Two species of pyramidelloid snails new to Singapore


**Subjects identified by**: Tan Siong Kiat.

**Location, date and time**: Singapore Island, Changi east, north of Changi Naval Base; 30 October 2005; around 1700 hrs.

**Habitat**: Unknown for living snails. Dead empty shells were found on the strandline of a sandy beach in a marine area.

**Observer**: Tan Siong Kiat.

**Observation**: Twenty one *Leucotina casta* of between 4.6 and 10.1 mm shell height (Fig. 1), and one *Monotygma amoena* of 5.6 mm shell height (Fig. 2), were sorted from of a sample of sand, shell grit, and debris collected from the strandline. The specimens are deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC) of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, National University of Singapore, and catalogued respectively as ZRC.MOL.10195 and ZRC.MOL.10196.

![Fig. 1. 16 of the 21 examples of *Leucotina casta* in the sample ZRC.MOL.10195. Photograph by Tan Siong Kiat](image-url)
Remarks: There is hitherto only one species, *Amathina tricarinata*, of the family Amathinidae that has been previously reported from Singapore (Tan & Low, 2014), and *Leucotina casta* is now the second. Despite being very similar in shell form, the more coarsely sculptured *Monotygma amoena* is presently assigned to a different, albeit related, family Pyramidellidae. It is not one of the several pyramidellids recorded from Singapore (e.g., Way & Purchon, 1981; Sanpanich & Tan, 2016). Although both species are herein first records for Singapore, it should be noted that the identifications are somewhat provisional.

Several *Leucotina* species recognised by Japanese authors (e.g., Kuroda & Habe, 1971; Hori & Tsuchida, 1995; Hori, 2000) were synonymised by Beu et al. (2004). We concur with Beu et al.’s (2004) interpretation of *Leucotina casta* as a variable species, and identify our shells with flat closely spaced spiral ribs as this species.

The only specimen herein identified as *Monotygma amoena* appears to match *Leucotina dianae* (sensu Kuroda & Habe, 1971), *Leucotina digitalis* (sensu Hori & Tsuchida, 1995), and *Leucotina adamsi* (sensu Hori, 2000) well. We follow Beu et al. (2004) in regarding these to be conspecific with *Monotygma amoena* (see Beu et al., 2004 as *Monoptygma amoena*). However it may possibly be a different species as the syntype and possible syntype of *Monoptygma amoena* (= *Leucotina amoena*), figured in Beu et al. (2004: fig. 25B) and Aartsen & Hori (2006: figs. 1-2), have flatter and more closely spaced spiral ribs with less distinct axial ridges in the interspaces.

References:

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