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Notes on Australasian Anomiidae (Mollusca, Bivalvia)

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Abstract

CONCLUSIONS resulting from a review of the shells of some New Zealand, Australian and New Guinea Recent and fossil Anomiidae are presented. *Anomia trigonopsis* Hutton is held to include all fossil and Recent New Zealand *Anomia*. *Prismatro* Marwick is a junior subjective synonym of *Patro* Gray. A new fossil species of *Patro* is described from New Guinea. *Monia furcata* (Suter), *Monia ione* (Gray) and *Monia furcilla* Marwick are synonymised with *Monia zelandica* (Gray). *Monia incisura* (Hutton) from the Miocene of New Zealand, two new fossil species from New Zealand and *Placunanomia sella* (Tate) from the Miocene of Australia are placed in *Pododesmus* Philippi.

INTRODUCTION

THE Anomiidae are the familiar "golden oysters", "saddle oysters" or "jingle shells" of shell collectors. They are ostreiform bivalves in which the valves are generally translucent and green, yellow or orange in colour. They adhere to rocks, shells and other hard substrata and are notoriously variable in shape. The shell sculpture also is variable within a species, so many invalid names have been proposed.

Initially, examination of some excellent specimens of the New Zealand Miocene "*Monia*" *incisura* (Hutton) showed that it should be placed in the genus *Pododesmus*, and is not synonymous with the Recent *Monia zelandica* (Gray) as was stated by Boreham (1965: 46). Other New Zealand anomiids and available foreign specimens were then examined, with the following results.

SYSTEMATICS

Family ANOMIIDAE

Ostreiform filibranch bivalves attached to hard substrata by a prominent broad byssal cable which passes through a deep byssal notch in the dorsal margin of the right valve, immediately in front of the umbo. In some genera the notch becomes completely closed over dorsally, forming a foramen. The byssal cable itself is calcified, and is attached by an adductor muscle to the left valve of the shell,

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