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Thanks for their help to : Felix Lorenz, Loïc Limpalaer, Giancarlo Paganelli, Paul Kersten, Antonio Monteiro, Manuel Tenorio, Bruno Mathé, John K Tucker

GENRE/GENUS CONUS

All shells displayed in this article come from Mauritius and come from the collection of Eric Le Court de Billot, except for *Conus julii* kindly shot by Bruno & Paul Mathé.

A. "The *Conus textile* complex"

Here is the list of taxa studied in this work :

- *Conus textile*, Linnaeus 1758
- *Conus archiepiscopus* Hwass in Bruguière, 1792
- *Conus verriculum* Reeve 1843
- *Conus textile* f. *scriptus*, Sowerby II, 1858 (==>*Conus textile vaulberti*, Lorenz, 2012)
- *Conus textile* f. *euetrios* var. *cyanosus* Lauer, Rossiniana 1987
- *Conus textile vaulberti*, Lorenz, 2012

Mauritius offers, like other Indian Ocean localities, surprising variations of *Conus (Cylinder) textile*, Linnaeus 1758. Many very different patterns may force collectors to search for specific name of species, forms and/or variations. We have shown these specimens to many expert collectors and malacologists. Actually no real consensus have been established. So we had to make a choice. We will update this page whenever new descriptions will be published. The actual idea is that many localities from Indian ocean offers the species named : *Conus archiepiscopus* Hwass in Bruguière, 1792. This shell is very variable in shape and pattern, and may vary a lot in colors showing sometime real beautiful bleuish specimens.

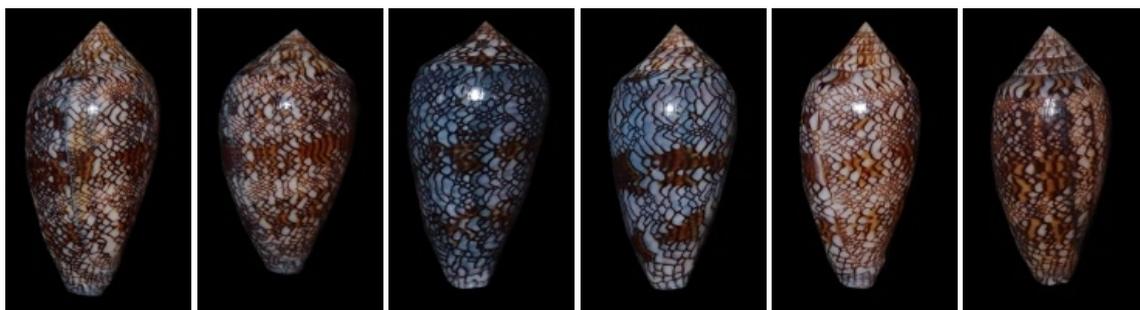
In the R.K.K. (Manual of the Living CONIDAE,1995), the authors mentioned : "*C. archiepiscopus* : Know from different localities within the Indian Ocean. We consider it a form of *C. textile* very similar to form *eutrios*."

Recently (2012), Dr. Lorenz have isolated the St Brandon population and described as [Conus \(Cylinder\) textile vaulberti](#), Lorenz, 2012. [\[LINK TO THE PDF FILE\]](#) Some specialist think that it shall be treated as a species level (*Conus vaulberti*). This shell was earlier known as *Conus textile* f. *scriptus*, Sowerby II, 1858.

Some specimens have been also described by Reeve as *Conus verriculum* Reeve 1843.

Actually (2013) we choose to illustrate 3 different shells :

- St Brandon population of *Conus textile vaulberti*, Lorenz, 2012 (replace the older name *Conus textile* f. *scriptus*, Sowerby II, 1858)
- *Conus archiepiscopus* Hwass in Bruguière, 1792 and its bleuish variation *Conus archiepiscopus* var. *cyanosus* Lauer, Rossiniana 1987
- *Conus archiepiscopus* f. *verriculum* Reeve 1843



C. archiepiscopus *C. archiepiscopus* *C. archiepiscopus* f. *cyanosus* *C. archiepiscopus* f. *cyanosus* *C. archiepiscopus* *C. archiepiscopus*

