



Holotype

Original description.

Type locality: Cabo Santa Marta in the Namibe Province, Angola, Southern Angola, West Africa (coordinates 13° 52.500' S, 12° 25.700' E)

Distribution and habitat: The new species is found at Capins and Cabo Santa Marta, where it is more abundant. It also occurs, in lesser densities, at Baía do Calongo, São Nicolau and Piscinas; it is also found along the Namibe Province in southern Angola. *V. inesae* sp. nov. is found from 3 to 12 meters deep usually on top of rock slabs or half buried in rock fissures, in rough waters. It has been observed in sympatry with several other endemic *Varioconus* species but mainly *V. cf. bulbus* (Reeve, 1843), *V. chytreus* (Tryon, 1884), *V. variegatus* (Kiener, 1845) and *V. zebroides* (Kiener, 1845).

Description of the shell: Morphometric parameters: L = 25 – 36 mm; average L = 30.3 mm; RD = 0.59 – 0.63; RSH = 0.10 – 0.16; PMD = 0.81– 0.85.

Shell moderately small, solid. Last whorl ventricosely conical, elongated. Profile more or less straight, rounded shoulder. Spire low to moderately high, slightly convex, teleoconch whorls smooth; protoconch and first whorls typically eroded. Last whorl smooth, often with visible marks of previous lips.

Periostracum yellow. The shell is usually light brown to brown but dirty white and dark brown shells are known; usually the brown color is not uniform, forming spiral bands or lines of different hues; in some cases these spiral bands can be almost white. The spiral ramps are of the same color as the last whorl of the teleoconch, sometimes somewhat lighter, except

near the suture. The interior of the aperture is violet, fading towards the anterior end; the interior of the lip is white. The operculum is small, elongated.

Living animal and radula: The living animal is dark red.

Radular tooth examined for the holotype (Fig. 2A). 26 teeth in radular sac. Radular tooth slender, medium-sized ($LC/DR = 50$) with the anterior section longer than the half of the total tooth length ($DR/PA = 1.90 - 1.95$). Waist evident. Blade almost indistinctive, covering most of the anterior part ($100F/PA = 75 - 80\%$). 34 to 38 sharp denticles present in serration, arranged in one row in the apical portion, becoming 2 to 3 rows below, ending in a rounded terminating cusp. Basal spur present.

Discussion: *C. filmeri* may appear somewhat similar in external morphology, especially when compared with the lighter dirty white morphotypes of *C. inesae* sp. nov., but the latter is much more slender in shape (smaller RD and more elevated PMD), has a tighter aperture, occasionally tinged with purple on the upper portion, and a more convex spire. The radular teeth of *C. filmeri* (Rolán & Röckel, 2000) are more numerous in the radular sac (55 – 108 teeth) and have a smaller relative size smaller than those of *C. inesae* sp. nov. ($LC/DR = 59 - 69$), with less denticles in the serration (d in $S = 22$).



Paratypes

Comment: Surprisingly, very few specimens have been circulated or offered on line by dealers.

DNA analysis: There are no published results for the DNA of this species.

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