



The Ohio State University

Museum of Zoology

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15 January 1986

Dr. Richard Neves
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Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Dear Dick:

Thank you for your recent letter and for the specimens from Belize, Central America. This species is Leptodea planivalvis (Morelet, 1851) or a subspecies or sibling of it if we identify it using shell characters. Unfortunately the soft parts are unknown so its generic position is uncertain. In shell characteristics it fits the genus Leptodea Rafinesque, 1820, and identifies most closely within this genus with Leptodea leptodon (Rafinesque, 1820). Simpson (1900:576; 1914:193) places it in the genus Lampsilis, using this genus as something of a "catch-all" at that time. We are much pleased to have this lot. I would surely like to examine a gravid female or two!

I have identified all others on their labels. Most apt to be mis-identified are the 3 Toxolasma from the "New R., Rt. 18 br. Union-Bradford Cos. FL 10-30-80 A. V. Zale". These appear to be Toxolasma lividus (Raf., 1831) which usually has a blue or purple nacre. Not having soft parts I would conclude that these are specimens of that species. Both nacre color and caruncle color are variable in this species.

The Clinch River-Carbo study is now in the process of being written. We hope to complete it by 1 February but unpredictable needs in planning our move to newer and larger quarters on west campus has been slowing us down.

As I may have told you, we were successful in locating both of your transplant sites.

An account of the unionids found at transplant sites on the Clinch River at CRM 264.1 and CRM 264.9

A. Clinch River at CRM 264.1, Russell Co., Va. 29 Sept. 1985.

SPECIES	LIVING INDIVIDUALS	EMPTY SHELLS
1) <u>Amblema p. plicata</u> (Say, 1817)	0	1
2) <u>Fusconaia maculata lesueriana</u> (Lea, 1840).	1	4
3) <u>Actinonaias l. ligamentina</u> (Lamarck, 1819)	18	8
4) <u>Actinonaias pectorosa</u> (Conrad, 1834)	3	6
5) <u>Lampsilis ventricosa</u> (Barnes, 1823)	1	0

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B. Clinch River at CRM 264.9, Russell Co., Va. 29 Sept. 1985.

SPECIES	LIVING INDIVIDUALS	EMPTY SHELLS
1) <u>Amblema p. plicata</u> (Say, 1817).	3	2
2) <u>Fusconaia maculata lesueuriana</u> (Lea, 1840).	0	1
3) <u>Actinonaias l. ligamentina</u> (Lamarck, 1819).	12	3
4) <u>Actinonaias pectorosa</u> (Conrad, 1834).	1	11

All living transplants were returned to the River at the site where found and all empty shells were collected and are here at OSUM. The length of each living specimen was measured before it was returned.

A check of our records also reveals that 3 transplant specimens, all empty shells, were collected earlier (24 July 1985) and catalogued into the collection here. They are:

OSUM	SPECIES
54999	<u>F. m. lesueuriana</u>
55001	<u>A. l. ligamentina</u>
55002	<u>A. pectorosa</u>

I hope these data are of some value to you. I couldn't help but notice that it appears that A. l. ligamentina is a hardier species in the present environment than is its cogenor A. pectorosa.

Recently I had occasion to refer to one of your annual reports and realized that this kind of material would be valuable in our library here. Do you have back issues? Any printed material on unionids or unionid-related material by you or your students would be welcome library material here.

Please give my best regards to Ms. Kitchell and Dr. DiStefano.

Sincerely,



David H. Stansbery
Professor and Director

DHS:s1