

***Conus bocagei* Trovao, 1978**



Original description translated: Conical shell, straight profile, smooth with some striations on the anterior. Color whitish, with a brown colour, pattern formed by small dots of the same colour, very close together and almost equidistant. Sometimes some dots are connected in the longitudinal direction forming very small and irregular lines. This pattern is delimited, anteriorly and posteriorly, by well-marked but very irregular border areas with the same brown colouration. The wide anterior strip occupies roughly a third of the length of the last whorl of the shell. Smooth spire, slightly raised, straight profile, or slightly convex. Regular and shallow suture line. Early whorls slightly raised, of brown coloration, same as the bands of the shell body, with some whitish irregular spots, corresponding to the base colour of the last whorl.

Aperture: thin rounded lip, wider in the anterior part of the columella. Interior colour white, slightly rosy, further inside.

Periostracum thin, light yellow transparent, very persistent.

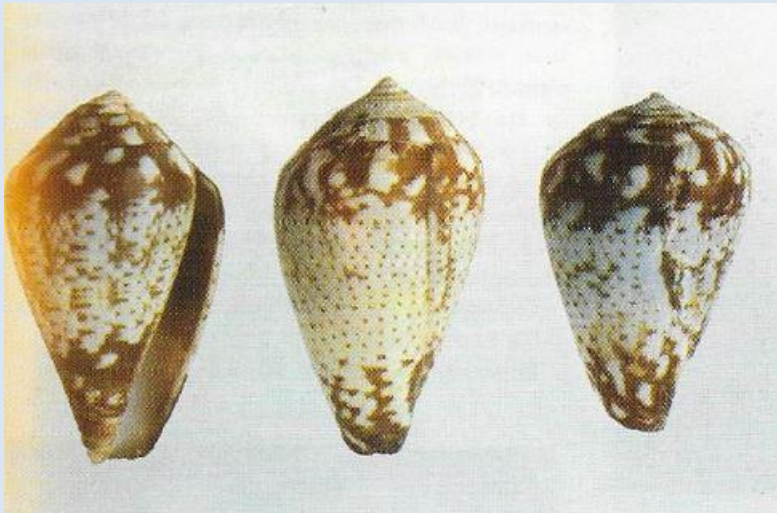
The animal, when observed alive, presents a uniform cream colouration

Radular teeth : thin, both anterior and posterior sections are approximately the same dimensions, and are separated by a slight constriction. The serrated section, formed by small teeth, ends in a small cusp. On the opposite side of the barb there is a lining that accompanies the entire anterior part of the radular tooth and which is substantially the same length as the serrated section. The tooth ends on a base with a spur

Location: Angola 13° 35' S - 12° 19' E.

Distribution: from Caota beach in Benguela to Moçamedes.

Fernandes & Röckel, 1982



Size of pictured specimens: 19,5 mm. 20 mm. 17,5 mm

6. *Conus bocagei* Trovão 1978 (Centro Port. d. Act. Subaqu., Ser. IV, N. 4. p. 17, pl. 1. fig. 2).

Main characteristics: Small, solid, biconic shell. Sides gently convex, shoulder roundly angled spire elevated with straight sides. Surface smooth without gloss. Colour white bluish with dark brown blotches at base, shoulder and spire. Between shoulder and base spiral lines with very fine dots. Inside violet toned with a darker spot in the depths.

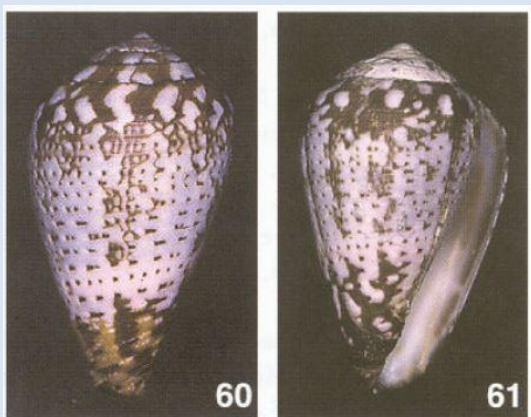
Habitat: Buried in sand at 1- 2 m deep near rocks or in rock crevices.

