



# Contribution to the knowledge of the family Caecidae: 13. *Caecum rolani*, new name for *Caecum bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912 non P.P. Carpenter, 1859 (Caenogastropoda: Rissooidea)

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**KEY WORDS:** *Caecum rolani* new name, nomenclature, homonymy, *Caecum bimarginatum*, marine, Recent.

**ABSTRACT** *Caecum rolani* nom. nov. is here proposed for *Caecum bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912, primary homonym of *C. bimarginatum* Carpenter, 1859. The authors report Dautzenberg's original description and figures, adding a more detailed description and further data on the species.

**RIASSUNTO** Gli Autori propongono il nuovo nome *Caecum rolani* in luogo di *C. bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912, omonimo primario di *C. bimarginatum* Carpenter, 1859. Vengono presentate la descrizione e le figure originali di Dautzenberg e si forniscono, nel contempo, una descrizione più dettagliata ed alcuni dati aggiuntivi sulla specie in esame.

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## INTRODUCTION

DAUTZENBERG (1912: for the date of publication see TRINGALI 1995) described *Caecum bimarginatum*, a species found during the Grivel Mission (1909-1910) along the West African coast. However, the name *bimarginatum* had been already used in 1859 by Carpenter for an Indo-Pacific species, quite distinct. On the basis of ICZN (1999), articles 52 (1, 4) and 57, the name proposed by Dautzenberg results a primary homonym and can not be used. As no synonyms are available and *C. bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912 is a valid species, we propose herein the new name:

*Caecum rolani* nomen novum  
pro *Caecum bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912 not Carpenter,  
1859  
(Figs. 1-2)

## ABBREVIATIONS USED

MNHN: Musée Nationale d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris  
NHML: National History Museum, London

## TERMINOLOGY

Cutting plane: the plane individuated by the edge of the shell at the apex (excluding septum and mucro).

## DERIVATIO NOMINIS

The specific name is dedicated to our friend Emile Rolán (Vigo, Spain), well-known malacologist, who sent us a lot of interesting Caecidae from West Africa.

## ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION

*C. bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912 (: 45; pl. II, figs. 3-4):  
"Testa arcuata, tenuis, subdiaphana, striis incrementi irregularibus

tantum ornata; versus aperturam in dorso praecipue contracta ac deinde bi-annulata. Apertura circularis, parum obliqua, ab annulo ultimo marginata. Septum rotundatum, parum prominulum.

Color albus.

Altit., 2; diam. Maj. 0.5 millim. "

## ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

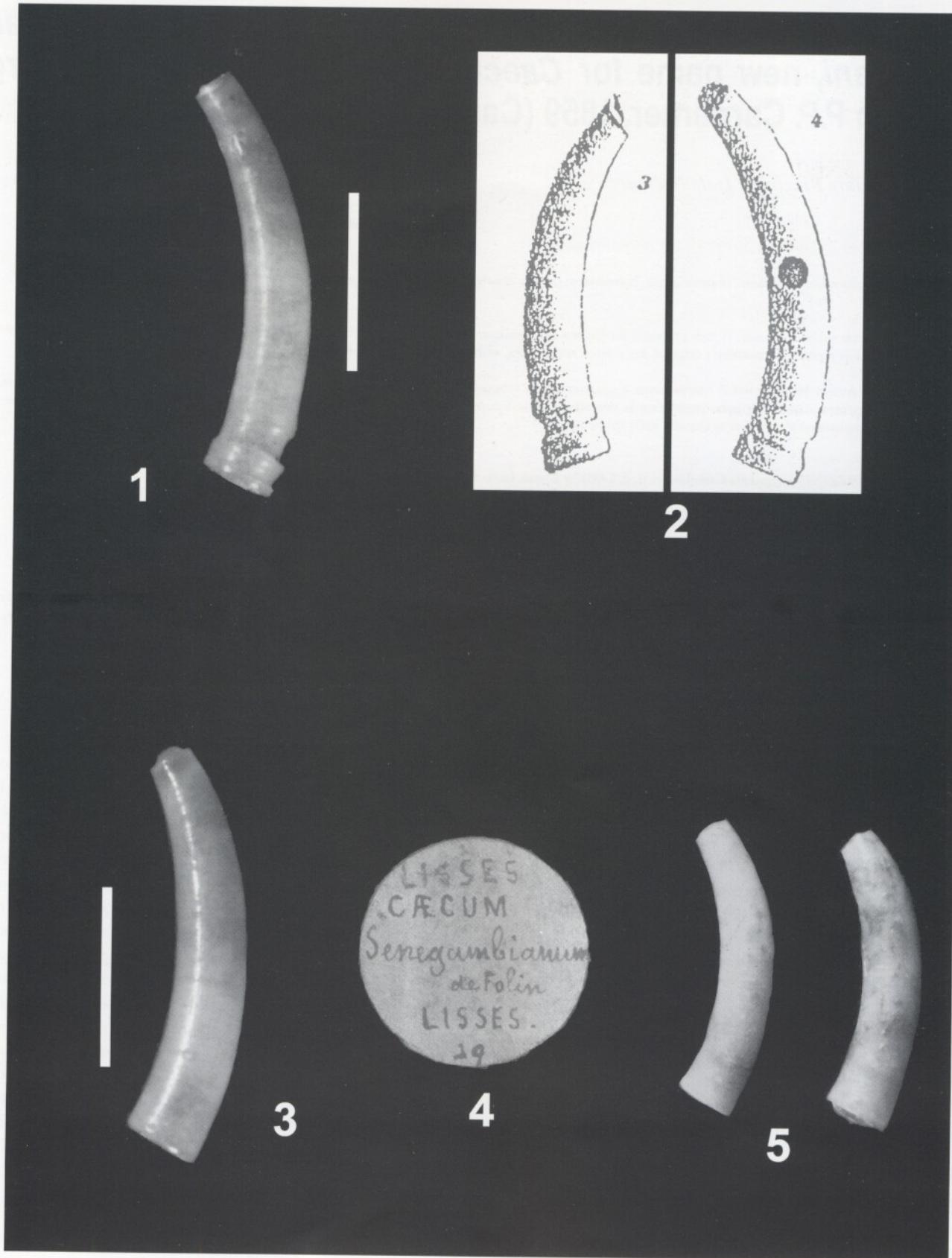
Shell yellowish, slender, slightly arched, opaque. Tube smooth, subcylindrical. There is no visible microsculpture even at a high magnification (180 X), also on shells without periostracum. Towards the aperture, the tube forms a weak ring, occasionally divided in two parts followed by wide groove with a evenly rounded bottom. A second ring follows, much more marked than the first, followed in turn by a third, very similar ring. These last rings are divided by a more or less marked interspace (in some cases similar at all to their previous groove). The grooves and the rings are more marked on the dorsal side, than on the ventral one. A temporary septum (see Pizzini *et al.*, 1998) is present (yet not visible in the photographed specimen), white, fragile and prominent. If broken, a second septum may be noticed, the final one, more solid, yet smaller, irregularly hemispherical, slightly protruding above the cutting plane. Young shells are quite similar to adult ones. Operculum, larval shell and soft parts are still unknown.

