ON THE OCCURRENCE OF GELOINA BENGALENSIS (LAMARCK) (GELOINIIDAE: EULAMELLIBRANCHIA) IN THE COLEROON ESTUARY

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Abstract

The occurrence of *Geloina bengalensis* (Lamarck) in Coleroon estuary, on the south-east coast of India, is reported, based on a few shells collected from the area.

Prashad (1932), while including Cyrena bengalensis Lamarck, C. turgida Lea, C. sinuosa Deshayes and C. tallax Deshayes as synonyms of Geloina bengalensis, points out that G. bengalensis is a highly variable species with wide-spread occurrence in the Indo-Pacific. According to his earlier report (Prashad 1921) the species is confined to Bengal in the Indian region. Preston (1911), however, reported the species from Ceylon.

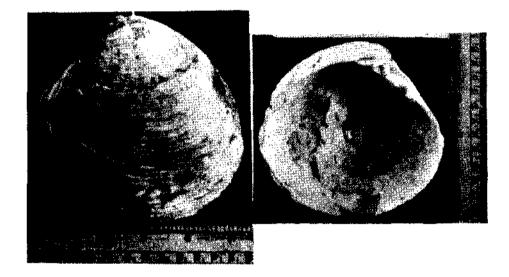


FIG. 1. Geloina bengalensis shells from Coleroon estuary. Left: Left valve (outer view). Right: Left valve (inner view).

NOTES

During a regular survey of the Vellar-Coleroon estuarine complex $(11^{\circ} 20^{\circ}N; 79^{\circ}40^{\circ}E)$, 4 left values and 2 right values of different individuals of G. bengalensis were collected from the intertidal region of the Coleroon estuary. A search in the area made subsequently for live or dead specimens was met, Description of the shell: The shells (Fig. 1) are ovato-subcircular, inequilateral, strong and heavy, with concentric striations; umbones directed anteriorly; hinge area very thick; teeth well-developed.

The dimensions of three shells (all the others were in damaged condition) are:

	1	2	3
	(Right valve)	(Left valve)	(Left valve)
Height (mm)	101	100	98
Length (mm)	115	113	105
Width (mm)	45	42	36

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