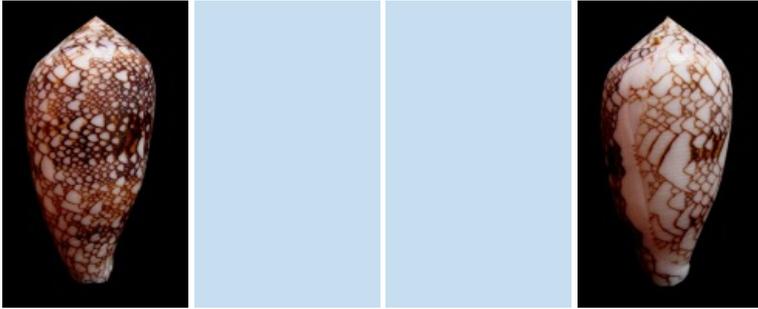


C. textile textile
(Moorea)

Variation
(Tuamotu : Hao
Atoll)

Variation
(Tuamotu : Hao
Atoll)

French Polynesia (Pacific Ocean) : ***Conus canonicus***



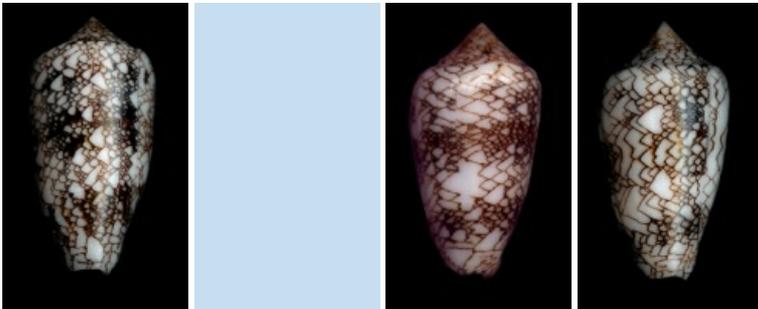
C. canonicus
(Tuamotu : Makemo
Atoll)

Variation
(Tuamotu :
Makemo Atoll)

More images may be checked in this old article :

http://www.seashell-collector.com/~ziptric/evo/articles/general_articles/page_conus-textile-variation-from-tuamotu.html

Seychelles (Indian Ocean) : ***Conus canonicus***



C. canonicus

Variation

Variation

I hope you will appreciate this discussion.

B. Other species



C. arenatus *C. aristophanes* *C. aulicus* *C. aureus* *C. auricomus* *C. balteatus*



C. balteatus f. cemicus *C. bandanus* *C. barthelemyi* *C. betulinus* *C. biliosus* *C. capitaneus*



C. catus *C. catus* *C. chaldaeus* *C. circumactus* *C. coffeae* *C. coronatus*



C. distans *C. ebraeus* (1) *C. episcopatus* *C. flavidus* *C. frigidus* *C. fuscatus*



C. geographus *C. glans* *C. gubernator* (St Brandon island) *C. gubernator f. leehmani* (Rodrigues island) *C. gubernator f. leehmani* (Mauritius island) *C. gubernator f. leehmani* (Mauritius island)



