

BULLETIN

ZOÖLOGISCH MUSEUM

U N I V E R S I T E I T V A N A M S T E R D A M

Vol. 11 No. 3 1987

A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF *ACLIDIDAE* (GASTROPODA) FROM OFF TENERIFE,
CANARY ISLANDS

R.G. MOOLENBEEK & A. WARÉN

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Manuel Carrillo Pèrez (Universidad de la Laguna) has sent some dredge-samples to the first author. This material contained many interesting molluscs, not mentioned by Nordsieck & Talavera (1979). Amongst them was a very peculiar gastropod species, which was difficult to identify. Based on some shell characters, it is provisionally classified with the family Aclididae.

DISCACLIS n. gen.

Type species

Discaclis canariensis n.sp., recent, Canary Islands, off Tenerife.

Diagnosis

Planispiral acclids.

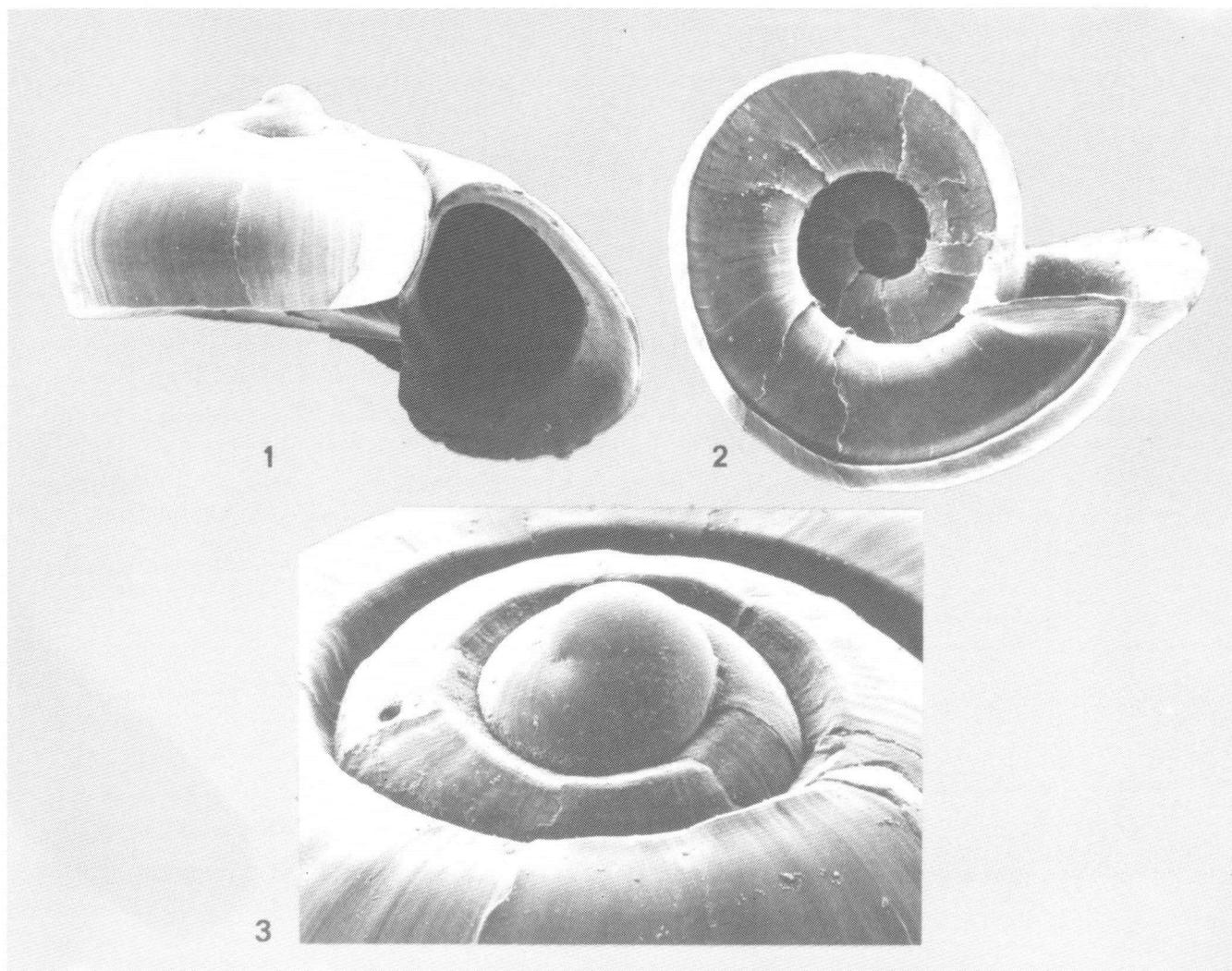
Remarks

The new species described below cannot easily be assigned to a family, but the strongly expanded, flaring outer lip and the growth scars, showing earlier positions of an aperture of the same morphology, closely resemble these features in the Aclididae. This kind of growth scars occur, as far as we are aware, only in the Aclididae and the Eulimidae, but the eulimids differ in having a more porcellaneous shell. Soft parts to test the familial position were not available.

The generic diagnosis may seem short, but because the genus is monotypic so far, we cannot say anything more about generic characters, and refer to the description of the new species for further details.

Etymology

Derived from *discus*, a noun of masculine gender, al-



Figs. 1-3. *Discaclis canariensis* n.sp., holotype, Canary Islands, off Tenerife, 125 m, 1, apertural view of shell, length 0.9 mm; 2, basal view of shell, width 1.4 mm; 3, protoconch, highly enlarged.

luding to flat, disk-like shape of the shell.

***Discaclis canariensis* n.sp.**
(Figs. 1-3)

Description of holotype

Shell planispiral, small, fragile, with a blunt, protruding apex. Larval shell globular, consisting of about 1 1/4 whorls with diameter about 280 μ m, without sculpture and demarcated from teleoconch by a distinct scar. Teleoconch of slightly more than 2

