

SOME NEW RECORDS OF MARINE GASTROPOD FROM THE IRAQI COAST

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Eight marine gastropod records were recorded from the north west of the Arabian Gulf, Iraqi coast during March 2020. The species are *Turritella cochlea* Reeve, 1849 (family Turritellidae), *Rhinoclavis fasciata* (Bruguère, 1792) (family Cerithiidae), *Semiricinula tissoti* (Petit de la Saussaye, 1852) (family Muricidae), *Ancilla castanea* (G. B. Sowerby I, 1830) (family Ancillariidae), *Bulla ampulla* Linnaeus, 1758 (family Bullidae), *Oliva bulbosa* (Röding, 1798) (family Olividae), *Naria turdus* (Lamarck, 1810) and *Erronea caurica quinquefasciata* (Röding, 1798) (family Cypraeidae). These records raise the number of marine gastropods from the Iraqi coast to 40 species.

Key words: marine molluscs, fauna, distribution, Gastropoda, Arabian Gulf, Iraq.

Introduction

Marine Mollusca are poorly investigated in Iraq, with only a few species reported from the country's waters (Ahmed, 1975; Al-Hassan and Al-Hasani, 1985). Ahmed recorded 43 mollusk species (25 gastropods) in the sea, whereas Al-Hassan & Al-Hasani listed 24 (10 gastropods). Glayzer et al. (1984), for example, classified 62 families and 230 species of marine mollusks from the Kuwaiti coasts. Al-Kandari et al., 2020 provide a more recent list of Kuwaiti mollusk species. Kuwait's shoreline is much longer, and the habitat variation is much greater, which could explain the discrepancy (Yasser & Naser, 2021).

Bosch et al. (1995) provide an exhaustive treatment of the molluscan species in the Persian Gulf, however they do not provide particular records for Iraqi species.

Eames and Wilkins (1957) and Dance and Eames (1978) describe fossil molluscs (Holocene) from Iraq's Hammar Formation (1966). Some, if not all, of those species are likely to persist in Iraqi coastal waters. Plaziat and Younis provide additional information on these young Quaternary deposits (2005). Yasser and Naser, 2021; Yasser et al., 2022 conducted significant diversity research on the Mollusca of the Iraqi coast.

The article presents eight marine gastropods collected from Iraq's northwestern coast of the Arabian Gulf.286