

Genus ALVINIA Monterosato, 1884

(*Rissoa weinkauffi* Monterosato, 1877 ex Mohrenstern, MS; s.d. Crosse, 1885).

Subgenus LINEMERA Finlay, 1924

(*L. interrupta* Finlay, 1924, *nom. nov. pro Rissoa gradata* Hutton, 1885, *non* Orbigny, in Sagra, 1842; o.d.)

Alvinia (*Linemera*) is superficially similar to *Merelina* (p. 47) in having a solid shell and clathrate sculpture, but differs in having a smooth, dome-shaped protoconch and a simple aperture without a second projecting rim inside. A varix is found behind the edge of the outer lip and the shell is usually narrowly umbilicate. The relative strength of the axial and spiral sculpture varies between species, but generally the spirals are rather strong and extend over the base. The axials may be dominant, giving the shell a superficial resemblance to *Rissoa* (*Haurakia*) from which it differs in the heavier shell and rather more numerous and stronger spiral cords. Though *Haurakia* and *Linemera* appear to belong to distinct generic groups they are rather difficult to distinguish in a description on the basis of shell characters alone, and the radula, operculum and animal of *Linemera* are not known. *Linemera* is probably closely allied to *Alvinia*, and, until more information is available, is best treated as a subgenus.

The Australian species classified with *Haurakia* and *Merelina* by Laseron (1950, 1956), include at least two unnamed groups related to *Alvinia*, though *Linemera* and *Haurakia* are also represented.

Subgenus LIROCULMA n.subgen. (*Rissoa* (*Apicularia*) *apicilirata* Tate and May, 1901; o.d.)

Shell similar to *Linemera*, but protoconch distinctly spirally lirate.

Haurakia isolata Laseron and *H. kermadecensis* Oliver appear to belong here.

Subgenus CONALVINIA n.subgen. (*Alvania novarensis* Frauenfeld, 1867; o.d.)

Shell conical, whorls flat, periphery angled, base weakly convex, sutures deeply channelled. Sculpture clathrate, sometimes weak, axials stronger, only spirals on base. Protoconch smooth, rather small, of two or more whorls. Aperture ovate, typical of the genus.

The straight whorl outlines and small protoconch give this subgenus a conical appearance that is very distinctive.

Haurakia trajectus (Watson), *H. firma* Laseron, *H. formosita* Laseron, *H. mediolaevis* Cotton, and *Linemera oscidua* Cotton seem best placed here.

Genus AWANUIA Powell, 1927 (*A. dilatata* Powell, 1927; o.d.)

The shell of *Awanuia* is thin, with a flanged aperture, strong axial ribs, and three spiral keels on the protoconch. Powell (1927) suggested *Merelina* was ancestral to *Awanuia*, this conclusion being based on the sculpture of the protoconch, a feature now known to be variable even within genera. Most of the shell features strongly suggest that *Awanuia* is closely allied to the *Rissoa* group, though the animal is not known. A second recent species is described below.

Awanuia porcellana n.sp. Pl. 2, Fig. 3

Shell small, thin, white, strongly axially costate. Whorls 6, strongly shouldered, false margined, sides weakly convex; protoconch rather large, 1½ whorls, with 3 spiral ridges, terminated by distinct varix; body whorl large, periphery angled, base flat. Aperture quadrate, peristome rather thin, continuous; columella oblique, separated from base by umbilical furrow,