C. janus

C. julii

C. julii

C. imperialis f. compactus

C. lecourtorum (St Brandon)

C. legatus



C. leopardus

C. litoglyphus

C. litteratus

C. lividus

C. maldivus

C. maldivus



C. maldivus

C. maldivus

C. miles

C. miliaris

C. moreleti

C. namocanus



C. nanus

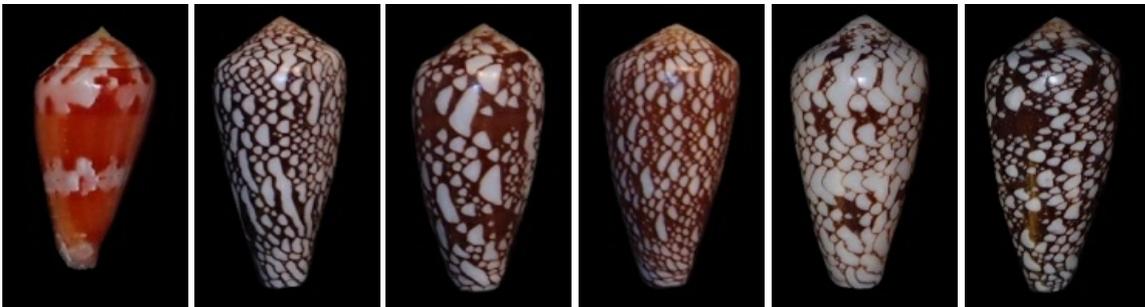
C. nussatella

C. obscurus

C. paulucciae

C. parvatus

C. pertusus



C. pertusus

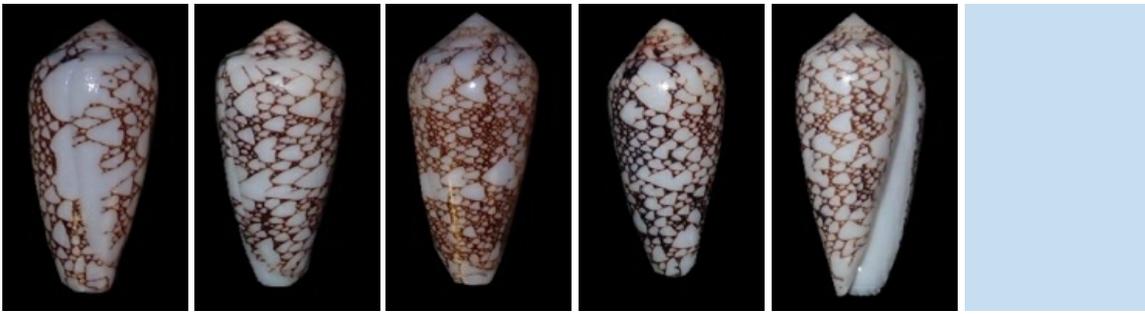
C. pennaceus f. rubiginosus (Mauritius)

C. pennaceus f. rubiginosus (Mauritius)

C. pennaceus f. rubiginosus (Mauritius)

C. pennaceus episcopus (Mauritius)

C. pennaceus episcopus (Mauritius)



C. pennaceus
local variation
(St Brandon)



C. pulicarius

C. quercinus

C. rattus

C. retifer

C. sanguinolentus

C. sponsalis



C. striatellus

C. striatus

C. tenuistriatus

C. terebra

C. tessulatus

C. timorensis



C. tulipa

C. varius

C. vexillum

C. violaceus

C. virgo

C. zeylanicus

(1) *Conus ebraeus* have now a know criptic specie named as *Conus judaeus* and is very difficult to distinguish without radular studies. The specimen shown could be related to both species.

Variations of *Conus catus* from Mauritius : as usual this is a very variable species. It would have taken too much cases to display all local variations. Here are some of the variations you may find there :



C. catus

C. catus

C. catus

C. catus

C. catus

C. catus

C. Shells from Agalega island



C. arenatus

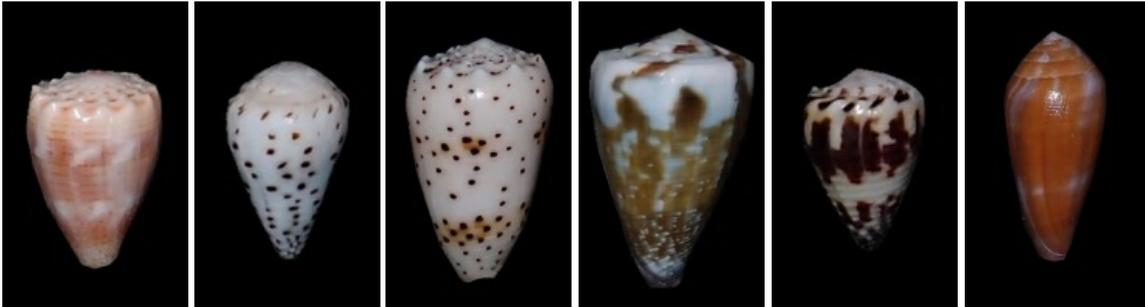
C. catus

C. coronatus

C. ebraeus

*C. gubernatorf.
leehmani*

C. imperialis



C. miliaris

C. parvatus

C. pulicarius

C. rattus

C. sponsalis

C. tenuistriatus

D. DATA ON HABITAT, SIZE, RARITY & FORMS

Rarity : VC (Very Common) C (common) UC (Uncommon) R (Rare) VR (Very Rare) E (Exceptionnal)

Depth : IT (Intertidal 0-5m) SW (Shallow water 5-10m) MDW (Moderately Deep water 10-30m) DW (Deep Water 30m-60m)

VDW (Very Deep Water 60-100m) DR (Dredged >100m) F(Only found in Fishes stomach)

Size : average adult size, in mm (millimeters)

Habitat : L(Lagoon) R(Reef) LP(Lagoon Pinnacles) OL(Outer Slope) S(Shore reef)