## TYPE MATERIAL

*C. bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912, not seen.

*C. bimarginatum* Carpenter, 1859: 1 syntype (adult) from Australia, NHML Reg. n. 1858.12.9.26; 1 syntype (juv.) from Singapore, NHML Reg. n. 1858.12.9.25.

*C. senegambianum* Folin, 1870: 18 syntypes from Ile Cagnabac, MNHN.



Figures 1-5. 1-2. *Caecum rolani* nomen novum pro *Caecum bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912. 1. Ghana, loc. Mia-Mia, 12 m depth; 2.37 mm length, 0.45 mm Dmax, 0.25 mm dmin. 2. Original figure of *C. bimarginatum* (DAUTZENBERG, 1912: planche II figs. 3, 4). 3-5. *C. senegambianum* Folin, 1870. 3. Ghana, loc. Mia-Mia 12 m depth; 2.3 mm length, 0.45 mm Dmax, 0.3 mm dmin. 4. Original label. 5. Syntypes (MNHN coll.), no measure available. Scale bars 1 mm.



The designation of lectotypes and paralectotypes of *C. bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912 and *C. senegambianum* Folin, 1870, will be made on Revision of the Caecidae of the West Africa, actually in progress by the Authors.

## MATERIAL EXAMINED

*Caecum rolani* (n.n. pro *C. bimarginatum* Dautzenberg, 1912)  
Ghana, 1 shell (coll. E. Rolán); Miamia (Ghana), 25 m depth, 7 shells (coll. E. Rolán); Miamia (Ghana), 12 m depth, 9 shells (coll. E. Rolán).

*Caecum bimarginatum* Carpenter, 1859

The type material.

*Caecum senegambianum* Folin, 1870

The type material, and: Conakry (Guinea) VII/1992 A. Vigo leg., 3 shells (coll. Pizzini); Miamia (Ghana), 25 m depth, 56 shells (coll. E. Rolán); Miamia (Ghana), 12 m depth, 37 shells (coll. E. Rolán); Bushua (Ghana), 5 m depth, 9 shells (coll. E. Rolán).

## REMARKS

The most similar species to *Caecum rolani* is *Caecum senegambianum* Folin, 1870 (Figs. 3-5), a species that was known by Dautzenberg (see e.g., 1910: 123; 1912: 44, under the possibly misspelled name of *senegamicum*).

Since the general tube morphology of *C. senegambianum* is quite identical to that of *C. rolani* (Figs. 1-2), it could be supposed to be the juvenile stage of *C. rolani*. Yet, in *C. senegambianum* the shrink of the tube at the aperture is perfectly symmetrical, on the ventral and dorsal sides; in *rolani* instead, the ventral side shows a marked indentation, just a little before the formation of the first ring. Furthermore, the mucro of *C. rolani*, albeit of the same shape of that of *C. senegambianum*, is oriented more backward with respect to the cutting plane. Taking note of its shape, *C. rolani* is among the most characteristic *Caecum* of West Africa.

Since *C.* is not well-known, we provide hereby some pictures of it. The figure given by Dautzenberg shows a septum (Fig. 2), probably broken, which does not fit the usual septum of this species. In fact, it is actually dome shaped, without the pointed mucro of the original drawing.

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

So far known only from Guinea and Ghana (West Africa).

## AKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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