



An overlooked name for the species known as *Sinetectula farinosa* (A. Gould, 1850) (Gastropoda, Pisaniidae)

Henk Dekker

Research associate, Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Darwinweg 2, 2333 CR Leiden, the Netherlands.

ORCID [0000-0001-6228-8319](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6228-8319)

h-dekker@quicknet.nl



ABSTRACT

Recently, the new genus *Sinetectula* Fraussen & Vermeij, 2021 was introduced for some species of *Engina*-like shells, as they showed clear differences with typical *Engina* species. For one of the included species an overlooked name was found, changing the name from *Sinetectula farinosa* (Gould, 1850) to *Sinetectula carduus* (Reeve, 1844).

Key words – Pisaniidae, taxonomy, *Sinetectula*

INTRODUCTION

One of the problems one is facing when trying to figure out the correct name for a species, is the long history for over 250 years since the nomenclature started with the well-known work of Linnaeus in 1758. Especially the older literature is full of vague indications, inadequate descriptions and poor figures, if any. The result of this long period with descriptions is the presence of many less-well-known names in literature. But due to the availability on the internet of many articles and books in digital form makes it relative easy to check old publications. MolluscaBase is a prime source for information about names of species and for links to (older) publications. Checking a name in an publication by Cernohorsky (1980), I noticed a type specimen figured of a familiar species to me, but not in present use for the species in question. This initiated me to write this short note on the species involved.



TAXONOMY

Family Pisaniidae J.E. Gray, 1857

Genus *Sinetectula* Fraussen & Vermeij, 2021Type species *Triton egregius* Reeve, 1844, by original designation***Sinetectula carduus* (Reeve, 1844)**

Synonymy:

Triton carduus Reeve, 1844a: pl. 19 fig. 95*Triton elegans* W. Thompson, 1845: 317, pl. 19 fig. 1 [junior homonym of *Triton (Pusio) elegans* J.E. Gray, 1833]*Buccinum (Pollia) farinosum* A. Gould, 1850: 152*Hindsia angicostata* Pease, 1860: 142

This species was known as *Engina farinosa* (Gould, 1850) in the literature, e.g. Robin, 2008 (189 fig. 10). The discovery of an older name for this species again changes the name, now to *Sinetectula carduus* (Reeve, 1844). The holotype of *Triton carduus* is figured by Cernohorsky (1980: 139, fig 8) and clearly shows the same species as which was known as *Engina farinosa* before.

Sowerby III (1859: 87, pl. 220 fig 14) regarded this species as a *Nassaria* Link, 1807 species (genus now in Nassariidae), but still used by e.g. Abbott & Dance (1983: 167, fig. lower left, as *Nassaria pusilla* (Röding, 1798), a misapplied name). E.A. Smith (1894: 163) stated it was certainly not a *Nassaria* species, but thought the species may be placed in *Colubraria* Schumacher, 1817 (Colubrariidae). Cernohorsky (1980: 140) regarded it as an *Engina* s.l. species, together with *Engina egregia* (Reeve, 1844) and *Engina farinosa* (three sp.). As the species differed substantially from other species of the genus *Engina*, it was finally transferred to the newly erected genus *Sinetectula* by Fraussen & Vermeij (2021).

Cernohorsky's paper was overlooked by Fraussen & Vermeij in their 2021 publication (K. Fraussen, pers. comm. 2023).



Fig. 1. *Sinetectula carduus* (Reeve, 1844).
Mozambique, Nampula Prov., Nacala Bay, 3-5 m
depth, length 18.7 mm, coll. H. Dekker nr. 39090.



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