Areas : SANDY-LIVE CORAL-CORAL DEBRIS-ROCKY-WEEDY-MUDDY-HARD REEF

The work below have been made by Eric Le Court de Billot

Name	Size	Rarity	Depth	Habitat/Areas	Comments
Capitaneus	40/80	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/WEEDY	
Catus	25/40	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	Very often between 0 and 1 meter.
Chaldeus	20/35	VC	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/WEEDY	
Circumactus	30/65	R	IT to MDW	OL/CORAL DEBRIS/MUDDY	JUST small one live at 30 meter.
Coffea	21/33	VR	IT	L	Three dead
Coronatus	20/33	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/WEEDY	
Aureus	30/48	VR	DW	OL	Only three dead
Distans	40/110	C	IT/MDW	OL/CORAL DEBRIS/MUDDY	Small deep big ones shalow water.
Ebraeus	20/50	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/WEEDY	
Episcopatus	50/80	UC	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/SANDY	
Flavidus	30/50	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/WEEDY	
Frigidus	30/65	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/WEEDY	
Geographus	80/140	UC	IT	OL/CORAL DEBRIS/MUDDY	
Glans	22/30	R	IT	L	Three dead
Leehmani	80/108	VR	IT	L/SANDY/ROCKY	
Legatus	27/55	VR	MDW	OL/CORAL DEBRIS	
Gubernator	35 and 40	E	IT	L/SANDY/CORAL DEBRIS	Only two small live
Imperialis compactus	51	E	IT	R/CORAL DEBRIS	Only one live
Fuscatus	30/65	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/WEEDY	
Janus	50/70	UC	MDW/DW	OL/SANDY	
Lecourtorum	10/16	VR	IT	L	Only dead
Leopardus	60/160	c	IT	L/SANDY/WEEDY	
Litoglyphus	30/63	UC	IT/SW	L/OL/ROCKY/MUDDY	
Litteratus	50/110	UC	IT	OL/SANDY	
Lividus	35/70	VC	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Maldivus	45/75	UC	IT	L/SANDY/WEEDY	
Miles	35/60	C	IT/MDW	L/OL/CORAL DEBRIS	
Miliaris	20/35	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Moreleti	25/45	R	IT/MDW	OL/ROCKY/MUDDY	
Namocanus	35/85	UC	IT	L/MUDDY/WEEDY	
Nanus	12/20	C	IT	OL/ROCKY/MUDDY	
Nussatella	40/70	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Obscurus	25/35	R	IT	OL/CORAL DEBRIS	
Parvatus	12/22	VC	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Pauluciaae	75	VR	MDW	OL	Only one dead
Penaceus episcopus	30/60	C	IT	L/SANDY/ROCKY	
Penaceus episcopus (rodrigues)	45/55	UC	IT	L/SANDY/ROCKY	
Penaceus rubiginosus	35/55	VR	IT	L/MUDDY/CORAL DEBRIS	
Pertusus	27/45	UC	MDW	OL/ROCKY/WEEDY	
Pulicarius	35/60	UC	IT	L/SANDY	
Quercinus	30/90	VC	IT	L/SANDY/WEEDY	
Rattus	30/60	C	IT	L/R ROCKY/WEEDY	Most of the time on top of coral
Retifer	25/42	VR	MDW	OL/ CORAL DEBRIS	
Sanguinolentus	25/60	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Sponsalis	15/24	VC	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	Ofen shalow water
Striatelus	32/62	R	IT to MDW	OL/CORAL DEBRIS/MUDDY	JUST small one live at 30 meter.
Striatus	50/95	C	IT to MDW	L/OL CORAL DEBRIS	
Tenuistriatus	20/40	R	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Terebra	30/80	UC	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Tessulatus	30/65	VC	IT/MDW	L/OL SANDY/WEEDY	Small deep big ones shalow water.
Timorensis	30/45	R	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/SANDY	St Brandon
Tulipa	50/80	C	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Varius	25/45	UC	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Vaulberti	40/65	R	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS/SANDY	ST brandon only
Vexillum	45/135	UC	IT	OL/ CORAL DEBRIS	
Violaceus	45/65	R	IT	L/ CORAL DEBRIS	
Virgo	40/130	C	IT	L/ SANDY/WEEDY	
Zeylanicus	25/55	R	IT	L/ SANDY/WEEDY	
Textile vericulum	35/73	C	IT	L/SANDY/ROCKY	
Archiepiscopus	35/55	R	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Textile textile	40/75	VC	IT	L/CORAL DEBRIS	
Omaria convolutus	40/60	VR	IT	L/SANDY/ROCKY	