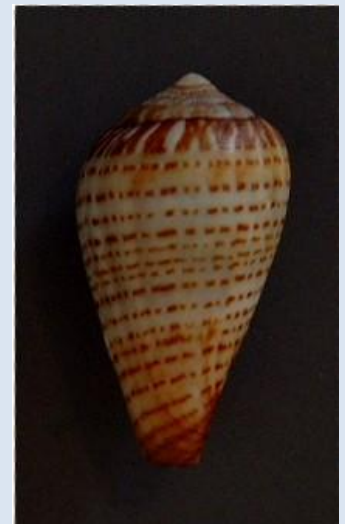
Elefantes 17mm CS



Elefantes 20mm CS



Elefantes 17mm CS



Elefantes 20mm CS

Variations of this form are based on a greenish/orange ground colour and usually a white spiral band below the middle with variable size and density of brown dashes in spiral rows. All specimens have a purple aperture with two white bands.



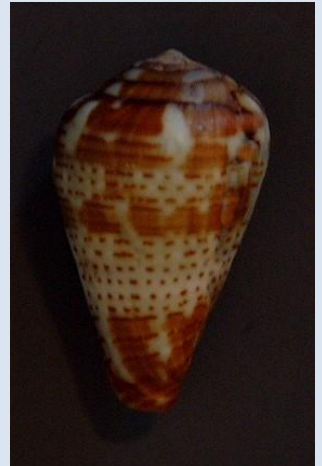
Elefantas 21mm CS



Elefantas 19mm CS



Elefantas 23mm CS

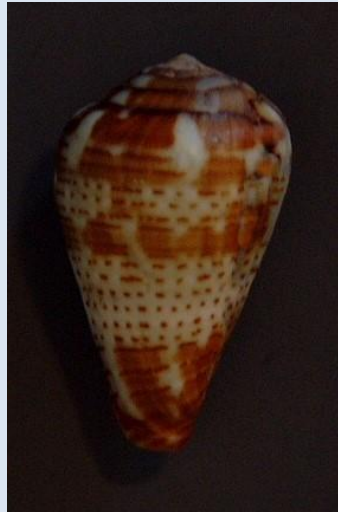


Elefantas 24mm CS

Other variations include a broad spiral band of green at the middle with a thin white band and solid brown on shoulder and basal areas. The shape varies as does the extent of the brown markings which become a darker brown.



Elefantas 22mm CS



Elefantas 20mm CS



Elefantas 19mm CS



Elefantas 19mm CS

These specimens show the variation in pattern.



Elefantas 23mm CS



Elefantas 24mm CS



Elefantas 22mm CS

Specimens with more solid brown markings and white bands of white or blue are often labelled *C. bocagei* but that species has a white ground colour and a light bluish aperture.



Elefantas 19mm CS



Elefaantes 21mm CS

Both specimens have large areas of solid dark brown in their pattern, far removed from the typical form. Further tests are required to check the radula and DNA of these forms.

Conus chytreus Tryon, 1884



Elefantas 30mm

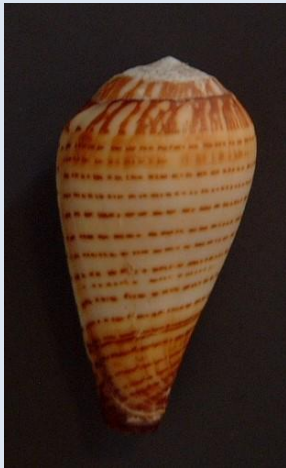


Elefantas 31mm

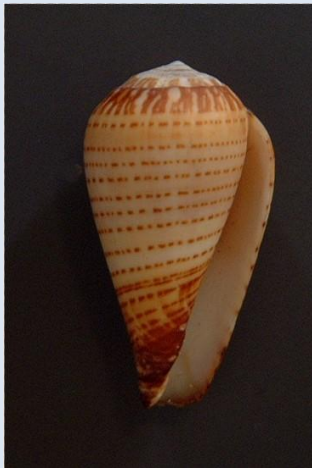


Elefantas 24mm Atoll

These specimens have been published as *C. chytreus* from Elefantas.



