

NEW DATA ON THE SYSTEMATICS OF TWO
SICILIAN LAND SNAILS, *HELIX PARLATORIS*
BIVONA, 1839 AND *HELIX REINAE* L. PFEIFFER,
1856 AND DESCRIPTION OF *SCHILEYKIELLA*
N. GEN. (PULMONATA: HYGROMIIDAE)¹

GIUSEPPE MANGANELLI², IGNAZIO SPARACIO³ AND FOLCO GIUSTI²

(Accepted for publication, 21st May, 1988)

Abstract: The new genus *Schileykiella* is described for two small helicoid species of the Hygromiidae living in Sicily (Italy). An analysis of the possible relationships between the new genus and other taxa of the same family, the redescription of the two species and comments on their origin, distribution and ecology conclude the paper.

INTRODUCTION

Helix parlatoris Bivona, 1839 and *Helix reinae* L. Pfeiffer, 1856⁴ are two species with very similar shells living in Sicily. They were frequently cited in the malacological literature of the past century but have been almost completely forgotten in recent years.

Alzona (1971) includes them among the 'Fruticicolinae incertae sedis aut dubiae', whereas Richardson (1980) enlists them in the Hygromiinae (the same nominal species *H. parlatoris* in two different genera, *Trichia* and *Ciliella*; *H. reinae* in the genus *Trichia*).

While collecting material for studies on the Sicilian malacofauna we happened to find a few living adult specimens of both species which we utilized for anatomical research. Our data not only allowed us to confirm the validity of the two taxa as distinct species, but also to include them in a well defined new genus.

Schileykiella new genus

Type species: *Helix parlatoris* Bivona

Description

Shell: small, pilose, brown in colour, flattened or very low conical above, convex-rounded below, with a spire of 4-5 slowly and regularly increasing whorls separated by deep sutures. Last whorl, more or less descendant, more or less angled at or just above the periphery. Umbilicus, deep and wide 1/5-1/4 of the maximum shell diameter. Mouth oval or rounded, peristome not thickened, slightly reflexed at its lower margin.

¹ Notulae Malacologicae, XLI.

² Dipartimento di Biologia Evolutiva, Via Mattioli 4; I-53100 Siena (Italy).

³ Corso Finocchiaro Aprile, 188; I-98138 Palermo (Italy).

⁴ According to the 1961 and 1964 editions of the ICZN these two names should be amended to *H. parlatoresi* and *H. reinai*. We have left the original spelling *H. parlatoris* and *H. reinae* (Parlatore and Reina can be considered Latin names of the third and first declension respectively) to be in line with the Art. 31 of the 1985 edition of the ICZN.

External surface of the protoconch marked with growth-lines, and a few short hairs or impressions of hair roots. Periostracal surface of the teleoconch with transverse rows of hairs and minute longitudinal crests.

Genital Duct: characterized by a very short vagina, without any trace of dart-sac complex and digitiform glands. The duct of the bursa copulatrix (=gametolytic gland) is highly variable in length and width but its initial portion is always flared. The bursa copulatrix is small, oval or rounded in shape, it adheres to the ovispermiduct surface and has no relation at all to the diaphragm.

The penis (the portion of the penial complex from the point of attachment of the penial retractor to the genital atrium) and the epiphallus (the portion of the penial complex from the point where the penial retractor is inserted to the point where the vas deferens ends and the penial flagellum arises) appear almost equal in length. The flagellum is variable in length, from short to very long. The penis is partly enveloped by a thin muscular sheath. The penial retractor arises from the diaphragm wall and terminates at the penial complex in coincidence with the very beginning of the penial sheath. There is no hygromiid-like penial papilla (i.e. a papilla traversed by a spermatic canal or if not traversed at least embracing the epiphallus or proximal penis opening into the penis (or into the distal penis) with its base and having a sperm groove on one side). A compact 'pseudopapilla', variable in shape and size, arises from a side of the inner surface of the medial portion of the penis.

The right ommatophore retractor passes between penis and vagina.

The mantle collar has no features which distinguish it from other Hygromiidae.

Derivatio nominis

The new genus is dedicated to Dr. A. A. Schileyko of Moscow (USSR) as a token of friendship and esteem for his work in malacological systematics.

Schileykiella parlatoris (Bivona, 1839)

(Figs. 1–3; Pl. 10, figs. A–E; Pl. 12, figs. A–D; Pl. 15, figs. A–C; Pl. 16, fig. F)

Helix Parlatoris Bivona, 1839. *L'occhio, Giornale di Scienze, Amena Letteratura e Belle Arti*, **9**: 65–66, Fig. 1.

Helix Parlatoris, – Bivona, 1839. Extract from *Giornale Letterario*, **198**: 15–16.

Helix Parlatoris, – Aradas & Maggiore, 1841. *Atti Accad. Gioenia Sci. Nat. Catania*, (I), **17**: 73.

Helix Parlatoris, – Rossmässler, 1842. *Iconographie Land und Süßwasser Mollusken*, (I), **2** (5): 2–3, Fig. 688.

Helix Parlatoris, – Calcara, 1842. *Esposizione dei molluschi terrestri e fluviatili dei contorni di Palermo*: 13.

Helix Parlatoris, – Calcara, 1845. *Atti Accad. Sci. Lett. Palermo*, (N.S.), **1**: 16.

Helix Parlatoris, – Philippi, 1844. *Enumeratio molluscorum Siciliae*, **2**: 107, Pl. 21: fig. 4.

Helix Parlatoris, – L. Pfeiffer in Martini & Chemnitz, 1846. *Systematisches Conchylien-Cabinet*, Ed. II, **1** (12, 2nd–3rd parts): 169, Pl. 95, figs. 26–28.

Helix Parlatoris, – L. Pfeiffer, 1848. *Monographia Heliceorum viventium*, **1**: 126.

Hygromia Parlatoris, – Adams & Adams, 1855. *The genera of the recent Mollusca*, **2**: 215.

Helix Parlatoris, – Benoit, 1857. *Illustrazione sistematica critica iconografica dei Testacei extramarini della Sicilia Ulteriore*: 95, Pl. 4: fig. 22.

Helix (Fruticicola, Zenobia) Parlatoris, – Albers, 1860. *Die Heliceen nach natürlicher Verwandtschaft*: 104.

Helix (Trichia) Parlatoris, – Paulucci, 1878. *Materiaux pour servir à l'étude de la faune malacologique terrestre et fluviatile de l'Italie*: 3.

Helix (Satsuma, Zenobia) Parlatoris, – Clessin, 1881. *Nomenclator Heliceorum viventium*: 122.