



RESEARCH NOTE

Second record and range extension of *Ovini petalius* (Caenogastropoda, Tornidae) in Bahia, Brazil

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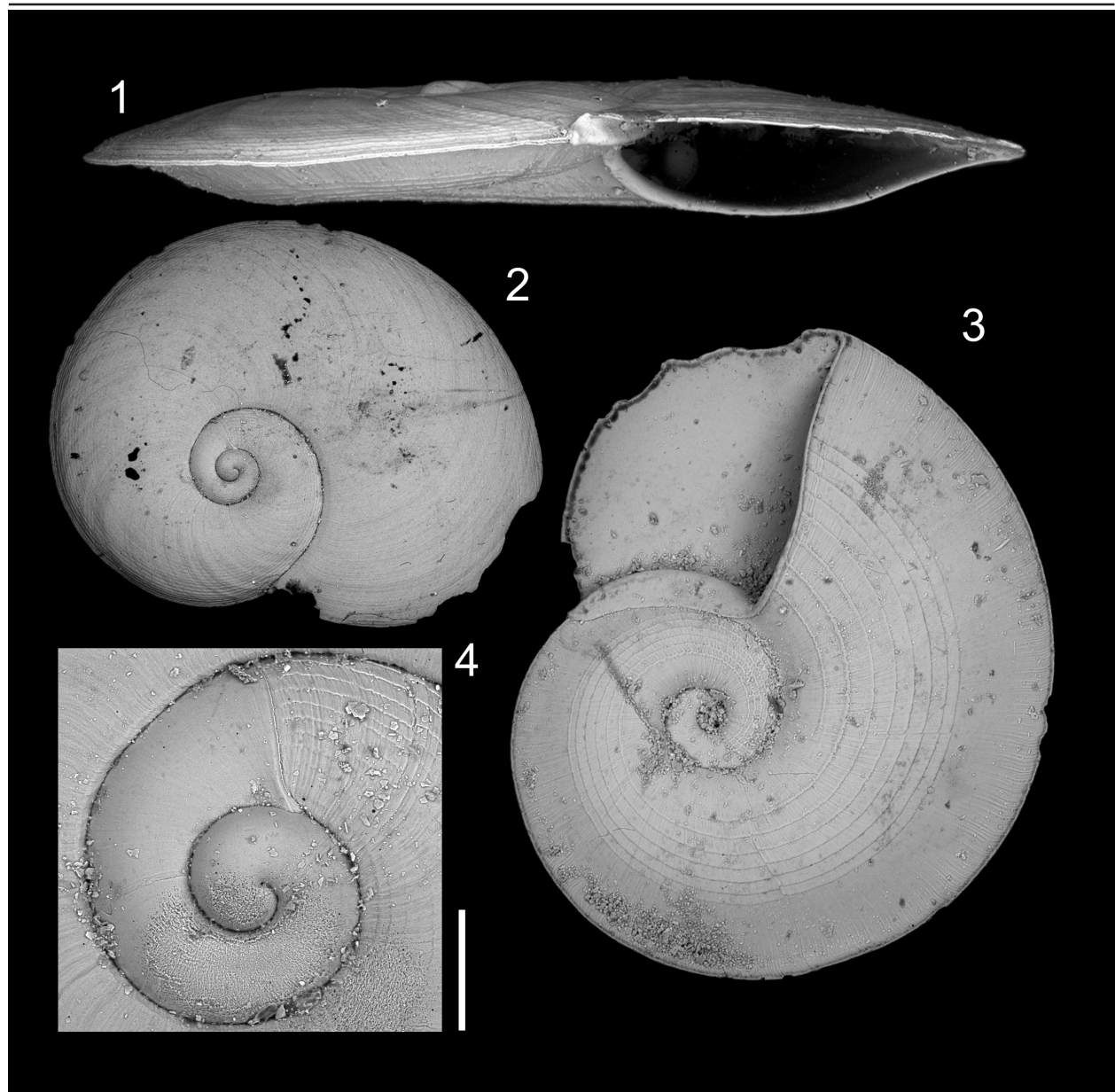
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Ovini petalius Simone, 2013 was described based on a single specimen collected in São Mateus, Espírito Santo state, Brazil. It was reported as possibly the flattest coiled snail known. Surprisingly, in the drawers of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN, Paris), another sample, of a relatively well-preserved shell, was found, collected at low tide in 1987 in Bom Despacho Beach (Itaparica, Bahia state, Brazil; 12°54'17"S 38°38'13"W), a place about 800 km north from the type locality.

