

Two new Singapore records of the bivalve family Tellinidae

Subjects: *Quidnypagus palatum* (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Tellinidae); Fig. A.
Tellinides timorensis (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Tellinidae); Fig. B.

Subjects identified by: Tan Siong Kiat.

Location, date and time: Singapore Straits, Pulau Semakau in April 2011, and Lazarus Island on 18 August 2012.

Habitat: Intertidal, on coral reef flat with coral rubble (*Quidnypagus palatum*), and muddy sand flat (*Tellinides timorensis*).

Observers: S. K. Tan, Ria Tan and others.

Observations: All specimens were found as freshly dead articulate empty shells collected by hand. These were deposited as vouchers in the Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC) of the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research at the National University of Singapore.

1) *Quidnypagus palatum* - Pulau Semakau (1 ex., shell height $43.6 \times$ shell length 59.1 mm; ZRC.MOL.5581), 9 April 2011; Lazarus Island (1 ex., shell height $37.4 \times$ shell length 46.2 mm; ZRC.MOL.5585), 18 August 2012 (Fig. A).

2) *Tellinides timorensis* - Pulau Semakau (3 ex., shell height $29.5 \times$ shell length 47.3 mm to shell height $34.2 \times$ shell length 53.2 mm; ZRC.MOL.5580), 22 April 2011 (Fig. B).

Shell height is measured from the highest part of the dorsal side (umbo) to the lowest part of the basal edge, and shell length is the perpendicular distance between the anterior and posterior ends.

Remarks: *Quidnypagus palatum* and *Tellinides timorensis* have not been previously recorded from Singapore in the literature (e.g., Morris & Purchon, 1981; S. K. Tan & Woo, 2010), and are herein reported for the first time. Nevertheless both species are probably not very rare and the lack of reports may be due to a general lack of sampling efforts and reports on the local malacofauna.

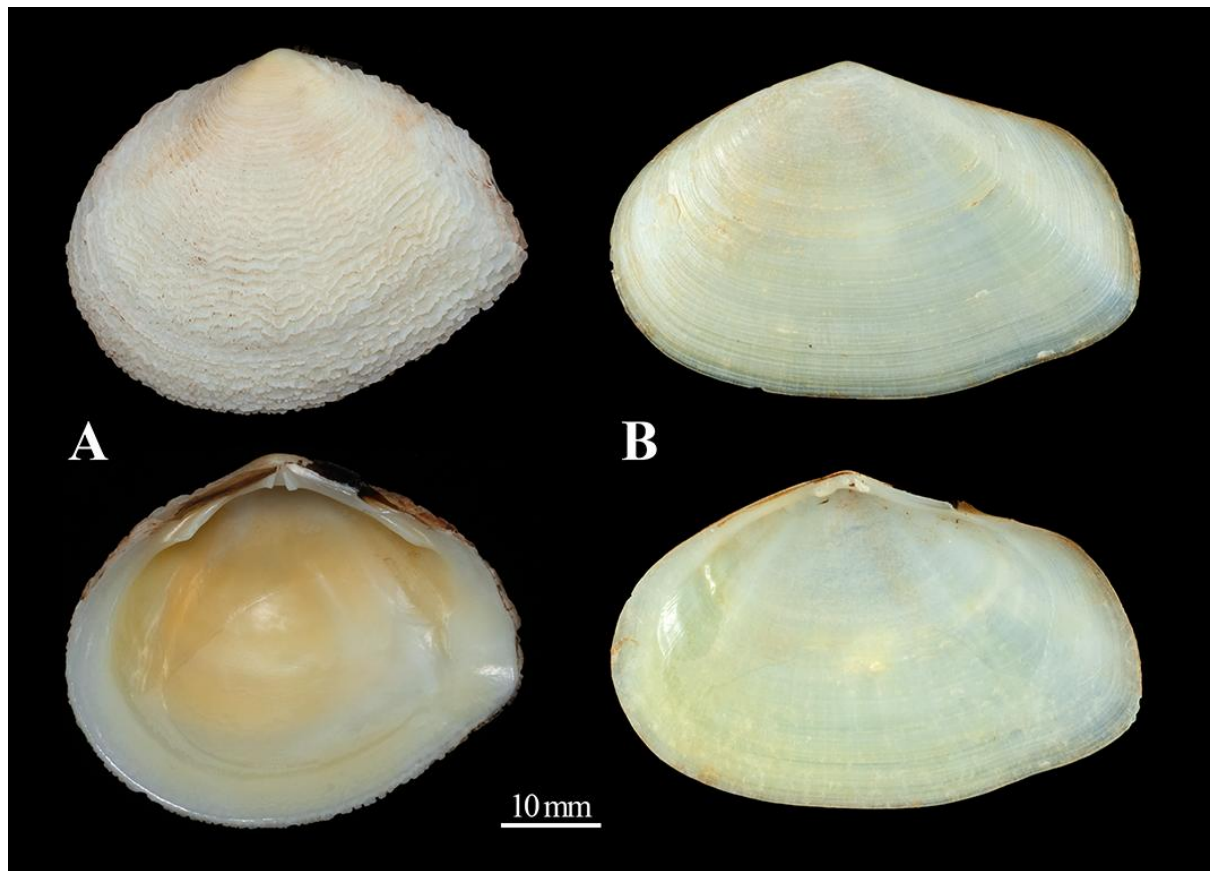
Quidnypagus palatum and *Tellinides timorensis* are rather widely distributed in the Indo-Pacific and Indo-West Pacific respectively (Poutiers, 1998). Both species are of minor economic importance. *Quidnypagus palatum* is collected for subsistence in many areas, while the shells are used for shell craft in the Philippines, and *Tellinides timorensis* is also collected for subsistence and also marketed in the Philippines (Poutiers, 1998). The specimens from Pulau Semakau were found during the "Project Semakau" surveys, but were not found prior to the report by S. K. Tan & Yeo (2010), and were thus not included.

References:

- Morris, S. & R. D. Purchon, 1981. The marine shelled Mollusca of West Malaysia and Singapore. Part 3, Bivalvia. *Journal of Molluscan Studies*. 47 (3): 322–327.
- Poutiers, J. M., 1998. Bivalves (Acephala, Lamellibranchia, Pelecypoda). In: Carpenter, K. E. & V. H. Niem (Eds.), *FAO Species Identification Guide for Fishery Purposes. The Living Marine Resources of the Western Central Pacific. Vol. 1*. Rome, FAO. pp. 123–362.
- Tan S. K. & H. P. M. Woo, 2010. *A Preliminary Checklist of the Molluscs of Singapore*. Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore. 78 pp.
- Tan S. K. & R. K. H. Yeo, 2010. The intertidal molluscs of Pulau Semakau: preliminary results of "Project Semakau". *Nature in Singapore*. 3: 287–296.

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Exterior (top row) and interior (bottom row) surfaces of individual halves of the bivalves *Quidnipagus palatum* (Fig. A) and *Tellinides timorensis* (Fig. B). Photograph by Tan Siong Kiat