



A new record for *Dosinia indica* Fischer-Piette & Métivier, 1971 (Bivalvia, Veneridae)

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ABSTRACT

I studied material in my private collection from the genus *Dosinia*. As this is a very difficult genus within the Veneridae, this was not done properly earlier. Among the species present was one valve from India which was now recognized as *Dosinia indica* Fischer-Piette & Métivier, 1971. Apart from the original description, no other specimens are reported, this is the second specimen known.

Key words – Veneridae, *Dosinia indica*, India, distribution

INTRODUCTION

The Veneridae is a species rich family in the Bivalvia. Many species are relatively large sized and several of them are important food sources. Although many venerid species are rather well-known, that is not the case for the genus *Dosinia* Scopoli, 1777, especially those from the Indo- Western Pacific. The genus *Dosinia* forms together with the genera *Cordiopsis* Cossmann, 1910 †; *Cyclinella* Dall, 1902; *Dosinobia* H. J. Finlay & Marwick, 1937 †; *Kakahuia* Marwick, 1927 † and *Kaneharaia* Makiyama, 1936 † the subfamily Dosiniinae Deshayes, 1853 (MolluscaBase, 2025). The genus *Dosinia* is a species rich genus, with 101 living species recorded and 41 fossil species (MolluscaBase, 2025). There are additional names for 4 living and 9 fossil species listed with an uncertain status. As only a small part of names for fossils is entered into MolluscaBase at this moment, the amount of fossil species known will be much larger.



The most recent overview of this genus is given by Huber (2010), who also gives many figures of them. A previous extensive review of this genus by Fischer-Piette & Delmas (1967) is lacking figures of many species, the illustrated ones only have b/w figures with not many details visible. So apart from Huber & Fischer-Piette & Delmas their publications, one also has to study all the original works from mostly the 19th century to be able to form an opinion on the identifications of a number of species.

After long neglecting the living species of *Dosinia* in my private collection, I finally had the courage to study them better. One of the more interesting species recognized is highlighted.

TAXONOMY

Family Veneridae

Genus *Dosinia* Scopoli, 1777

Type species: *Chama dosin* Scopoli, 1777 (type by monotypy)

[= *Dosinia concentrica* (Born, 1778)]

Subgenus *Asa* Basterot, 1825

Type species: *Venus lincta* Pulteney, 1799 (type by monotypy)

***Dosinia (Asa) indica* Fischer-Piette & Métivier, 1971**

(Pl. 1 Fig. 1a-e)

Dosinia (Asa) indica Fischer-Piette & Métivier, 1971: 1284, text fig. 2

Dosinia (Asa) indica – Ramakrishna et al., 2004: 29

Dosinia (Asa) indica – Huber, 2010: Excel listing

This species is very little reported in the literature, e.g. missing from the bivalve book by Subba Rao, 2017. Originally the species was based on one left valve only, the holotype. It was collected in India, Andhra Pradesh, Visakhapatnam. A photo of this holotype can be found on the website of the Zoological Survey of India.

A paired specimen of this species was bought from Moses Milton Annai Raj in 2023. Unfortunately, the right valve was broken in tiny fragments when it arrived, although it was carefully wrapped. Curiously, the holotype was also broken during handling according to Fischer-Piette & Delmas (1971), showing the fragility of this thin shelled species. The left valve remaining measures 25.2 mm high, 24.5 mm wide and 6.3 mm thick. The color outside is off white, changing gradually to yellow at the umbo, inside similar colored as the shell is translucent. The sculpture consists of fine regular commarginal lamellar ribs (Pl. 1 Fig 1b). In the middle part the ribs are rather thick, near the anterior and posterior margin they become thin. Where the ribs reach the escutcheon they are slightly elevated forming a denticulated ridge. Lunula impressed but not very deeply. Details of the pallial sinus and adductor muscle scars are accentuated in Pl. 1 Fig. 1d. The rather narrow hinge is typical for many dosiniids (Fig. 1e). The shell was obtained by net, 20-25 m depth, in India, Tamil Nadu, Cuddalore. It is now stored in my collection with nr. 51697.



Plate 1. *Dosinia indica* Fischer-Piette & Métivier, 1971. India, Tamil Nadu, Cuddalore, 2023. Coll. author, nr. 51697. Fig. 1a-b. Outside of left valve, with details of sculpture in 1b. Fig. 1c-d. Inner side of left valve, with pallial sinus and adductor muscle scars accentuated in 1d. Fig. 1e. Details of hinge showing the cardinal teeth and the ligament attachment area.



The newly reported specimen herein extends the known range of this rare species with about 760 km to the SW from its type locality. Hopefully in future more specimens of this species will be found, as this note may help in identification.

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