

***Apiotoma zelandica* n.sp.** Pl. 2, Figs. 10, 12; Pl. 3, d

Shell large, thick, elongate-biconic, with a well-developed fasciole and a relatively short spire. Whorls weakly angled at mid height, with lightly concave steeply sloping shoulders. Body whorl long, lightly convex, and gradually tapered below the periphery. Spiral sculpture of many fine, closely spaced threads on the shoulder, five or six coarse, flat-topped threads on sides of spire whorls and about 50 on the body whorl, base, and canal, with one fine thread in each interspace. Axial sculpture of short, low, rounded, closely spaced, oblique ribs commencing at the periphery and dying out shortly below it, arcuate in conformity with the sinus, and cut off by the sinus at the shoulder. Sinus deep, broadly curved, occupying most of the width of the shoulder but with a distinct short, convex, sutural limb, followed below the shoulder by a moderately large forward sweep of the outer lip. Protoconch of about two and a half smooth whorls, narrowly conical, with a raised asymmetrical tip.

DIMENSIONS: height, 55.3mm; diameter, 20.0mm (holotype); height, 11.3mm; diameter, 5.8mm (figured juvenile paratype).

LOCALITY: N165/945, V1949, Bell's Creek, tributary of Mangaopari Stream, holotype and three juvenile paratypes.

HOLOTYPE (VM416) and one paratype (VM417) in Geology Department, Victoria University of Wellington; one paratype in Auckland Institute and Museum; one paratype in New Zealand Geological Survey (TM4654).

The holotype is a large adult with the outer lip broken away, the surface badly eroded, and no protoconch. The three juvenile paratypes are also broken, but are well-preserved and have complete protoconchs.

Apiotoma has not previously been recorded from New Zealand. The several Australian members of the genus have been discussed by Powell (1944: 19). They form a rather heterogeneous group, united by the fusiform shape, the weak sculpture, the broad sinus on the shoulder, and the conical smooth protoconch. The New Zealand species is quite distinct from all in detail, but in the gradually tapering body whorl resembles the type species *A. pirulata* and *A. bassi* Pritchard, and in sculpture most closely resembles *A. pritchardi* Powell; it differs from the latter in the gently tapered body whorl and in the axials persisting over the body whorl. The rather large sutural limb of the sinus and the well-developed fasciole appear to be unique features of the new species. The protoconch is exactly as described by Powell (1966: 36) for *Apiotoma*.

***Apiotoma* n.sp.** B

A single incomplete spire from N162/872, V1359, differs from *A. zelandica* n.sp. in having a shallower, broader sinus, broader and stronger spiral cords, and short, prominent axial nodules that die out after about five whorls. The protoconch is missing. It represents a new species that seems more closely related to *A. pritchardi* Powell than to *A. zelandica*.

Specimen lodged in Geology Department, Victoria University of Wellington (VM418).

Genus **COMITAS** Finlay, 1926

1926. *Comitas* Finlay, Trans. N.Z. Inst. 56: 251.

1942. *Carinacomitas* Powell, Bull. Auckland Inst. Mus. 2: 60. Type species (by original designation): *Pleurotoma clarae* Tenison-Woods, 1880, Miocene, Australia.

Type species (by original designation): *Surcula oamarutica* Suter, 1917 (= *Drillia fusiformis* Hutton, 1877), Lower Miocene, New Zealand.

***Comitas imperfecta* King, 1933**

1933. *Comitas imperfecta* King, Trans. N.Z. Inst. 63: 349, pl. 35, fig. 2.

1942. *Comitas imperfecta*: Powell, Bull. Auckland Inst. Mus. 2: 59.

1966. *Comitas imperfecta*: Powell, Bull. Auckland Inst. Mus. 5: 29.

The common large species of *Comitas* at all Wairarapa deep-water Tongaporutuan fossil localities, including relatively poorly fossiliferous ones such as the Palliser Bay coast west of Hurupi Stream, the Turanganui River near Palliser Bay