

Conus albuquerquei Trovao, 1978



Original description(translated)

Shell with straight profile, fine, smooth, with some ridges on the anterior part. Blackish, sometimes brownish, with small white flammules in the middle of the last whorl of the shell, irregular in shape in size and quantity. These small spots are sometimes so close that they form white transverse bands of irregular contour. The white splotches appear also along the spire, as well as in the anterior of the shell forming narrow white bands.

Spire conical, convex, slightly raised, deep suture. Smooth whorl tops with convex profile. Blackish coloration, sometimes brownish, as in the rest of the shell, with some small irregular white flammules.

Aperture straight, thin lip, slightly further away in the anterior part of the columella. White color, sometimes equal to whorl colour by transparency.

Periostracum.: fine, transparent, yellowish.

Live animal with reddish-purple coloration.

Observed specimens: 12

Radular teeth: with a lamina equal to a third of the total length of the radular tooth, opposite the barb. Anterior and posterior parts of the same size and separated by a slight strangulation. The serrate section has two rows of denticles, along more than half of its length, beginning with a simple row and ending up in the same way with a row of small denticles on the cusp. The tooth ends on a base with a spur.

Location: Angola, 129 32 'E, 139 26' S.

Distribution: from Benguela to Moçamedes.

Habitat: Observed on stones, between four and ten meters, on clean sand bottom with rocks and some loose stones.

Fernandes & Rockel, 1982



9. *Conus albuquerquei* Trovao, 1978 (Centro Port. de Act. Subaqu., Scr. IV, N. 4, p1. 1, fig. D).

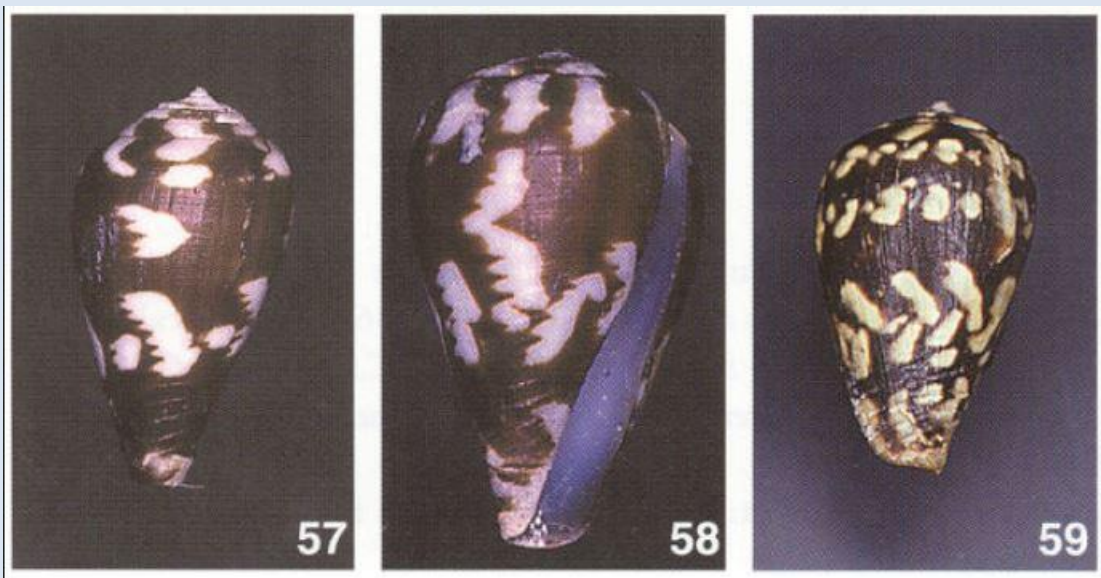
Essential characteristics: Very small, conical shell. Sides of body whorl straight, shoulder rounded. Spire low. Surface smooth with good gloss, 6 - 8 spiral grooves at base. Spire whorls smooth. Color blackish with scattered white dots at subshoulder area and axial white streaks at midbody, forming a light spiral band. At midbody also some spiral rows of brownish dots.

Animal: Colour reddish with black dots. Periostracum cream yellowish, transparent.

Habitat Buried in sand from low tide as deep as 3 m. under large rocks.

Locality: From Mossamedes (Praia das Conchas) up to Santa Maria Bay. Sympatric with *C. fuscolineatus*, *C. zebroides*, *C. carnalis* and *C. ermineus*. Uncommon to rare.

Rolan and Rockel, 2000



All specimens Santa Maria

Conus albuquerquei Trovao, 1978

(Figs.57-59).

Conus albuquerquei, Trovao, 1978. Boletim C.P.A.S., 4(4),1978: 11-12,pl.1, fig. 1,pl.2, figs. 2, 2a, pl. 3, fig. 5.

Type material: Holotype in CPAS (12.7 x 7.5 mm), depicted by Trovoa (1978, 1994).

Other material studied: Santa Maria;

Type locality: "Angola, 12 32' E, 13 26' S". Both lines cross near Santa Maria, where the holotype was collected. Santa Maria is herewith considered the type locality.