whorls, pear-shaped in profile. Sculpture of numerous indistinct growth lines and 14 or 15 incremental scars, indicating earlier positions of outer lip. Development of these is quite variable, they are often situated in pairs. Strong basal keel, sutures deep, channelled. Aperture distinctly opisthocline, strongly expanded and flaring, especially in lower part. Outer lip not thickened.

Type locality

Atlantic Ocean, Canary Islands, off Tenerife, El Socorro, 125 m, IX-1983, leg. G. Dionis.

Type series

Holotype length 0.9 mm, width 1.4 mm (ZMA Moll. no. 3.87.008). Two paratypes with measurements 0.7 x 1.1 mm (partly broken shell) and 0.35 x 0.5 mm (juvenile specimen) (ZMA Moll. no. 3.87.009), both from type locality.

Remarks

There are several families that contain small planispiral species of somewhat similar appearance (e.g. Orbitestellidae: *Microdiscula*; Cyclostremellidae: *Cyclostremella*; Skeneopsidae etc.), but they do not have the characteristic incremental scars and protruding apex typical for *Discaclis*, and there are no similar species described from the eastern Atlantic. In the family Acclididae, there are no species that even approach *D. canariensis* in the shape of the

shell, though *Aclis canaliculata* (E.A. Smith, 1890) (described as *Amaurella*) shows resemblance in the shape of the whorls and the deep suture. That species was described from Saint Helena (central Atlantic).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to Dr. M. Carillo Pérez for sending the unsorted debris samples and to Dr. H.E. Coomans and Mrs. Catherine L. Lamb for critically reading the manuscript. SEM photographs were made by the first author at the Laboratorium voor Elektronenmikroskopie (University of Amsterdam).

REFERENCE

NORDSIECK, F. & F.G. TALAVERA, 1979. Moluscos marinos de Canarias y Madera (Gastropoda): 1-208, pls I-XLVI. (Tenerife).

R.G. Moolenbeek,
 Instituut voor Taxonomische Zoölogie,
 (Zoölogisch Museum),
 Postbus 20125,
 1000 HC Amsterdam,
 The Netherlands.

A. Warén,
 Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet,
 Box 50007,
 S-104 05 Stockholm,
 Sweden.

Revised draft received: 14-4-1987
 Distributed : 18-IX-1987