Besides the large northwards expansion of the species' geographic distribution, the new discover (Figs. 1-4) also brings to light some additional conchological features when compared to the holotype (MZSP 107806; Simone, 2013: figs 1A-J). The new specimen has 1.54 mm of maximum diameter (slightly larger than the holotype, at 1.40 mm), 1.30 mm minimum diameter, and 0.20 mm height. These measurements give the shell the proportion height/diameter = 13%, exactly as the holotype, confirming the extreme flatness of the species' shell.

Related to the conchological features, the protoconch (Figs. 2, 4) looks exactly the same as that of the holotype, having 1.25 whorl, but slightly larger than it: ~300 µm, compared to the holotype's 260 µm. The transition between protoconch and teleoconch (Fig. 4) is marked by a small deflection of the protoconch, and the beginning of a series of spiral striae in the teleoconch, clearer in its left side (superior in the Fig. 4); these characters are more clearly seen on the new specimen than in the holotype. The protoconch is slightly protruded upwards (Fig. 1), preceding the almost planispiral growth of the teleoconch. The peripheral carina of the new specimen is also well-developed, being slightly turned inferiorly (*i.e.*, it is not perfectly plane; Fig. 1) and ending at the peristome as a notch (Figs. 1, 3). This notch is located in the incurrent flow of the pallial cavity; incurrent notches or canals are rare in rissooideans (Simone, 2006). The new specimen has a well-marked set of spiral cords on its inferior surface (Fig. 3), which are relatively equidistant from one another and



Figures 1–4. SEM images of *Ovini petalius*, MNHN, from Itaparica, Bahia (maximum diameter 1.54 mm). **1.** frontal view; **2.** apical view; **3.** umbilical view; **4.** detail of protoconch and first teleoconch whorl, apical view; scale bar = 100 μ m.

concentrated on the central area of the inferior whorl surface. The area near the carina and the periumbilical area are smooth. There are seven cords, with an eighth cord appearing $\frac{1}{4}$ whorl before the peristome (Fig. 3). The holotype also has similar inferior cords, but more numerous, 9–10 cords, somewhat more closely positioned to one another.

The genus *Ovini* Simone, 2013 has a close similarity to the recently described genus *Monodosus* Rubio & Rolán, 2016, which has eight species, all collected during the Tropical Deep Sea Benthos expeditions by the MNHN in the Pacific region. Both genera share the greatly flattened, almost planispiral shell, a peripheral carina, a strongly prosocline aperture, and the minute size. The differences already pointed out by those authors (Rubio & Rolán, 2016: 110–111) are in fact strong evidence of generic separation, as the protoconch of *Ovini* is smooth and paucispiral (the *Monodosus*’ protoconch has transverse sculpture and more than two whorls), and its teleoconch lacks the line of nodules spirally aligned on the central area of the superior surface of the last whorls. Additionally,

Ovini petalius has the peripheral carina placed superiorly, while the carina of *Monodosus* tends to be located more inferiorly on the last whorl. The aperture in *Ovini* is an extremely narrow slit, while that of *Monodosus* is rounded. Besides, *Monodosus* species usually have a spiral microsculpture more developed and more uniform, both in superior and inferior surfaces. Meanwhile, *Ovini petalius* is practically smooth on the superior surface, except for growth lines and some spiral cords near the carina. On the inferior surface of the shells of *Ovini petalius* there are up to 10 well-spaced spiral cords, while these in *Monodosus* spp are usually much more numerous (~20), closer to one another, and more uniformly spaced. In addition, *Monodosus* occurs in the deep sea, while *Ovini* has been collected in shallow water, *i.e.*, infratidal zone.

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