Shell description: Very small to small, light to moderately light. Last whorl ovate to ventricosely conical, outline convex at ad apical third, almost straight or slightly sigmoid below. Left side concave at base. Shoulder rounded, spire low to moderate, outline straight, convex or sigmoid. Teleoconch sutural ramps flat to convex, with fine spiral striae. Last whorl smooth with about 10 weak spiral grooves at base.

Colour dark to blackish brown, with axial white bars and streaks, sometimes with short spiral dashes, usually forming a broad spiral band at centre. Bars and streaks may change into more numerous axial white streaks. Irregular white spots at shoulder and base.

Periostracum smooth and translucent

Shell morphometry:

L 12-17 mm

RD 0.68-0.74

RSH 0.10-0.16

PMD 0.71-0.77

RW 0.04-0.06 g/mm

Description of animal: Reddish with black dots (ROCKEL & FERNANDES, 1982a).

Radula: In radula sac about 48 teeth. Tooth (Fig. 134) relatively large, compatible with the data in original description; it is wide, with a short PA; F hardly visible, covering 73-77% of PA; ABS about 45-60°. About 14-20 D in S in two rows.

Radula morphometry:

(N = 4)

D 14-20

ABS 45-60°

LC/DR 34-40

DR/PA 2.15-2.28

Distribution: Only found in Santa Maria (Fig. 150). Sympatric with *C. bulbosus*, *C. neoguttatus*, *C. variegatus*, *C. zebroides*, *C. carnalis*, *C. nobrei*, *C. musivus*, and *C. naranjus*.

Habitat: On stones, between 4-10 m, on sandy bottom (TROVAO, 1978); buried in sand intertidal to as deep as 3 m, under large rocks (ROCKEL & FERNANDES, 1982a).

Discussion: We have some doubts about the assignment of the populations from south of Chapeu Armado to *C. albuquerquei*; with regard to radula differences. If they are conspecific, they live also sympatrically with *C. fuscolineatus*. Coomans et al. (1979) placed *C.*

albuquerquei; in the *C. africanus* -complex. There may be certain similarities in shell pattern, however the shell of *C. africanus* is larger and the radular teeth are different: *C. africanus* has usually more teeth in the radula sac, its tooth is relatively smaller and F is not visible; Additionally, the tooth of *C. albuquerquei* is wider. *C. albuquerquei* is similar to *C. nobrei*: The shell morphometry is identical, and also the radula teeth are not significantly different. Most different is the shell-pattern, but the population of Canoco seems to be an intergradation of both patterns. Therefore we can only provisionally accept separation of these species.

Notes

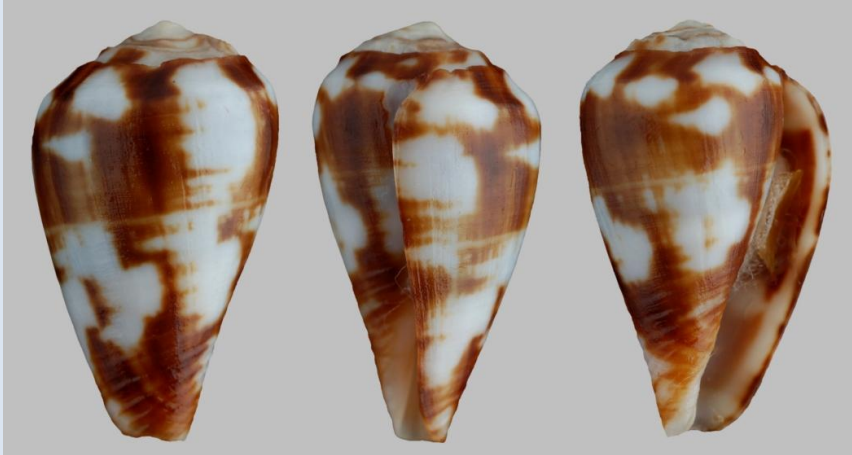
A number of specimens from Santa Maria area are illustrated in the Iconography of West African cones. All specimens circa 15-17mm.



Specimens have been offered by Atoll Specimen shells from both Santa Maria and from Baia Conchas. (www.atollseashells.com)



Baia Santa Maria



Baia Conchas

RR2000 reported differences in the radula of southern populations of *C. albuquerquei* (eg at Conchas) from the typical population around Santa Maria.

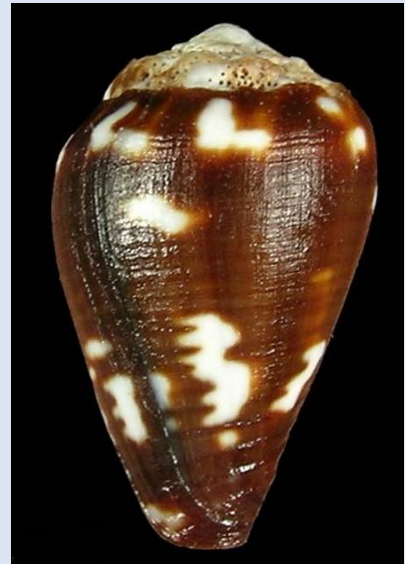
Some novel-patterned specimens are illustrated in Shell Encyclopdeia (www.conchology.be)



Mocamedes



Conchas



Conchas

DNA Analysis: There is no record of any DNA analysis.

Page last updated 09 May. 2019.