

***Phenacohelix* (*Neophenacohelix*) *giveni* n.sp. (Figs. 4–6)**1960. *Phenacohelix ponsonbyi* (Suter): Cumber, *Trans. roy. Soc. N.Z.* 88 (1), 99.

Shell small, depressed, globose, moderately umbilicated, thin and fragile, dull. *Sculpture* of post-nuclear whorls consisting of numerous arcuate, subequidistant thread-like riblets, first whorl with 31–50, usually 36–45 (based on collections from Mangamuka, Clevedon, and Palmerston North) type 38; second whorl 41–70, usually 46–60, type 57; third whorl 61–100, usually 66–90, type 80; the type with 27 additional riblets forming approximately one quarter of a fourth post-nuclear whorl; whorls with fine interstitial growth lines (usually 10–20 on the third whorl); occasional spiral sculpture just visible—more especially on whorls immediately adjacent to their inner sutures. Protoconch smooth, but with dense, very microscopic stippling. *Colour* pale horny with irregular dashes, streaks, and spots of rufous on the upper surface passing over often in zigzag lines to the base and extending to the umbilicus. *Epidermis* thin, semi-transparent. *Spire* very little elevated, very broadly conoidal, its height about one-half that of the aperture. *Protoconch* of $1\frac{1}{2}$ slightly convex whorls. *Post-nuclear whorls* 3–3 $\frac{3}{4}$, regularly increasing, flatly convex, periphery obtusely angled above the middle; base convex. *Suture* impressed. *Aperture* oblique, rotundly lunate. *Peristome* thin, straight, regularly arched. *Columella* oblique, arcuate. Inner lip slightly callous and reflexed. *Umbilicus* open, somewhat perspective, about one-fifth of the greatest diameter.

Diameter, 5–6 mm (type 5.0 mm); height, 3–3.5 mm (type 3 mm); protoconch width, 0.8–1.2 mm (type 1.0 mm).

Radula based on Otangaroa specimen (Fig. 42) having the formula 26 + 1 + 26. Central tooth longer than broad, the large acute cusp extending over about two-thirds of the base and tapering fairly regularly towards it. First lateral larger than the central and with a low ectoconal shoulder; other laterals with this shoulder more pronounced. Marginals broader than long, with inner paired larger and outer smaller denticles.

Type and paratypes in the collections of the Dominion Museum, Wellington. Paratypes in the Auckland War Memorial Museum and the writer's collection.

HABITAT. Mount Wellington lava fields (Suter's paratypes). The following concern the writer's collections: Oruaiti, Kaeo, Peria, Otangaroa, Ahipara Saddle, Herekino, Mangamuka Gorge (top), Mangamuka, Waiare, Mitimiti, Motukaraka, Waipapa, Paihia, Aramahoe, Kaiokohe, Omapere (Hokianga), Oue, Moerewa, Tautoro, Mangakahia Gorge, Waipoua Forest, Maunganui Bluff, Helena Bay, Bream Head, Parakao, Brynderwyn, Paparoa, Maungaturoto, Kaiwaka, Wellsford, Warkworth, Pukapuka, Silverdale, Piha, Waitakere, Titirangi, Clevedon (type and paratypes), Kawakawa Bay, Pollok, Maramarua, Coromandel (north cross road), Manaia, Tapu Hill, Mercer, Pukekawa, Te Aroha, Pukemiro, Whangamata, Te Kawa, Kawhia, Kaimai, Hick's Bay, Te Mata, Te Araroa, Taneatua, Rotoma, Okere, Waioeka Gorge, Te Kuiti, Mapiu, Turangakumu, Awakino Gorge, Mt. Messenger, Tarata, Kai Iwi, Whangamamona Ra., Pahiatua Track, Paraparaumu (Figs. 47, 55).

REMARKS. This species is perhaps the most common and widespread one in the North Island. Superficially it most resembles *P. ponsonbyi*, with which it shares the same habitats. On the basis of protoconch characters it is closest to *P. tholoides*, from which it may be readily distinguished by its larger size and open umbilicus. A pure albino specimen from Rotoma is in the writer's collections. This species is named in honour of Mr. B. B. Given, who shared my earliest collecting days.

Evidence for more than one species in the *P. ponsonbyi* complex was obtained some ten years ago when studying a series of specimens, taken from beating *Frey-cinetia* on Mt. Messenger. Two forms were obviously represented. As further material was accumulated from various parts of the North Island it became increasingly evident that two species were involved and that they could be separated on a number of characters. When Suter's type material was studied some years later, it was found as indicated above, that both species were represented in his syntypes. Since that time further collections of this complex have been made so that in excess of 2,000 specimens from more than 60 localities were available for the present studies. The separation of these superficially similar species *P. ponsonbyi* and *P. giveni*, is beyond doubt. Microscopic characters are best employed although there are also macroscopic characters which with practice may be used quite accurately.