Locality: Only found in Lobito Bay.

Similar species: *C. variegatus* has more depressed, concave sided spire, inside deep violet. *C. obtusus* with more elongated last whorl and depressed spire.

Note the ground colour is extended from original description to include blue and white; the distribution is limited to Lobito Bay.

Rolán and Röckel, 2000



Lobito bay

Conus bocagei Trovão, 1978
(Figs.60-61)

Conus bocagei Trovão, 1978. Boletim C.P A.S., 4 (4) : 17 -18, pl. 1 fig. 2, pl. 2, figs. 3-4, pl. 3, fig. 1.

Type material: Holotype in CPAS (27.2 x 16.8 mm), depicted by TROVAO (1978, 1994).

Other material studied: Lobito;

Type locality: "13° 35' S -12° 19' E". This is off Santa Maria. But the holotype. was collected, according to the original description, at Lobito. So we designate Lobito, Angola, the type locality.

Shell description: Small to moderately small, moderately light to moderately solid. Last whorl ovate to broadly ovate. Outline convex at adapical third, almost straight below. Left side slightly concave near base. Aperture wider at base than near shoulder. Shoulder subangulate to angulate. Spire of moderate height, outline straight to slightly sigmoid. Teleoconch sutural ramps flat to slightly concave, with fine spiral striae. Last whorl smooth and dull, with about 10 basal spiral cords.

Ground colour bluish white. Last whorl with spiral rows of alternating brown and white dots and dashes, at shoulder and at base coalescing to brown flecks, leaving short light streaks. Aperture light to dark brown with a light collabral zone and a light central band

Shell morphometry:

L 20-32 mm
RD 0.67-0.78
RSH 0.12-0.20
PMD 0.69-0.77
RW 0.09-0.10 g/mm

Description of animal : Uniform cream in colour (TROVAO, 1978). Penis small.

Radula: About 50-60 teeth in radula sac (Fig. 107). A vermivorous tooth (Fig. 135), medium sized, narrow, with an apical portion half total length of tooth. S narrow with small D in 1-2 rows, disappearing in lower part. ABS 30-45°, blade almost unobservable, covering near 80%.

Radula morphometry'
(n = 3)

D 22-30
ABS 30-45
LC/DR 48-63
DR/PA 2.0-2.1

Habitat: Buried in sand at 1-2 m deep, near rocks or in rock crevices (ROCKEL & FERNANDES, 1981).

Distribution: Only found in Lobito. Sympatric with *C. zebroides* and parapatric with *C. naranjus*. Specimens from other localities, mentioned in the original description, may be similar to *C. bocagei*: but are not considered conspecific.

Discussion; The shells from Namibe (Moçamedes), mentioned by Trováo, probably do not belong to this species, they differ by their rounded shoulder, more convex spire, and narrower last whorl. *C. bocagei* can easily be distinguished from most of the other endemic Conus species of Angola by its angulate to subangulate -instead of rounded -shoulder.

Notes

In the **Iconography of West African Cones**, the text follows Rolán and Röckel, 2000 and illustrates specimens are all from Lobito.



Few specimens are circulated today with older specimens labelled “Lobito” being the most common



Lobito GM

Cesar Poppe Encyc.

A potential specimen from Baia Cesar was illustrated in the Shell Encyclopedia (www.conchology.be).

Comment: Specimens have not been found at Lobito in recent years. However, a recent diving trip revealed specimens in an unnamed bay about 15km north of Lobito



Jose Rosado collection *C. bocagei*

The left specimen is typical while the other two specimens show a blue variation in their ground colour.

Other specimens with similar whorl pattern are found regularly but they all tend to have a purple aperture and are probably better interpreted as specimens with an affinity to *C. variegatus*.



Baia Elefantas GM



Baia Farta GM

DNA analysis: No results have been reported.

Page last updated 5 Oct 2019.