

Tecticrater grandis n.sp. Text-figs. 19, 20.

Shell moderately small, thin, white, oval in outline, moderately elevated. Protoconch situated at anterior end. Height about half the length. Anterior slope concave below the apex, posterior slope gently convex. Sculpture of well defined concentric growth lines. Margin sharp and straight. Interior white and smooth. Muscle scar horseshoe-shaped.

Length, 6.6mm; breadth, 4.7mm; height, 3.4mm.

Holotype (M. 18494) and 41 paratypes (M. 18495) in Dominion Museum.

This species is distinguished by the anteriorly placed apex and completely straight margin, features which remain constant throughout the series of 42 specimens. There seems no likelihood, therefore, of it being a variant of any of the other described species of *Tecticrater*. On shell characters it seems closest to *T. subcompressa* (Powell), but as Dell (1956) has pointed out, the true relationships of this group cannot finally be determined until the animals are available for examination.

Family STILIFERIDAE

Genus STILIFER Broderip, 1832

1832. *Proc. Comm. Sci., Zool. Soc.*, London, Vol. 2, p. 60.

Type species: (fide Bartsch, 1917) *Stilifer astericola* Broderip, Recent, Galapagos Islands.

Stilifer neozelanica Dell, 1956

1956. *Stilifer neozelanica* Dell, Dom. Mus. Bull., 18, p. 82, figs. 107, 108.

A single specimen of this species, previously recorded only from the Chatham Islands, was obtained from the dredging and extends the range of the species considerably to the north.

Family CONIDAE

Genus CONUS Linnaeus, 1758

1758. *Syst. Nat.*, ed. 10, p. 212.

Type species: (subsequent designation Swainson, 1840) *Conus litteratus* Linnaeus.

Conus sp.

A small, battered representative of the genus *Conus* was obtained from the dredging, but owing to its poor condition any attempt at further identification would be unwise until more material becomes available.

The specimen is narrow, biconic and tall spired, the spire being nearly one-third of the length. Remnants of strong spiral sculpture can be seen on the inner lip, and there is a suggestion of peripheral and spiral nodules. The aperture is narrow, oblique, and of even width throughout. There are apparently about six whorls.

Height, 6.4mm; diameter, 3.4mm.

Powell (1958) described a biconic, tall spired, sculptured cone from deep water off the Kermadecs as *C. (Kermasprella) raoulensis* and the Three Kings specimens may prove to be close to it.