Elefantas 27mm CS 1

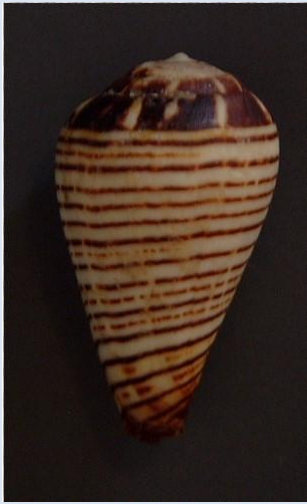


Elefantas 30mm CS 2



Elefantas 31mm CS 3

Similar specimens can be found today. In most specimens the spiral lines are broken into dots or dashes on a whitish ground colour; the aperture is white. In specimen 2, the aperture begins to have a purple blotch. Specimen 3 however shows many traits of *C. variegatus* with a bluish ground colour and a purple aperture with two white bands.



Elefantas 27mm CS 1



Elefantas 27mm CS 2



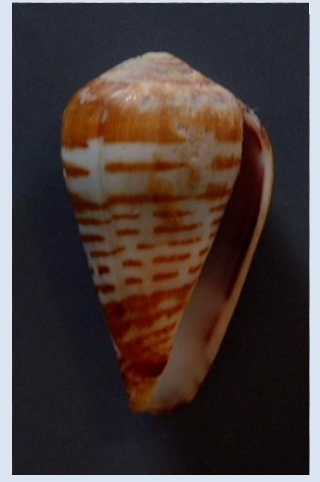
Specimen 1 has many of the characteristics of typical *C. chytreus*; solid brown on spire; white ground colour with many rows of continuous spiral lines and a white aperture. Specimen 2 with broader spiral lines is similar but the aperture has begun to turn purple.



Elefantas 27mm CS 3



Elefantas 28mm CS 4



Specimen 3 27mm has a greenish ground colour, a broad profile at the shoulder and a purple aperture without any spiral lines. Specimen 4 has traits which reflect *C. variegatus* and *C. chytreus*. Blue ground colour, purple aperture of *C. variegatus* and the solid brown spire and quite solid lines of *C. chytreus*.



Elefantas 36mm CS

This specimen with a blue ground colour and purple aperture, traits normally associated with *C. variegatus*, has the solid dark brown spiral lines of *C. chytreus*.

Conus species



Elefantas 24mm GM



Elefantas 18mm CS



Elefantas 25mm CS

3 specimens with a pattern dominated by wavy thin axial brown lines; probably different species and each collected as single specimens.



Elefantas 22mm Atoll



Elefantas 18mm



Elefantas 18mm CS

Specimens, all with white aperture. No obvious current species.



Elefantus 30mm CS



Elefantus 32mm CS

Large specimens with white aperture and purple blotch which have some characteristics of *C. africanus*.



Elefantus 23mm CS



This 23mm specimen would be interpreted as *C. bocagei*. The species has only been reported from Lobito where it has not been found for years. It could also be interpreted as a *C. variegatus* with a white ground colour.

Conus species.



Elefantas 22mm CS 1



Elefantas 25mm CS 2



Elefantas 14mm CS 3



Elefantas 15mm CS 4



Elefantas 21mm CS 5



Elefantas is further north than any reported specimens of *C. bulbus* or *C. musivus*. Specimen 5 with its white aperture could be considered as a small adult of *C. lineopunctatus*. However specimens 1,2,3 have a pattern, built from arrowheads or chevrons, which is mostly found in *C. musivus* specimens.



Elefantas 29mm CS

Elefantas 21mm white

The 29mm specimen with many thin axial lines, traits of *C. cepasi* but with greenish ground color and white band below middle, traits found in *C. variegatus*. The 21mm specimen with white aperture is difficult to interpret as any known species.
