

## DINIATYS CALLOSA (PRESTON, 1908), NEW COMBINATION NAME FOR HAMINOEA CALLOSA FROM THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS (INDIA)

Eleven species have been assigned to the shallow-water marine Cephalaspidea gastropod genus *Haminoea* in India, but several of these identifications are questionable since they were based on shells only (e.g. *H. crocata*<sup>1</sup>), or refer to species from the Atlantic Ocean (*H. elegans*<sup>2, 3</sup>), species of temperate affinities (*H. alfredensis*<sup>4, 5</sup>), or have been meanwhile placed in other genera (*H. curta* now in genus *Liloea*<sup>6,7,8</sup>). Out of the 11 species referred to India, only *Haminoea callosa* (as *Haminea*) was originally described from the country, off Port Blair, Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal<sup>9</sup>. After its original description this species was cited only once in India (Andaman)<sup>10</sup>, but based on specimens from Preston's original reference<sup>9</sup>.

Preston<sup>9</sup> described *H. callosa* only based on conchological characters, but shells of Indo-West Pacific haminoids can be similar and misleading if used alone for species identification. Nevertheless, Preston<sup>9</sup> referred to characters such as "... *columella twisted at base, a callus joining it...*", a feature that among haminoids is unique of the genus *Diniatys* Iredale, 1936<sup>8</sup>. The study of type material of *H. callosa* housed at the Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata (M3996/1), the Australia Museum, Sydney (AMSc.030122), and the Natural History Museum, London (NHMUK 1908.6.13.199–200) together with the reassessment of the original description and illustration by Preston<sup>9</sup> (see Fig. 1), confirmed that these shells belong in fact to the genus *Diniatys*. An additional lot marked as type containing one shell 7mm in length from Andaman was found at the Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin (ZMB 59646), but this shell was distinct and clearly a *Haminoea*, most likely of the colourful species-group *cymbalum/ovalis*. Shells of *Diniatys* are similar to those of *Haminoea*, but have a synapomorphic trait which is the presence of a strongly calcified callus at the end of the columella, which in *D. dentifer* projects outwardly<sup>8</sup>, whereas in *Haminoea* the lower columella is concave, thin, and smooth<sup>11, 12</sup>.

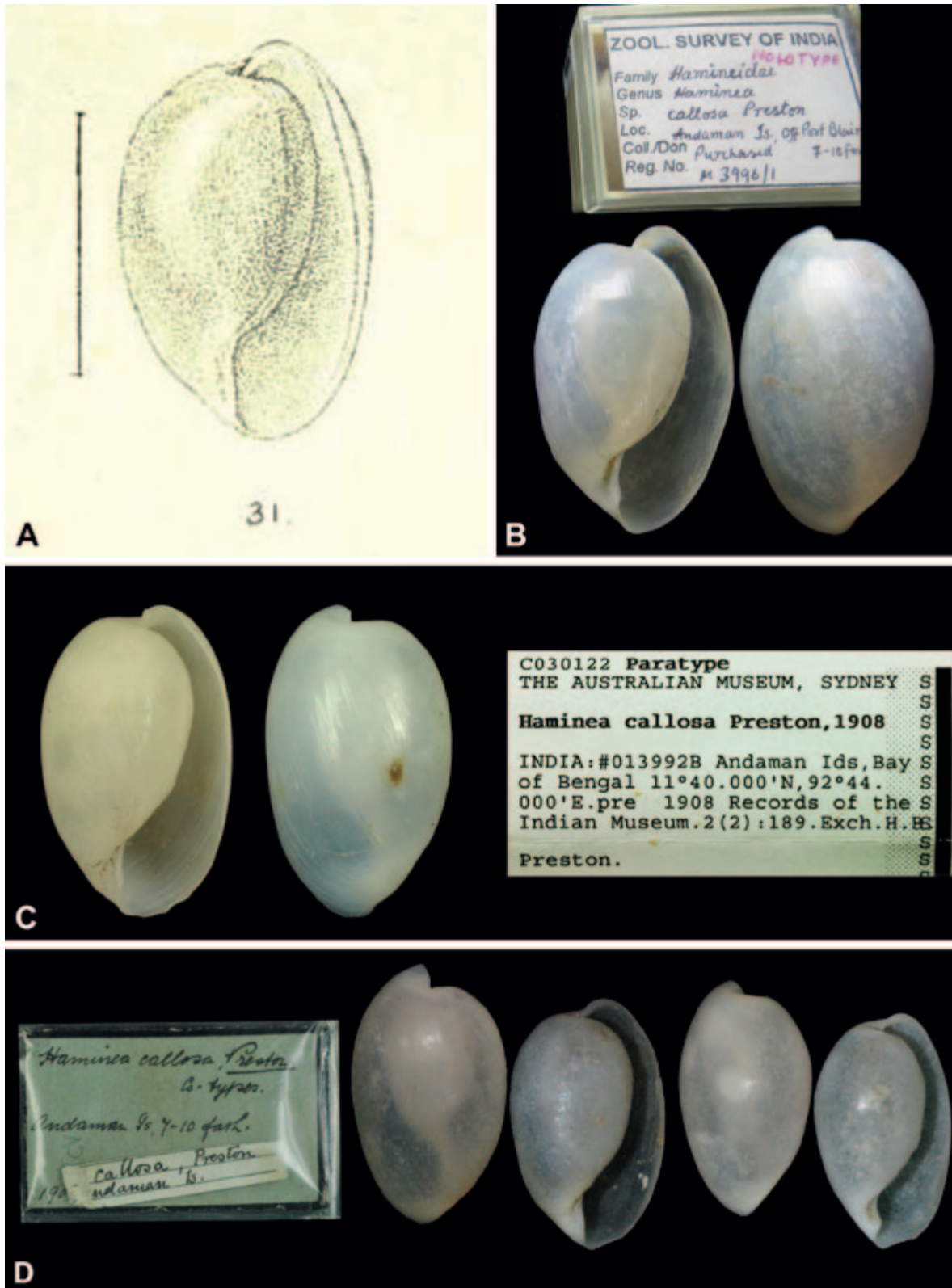
Similarities between the shells of *Diniatys callosa* and those of *Diniatys dubia* (Schepman, 1913) — type locality in the western Pacific

Paternoster islands, Indonesia — indicate their possible conspecificity, which would render *D. dubia* a junior synonym of *D. callosa*. Both species have a straight and thick calloused columella and spiral striae more prominent in the anterior part<sup>8, 9</sup>. However, since the diversity and taxonomy of *Diniatys* is still poorly understood and several species have apparently similar shells, we suggest that both species are maintained as valid taxa until live specimens of *D. callosa* from the Andamans or nearby areas are available for morphological comparison and eventually DNA barcoding.

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**Figure 1** A Original drawing of *Haminea callosa* after Preston (1908: 189, pl. 15, fig. 31). B Holotype, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata (M3996/1); 1 shell, height=15mm (measurements taken between posterior lip and anterior end of shell). C Paratype, Australia Museum, Sydney (AMSc.030122); 1 shell, height=9.5mm (measurements taken between base of spire and anterior end of shell). D syntypes, Natural History Museum, London (NHMUK 1908.6.13.199–200); 2 shells, height=7.5mm (right side shell), 8.0mm (left side shell) (measurements taken between base of spire and anterior end of shell).

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